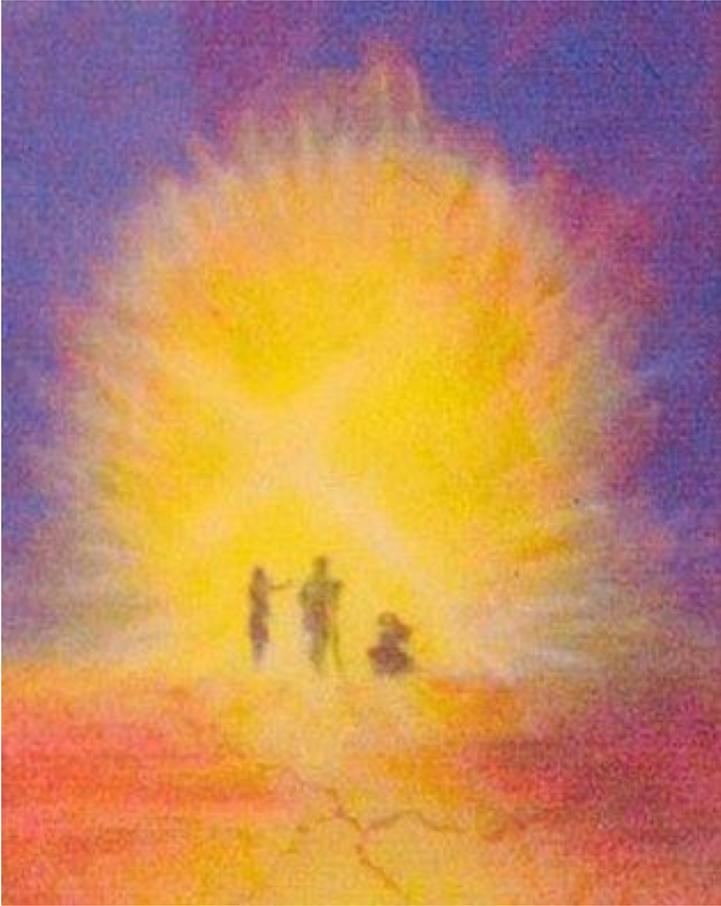


St. Mark's Church, North Tonawanda - February 23, 2020:



The Transfiguration of Christ

THE GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

Organist: Su Lee

WELCOME

Please remain seated.

The Rev. John Seib

OPENING HYMN

Christ upon the mountain peak

Hymnal 129

OPENING ACCLAMATION & PRAYER

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen*

Let us pray: **Almighty God to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name, through Christ our Lord. *Amen***

GLORIA

Hymnal S-280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Amen*

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Collect)

Please be seated.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen***

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 24:12-18

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader The word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 99 (10 am: *Sung – Anglican Chant*)

- 1 The LORD is King; let the people tremble; *
 he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
 let the earth shake.
- 2 The LORD is great in Zion; *
 he is high above all peoples.

- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel
among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the LORD,
and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that
he gave them.
- 8 O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Peter 1:16-21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved,

with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Reader The word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

All who are able, please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(sing refrain 3x)

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Priest The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to Matthew.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ!**

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

At the conclusion of the reading...

Priest The Gospel of Christ,

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ!**

Sing refrain **Alleluia...**

SERMON

The Rev. John Seib

MUSICAL MEDITATION (Choir Anthem)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(based on Philippians 2.6-11)*

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ, born to be our Savior:

Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Please be seated for prayer.*

*At the 10 am service "O God We Call" is sung twice.
Everyone is invited to join in this preparation for prayer.*

*O God we call, O God we call,
From deep inside we yearn, from deep inside we yearn,
From deep inside we yearn for you.*

Let us go to the mountain of God's generosity, offering our prayers as we respond, "Hear us, God of Glory."

