



# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

TO KNOW JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD, AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN

December  
25<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Christmas  
Day  
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*The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
The Christ Mass  
December 25, 2025  
The Vail Interfaith Chapel*



*O come all ye faithful*

***O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come, and behold him,  
born the King of angels;***

***O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

***God from God,  
Light from Light eternal,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
only-begotten  
Son of God the Father;***

***O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

***Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God,  
glory in the highest;***

***O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

*All standing, the Celebrant says*

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

People ***There is one hope in God's call to us;***

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People ***One God and Father of all.***

## Collect

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*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

***Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.***

## Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. . . For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

## Psalm 96

BCP p. 725

1 sing to the LORD a new song; \*  
***sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.***

2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; \*  
***proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.***

3 Declare his glory among the nations \*  
***and his wonders among all peoples.***

4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; \*  
***he is more to be feared than all gods.***

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \*  
***but it is the LORD who made the heavens.***

6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \*  
***Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!***

7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; \*  
***asccribe to the LORD honor and power.***

8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; \*  
***bring offerings and come into his courts.***

9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; \*  
***let the whole earth tremble before him.***

10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! \*  
***he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.***

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \*  
***let the field be joyful and all that is therein.***

12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, \*  
***when he comes to judge the earth.***

13 He will judge the world with righteousness \*  
***and the peoples with his truth.***

## The New Testament

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Hark the herald angels sing*

***Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!***

***Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the newborn King!***

***Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see;  
hail the incarnate Deity.  
Pleased as man with us to dwell;  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!***

***Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the newborn King!***

***Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth.  
Risen with healing in his wings,  
light and life to all he brings,  
hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the newborn King!***

**Holy Gospel**

Luke 2:1-20

*Deacon*                    The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*People*                    ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a

manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Deacon*      The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

## **Sermon**

### **Presentation of the Baptismal Candidate**

*The Celebrant says*

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*The Parents and Godparents say*

I present Conrad Michael McGrath to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*Celebrant*

Will you be responsible for seeing that Conrad Michael is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Godparents*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

Will you by your prayers and witness help Conrad Michael to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents*

I will, with God's help.

*The Celebrant then asks*

*Question* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer* I do.

*The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Conrad Michael in his life in Christ?

*People* **We will.**

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us join with Conrad Michael who is committing himself to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

## **Baptismal Covenant**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* ***I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.***

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People* ***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.***

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* ***I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.***

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People* ***I will, with God's help.***

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People* ***I will, with God's help.***

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People* ***I will, with God's help.***

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People* ***I will, with God's help.***

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People* ***I will, with God's help.***

Let us now pray for Conrad Michael who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*Leader* Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People* ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

*Leader* Open his heart to your grace and truth.

*People* ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

*Leader* Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People* ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

*Leader* Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People* ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

*Leader* Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People* ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

*Leader* Send him into the world in witness to your love.

*People* ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

*Leader* Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.  
*People* ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

*The Celebrant says*

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. ***Amen.***

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* ***And also with you.***  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

*Celebrant*

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. ***Amen.***

## **Baptism and Blessing with Oil**

Conrad Michael, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

Conrad Michael, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. ***Amen.***

Let us pray.

***Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. Amen.***

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Celebrant and People*

***We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.***

**Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

**Special Music**

## Holy Communion

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*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*           ***And also with you.***  
*Celebrant*      Lift up your hearts.  
*People*           ***We lift them to the Lord.***  
*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*           ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim your glory,

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

***We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;***

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread.*

*And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

*And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized persons are welcome and encouraged to receive both the bread and the wine of the Eucharist. Those who are not baptized or who prefer not to receive communion are invited to come forward and cross their arms to receive a blessing. Those desiring a gluten-free wafer may request one from the priest when they come forward to receive communion.*

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Let us pray.

*Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Christmas Blessing

*Joy to the World*

***Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and heaven and nature sing.***

***Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
let us our songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.***

***He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.***

*Deacon*      Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to proclaim the birth of the Savior of the world.

*People*      ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.***

*Thank you for joining us this morning! Please take your bulletin with you as you leave, and watch your step outside. Merry Christmas!*