



Transfiguration Yr C – 2nd March 2025
Communion

Greeter: Roger T

Meditation Song: As the deer pants (TIS 703)
(please remain seated)

As the deer pants for the water
so my soul longs after you;
you alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship you.

Refrain:
You alone are my strength and shield;
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship you
(repeat)

Welcome:

Greeting:

On this Transfiguration Sunday,
may Christ be with you
And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

Christ Candle:

We light this light to remind us that Christ is with us.
Christ's light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

**May we carry this light of hope, peace, and justice
to the world around us every day.**

Acknowledgement of Country:

For this Land - **We give thanks!**

For the Gadigal and Wangal people - **We give thanks!**

We honour them for their custodianship of sacred stories and their connections with the deep earth and oceans. We give thanks for the grace they have shown in extending the hand of reconciliation to us in the call to pursue justice together for a better future for all.

May we walk together for justice and peace.

Call to Worship:

The mountain top
the shining face
the glowing clothes
the voice of God speaking from the cloud
the commandments etched in stone

Sometimes God shows up
in ways we cannot deny
in a place we can go
a light we can see
a voice we can hear
a stone we can touch

Sometimes

Sometimes
there is the veil
the overshadowing, terrifying cloud
the questions

the appearing and disappearing
the excitement
the wondering
the silence

Sometimes God shows up
in ways we cannot deny.

**Always God shows up somehow.
May God give us eyes to see.**

Opening Prayer:

Holy One, Light of light, God of all creation,
long ago you showed yourself
to the disciples in Jesus' transfiguration;
his face glowing like the sun on a dry, parched earth.

Shine in us, around us, and through us,
that the world may see your glory
in the faces of your people;
faces transfigured in the light of your love.

Amen

Hymn: Immortal Invisible (TIS 143)

1. Immortal invisible, God only wise.
In light inaccessible, hid from our eyes.
Most blessed most glorious, the Ancient of Days.
Almighty victorious, Your great name we praise.

2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light.
Nor wanting nor wasting, but ruling in might.
Your justice like mountains, high soaring above.
Your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

3. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;
of all your rich graces this grace, Lord, impart,
take the veil from our faces, the veil from our heart.

4. All praise we would render, reveal to our sight
What hides you is only the splendour of light.
And so let your glory, Almighty, impart
through Christ in the story, your Christ to the heart.

Prayer of confession:

Let us come before God in our prayer of confession as a community in need of forgiveness and healing. Let us pray:

Holy God,
when you call us to hope and to act with great boldness,
we tremble at your presence and cover our eyes.
We are afraid of what we will see
for your greatness unveils our weakness,
your justice unveils our brokenness,
and your holiness unveils our stained past.

O Lord, hear our prayer.
Giver of all grace, forgive us our sins.
Give us the strength to renounce that which hides you from us.
Give us the wisdom to work for justice and righteousness.
Give us the courage to uncover our hearts
that we might see the grace of your Son
and not lose heart.
In Jesus name we pray
Amen.

Words of assurance:

‘The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.’

In the light of God’s love
we are a forgiven people.
Thanks be to God!

Peace:

May the peace of Christ be always with you

And also with you.

Let's share Christ's peace with those around us.

Moment for the young at heart: Phil

Bible Readings: Chris L

Introduction to the Hebrew Scripture reading:

Leading up to our reading today from the Hebrew Bible, the people have worshiped a golden calf instead of God and been impatient on the journey to the promised land. When Moses's face shines it is an affirmation of the renewal of the covenant. Moses's face is a reminder of the uniqueness of his relationship with God and with the people. It is a sign of God's care and continual presence, that God's grace prevailed.

Exodus 34:29-35

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face, ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out, and when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

Luke 9:28-36

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus^[e] took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke they saw his glory and the

two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah," not realizing what he was saying. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen;^[1] listen to him!" ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev Joy

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: Clabon

The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name.
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread
forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever.
Amen**

Communion Hymn: Come to the banquet

1. Come to the banquet there's a place for you
Though you maybe have no money,
though you maybe feel unworthy

in your strength or in your weakness
you are welcome, come.

2. Come to the banquet there's a place for you
See, you are an honoured guest,
from constant serving you may rest
so sit you down, be fed & blessed for
you are welcome, come.

3. Come to the banquet there's a place for you
Willing hands have made this bread ,
with salt and yeast and labour shared,
let all the hungry ones be fed;
it's time for feasting, come.

4. Come to the banquet there's a place for you
Abundant wine, enough for all,
our generous loving host has called,
the cup of blessing now is poured,
for sweet communion, come.

Come to the banquet there's a place for you.

Communion:

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus.
It is to be made ready for those who love him
and those who want to love him more.
So, come, you who are hungry for God's love.
Come, you who are yearning the Christ's presence.
Come, you who want community;
know that you are welcome here.

Why have we gathered here?

We come because we have been called to live out a story.

What story shall we live?

The story of saving love.

Where did this story begin?

It was whispered before time began.

It was sung in the melody of Creation.

Whose story is this?

**This story is God's alone to tell.
It hums in the rivers and the trees.
It whispers in the skies and the seas.
It calls to the people of all places.
It speaks in our hearts, in our lives.**

Why then should we speak of this story?

**This story calls our name in Creation.
This story claims our lives through the Cross.
This story shaped our future through the Spirit.
We are its telling in this time and this place.**

So, tell me the story of this night and of this table.

**The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed took bread,
and when he had given thanks, he broke it (bread is broken).**

Tell me what he said and did.

**'This is my body which is broken for you.
Do this to make me real to you.**

Tell me what he said and did next (lift cup)

**In the same way, he took the cup and said
'This is a new covenant in my love.
Drink it to make me real to you.**

**This is our common story,
our deep memory, our true destiny.**

So, let it also be our story-telling, our testimony.
Let's celebrate the way that grace has shaped our lives.
I invite you to say aloud what you are thankful for...

(we share what we are thankful for)

Hear the storytelling of all ages singing with us: (sung response TIS 761)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

What is our prayer on this day?
(everyone holds their hands in blessing)

**Pour out your Holy spirit on us,
so that this everyday meal becomes an eternal feast.
So that our eating and drinking today
unites us with Christ making us one body.
So we know that you live in us and that we live in you.
So that we live in your world knowing it is indeed yours.
Living God, this is our prayer
Amen**

Distribution

Let us receive this holy sacrament
of the body and blood of Christ,
and feed on him in our hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

(we eat and drink together)

Concluding prayer

In gratitude, in deep gratitude
for this moment, this meal, these people,
we give ourselves to you.
Take us out to live as changed people
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same.
**May we live to your glory,
bringing your love and peace to your world.
Amen.**

Community News:

Offering Prayer:

***As we faithfully give for the life and mission of God's church in this
place and in the world, let's pray our offering prayer.***

We long for the time
when the meek shall inherit the earth
and all who hunger and thirst after justice

shall be satisfied,
and we believe that, despite the persistence of evil,
now is always the time
when more good can be done
and we can make a difference.

**May it be so, through the offering of these gifts
and the offering of our lives. Amen.**

We hear from our children:

Song: Christ Be Our Light (TIS supplement 787)

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Chorus:

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,

walls made of living stone.

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

5. Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Benediction & Blessing:

Walk in light and truth.
See the light of Christ in every face.
Be the light of Christ to all you meet.

And may Almighty God bless you;
Creator, Christ and Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always

3-fold-amen

Pastoral prayers: David

Acknowledgements:

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Acknowledgement of Country: adapted National Assembly working group on worship

Prayer of confession – adapted: <https://www.stephenmfearing.com/>

Communion liturgy: adapted Craig Mitchell

Assurance: adapted from – ministrymatters.com

Offering Prayer: Prayer for Justice and Peace, Iona

Benediction: adapted from Nancy C. Townley, ministrymatters.com