That we may offer ourselves to the refashioning hands of the Divine Potter, who centers, molds, and changes us into vessels of grace; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Glory.**

That we may admit our faults, our desire to keep things as they are and to return to things that never were, so that when Christ invites us into a transformed life, we may readily answer his call; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Glory.**

For a vigorous spirit of mutual cooperation and unity, that we may treasure the common ground which we share with the whole Anglican Communion, and will work together with people of faith to share in the fruits of God's kingdom across our nations, cultures, tribes, and peoples; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Glory.**

For the cessation of war, that armaments of destruction may be made into tools for development, and that resources spent on the fields of battle may instead support the basic necessities of life; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Glory.**

For a commitment to a life of simplicity, that we may preserve for generations to come the beauty of land and seas and sky, and the complexity of every living creature; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Glory.**

That those who have died may experience the blessed rest of everlasting peace; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Glory.**

Led and transformed by the light of Christ, we continue our prayers:

We pray for God's healing and comfort for those connected with this congregation who are ill or homebound, and all who have asked for our prayers.

We give thanks this week for the birthdays of Robert Holesko, Thomas Kirchman, Connie Thompson, Joyce Meckes, Vicki Poole, and Herta Szlachta; and, for the anniversaries of Michael & Terri Piwtorak, and David & Annette Mesler.

We ask for God's blessing on all who are considering baptism or confirmation, remembering especially the young

people attending our Confirmation Class: Elizabeth Duffy, Jordan Duffy, Dana Durick, Evan Elliott, Ethan Goris, Katie Goris, Dean Mitzel-Artale, Emma Nesbit, Lily Testa, Cameron Trenchard, Josh Trenchard, and Christian Schaffert.

You may add your own prayers of thanksgiving or petition. Then the concluding collect is said by all:

O God of the covenant, the cloud of your splendor and the fire of your love revealed your Son on the mountain heights. Transform our lives in his image, write your law of love on our hearts, and make us prophets of your glory, that we may lead others into your presence. Amen

THE PEACE

All able to do so, please stand

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

The members of the community greet one another. Then all return to their places and remain seated for the offertory.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify God in heaven. – *Matthew 5:16*

A hymn is sung as the altar is prepared and offerings are collected. All able to do so, please stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Battle Hymn of the Republic (insert)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

PRESENTATION & PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

**Gracious God, receive all that we offer you this day,
and bring us to that radiant glory which we see in the
transfigured face of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

(BCP Prayer B)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our 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 the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

SANCTUS

8 am *Spoken, as follows:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory:**

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord:

Hosanna in the highest!

10 am *Sung*

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts

(For music, see insert)

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. (2x)

The whole earth is full of his glory. (3x)

Holy is the Lord!

Blessed is the One who comes

in the name of the Lord. (2x)

Hosanna in the highest. (3x)

Holy is the Lord!

(Please be seated or kneel for the remainder of the prayer.)

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

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 St. Mark and 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.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

All **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, for ever and ever. Amen**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD (FRACTION ANTHEM)

As the bread is broken, the choir leads the congregation in a

Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God Hymnal S-164

Priest We share the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Priest The Gifts of God for the people of God.

All **Thanks be to God!**

COMMUNION



Everyone is invited to receive the Holy Communion. Communion may be taken in both forms, or in bread or wine alone. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the priest know if you need them. Those who choose to not receive communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing. During

Communion, meditative music is played, and the following hymn is sung.

COMMUNION HYMN

Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks
Hymnal 178

SENDING OUT OF THE DISCIPLES

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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*

BLESSING

May God the Father show you the light of his glory in the face of his Son, so that you may be a light to the world; and may the blessing of God – our Creator, Redeemer & Sustainer – be with us all, now and for ever. *Amen*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

CLOSING HYMN

Alleluia, sing to Jesus
Hymnal 460, v. 1,3 & 4

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace. Your light has come. Alleluia!
All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Whether you're visiting or regularly attend St. Mark's, you are very welcome here. Please sign our Guest Book located on the table near the door.

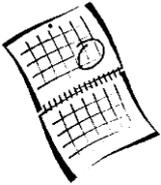
PLEASE JOIN US for refreshments & conversation in the Fellowship Hall following the 10 am service. Thanks to Leslie Ann Kane and the Theme Tray team for hosting today's Coffee Hour!



In Loving Memory

The flowers on the altar today are in memory of Donald A. Mather, given by Louise Mather.

CREDITS: Collect/Prayer of the Day, BCP. Prayers from *Planning for Rites and Rituals Year A, 2019-2020*, Episcopal Church Publishing. Concluding collect, RCL Lectionary prayers. Prayer over the Gifts, BAS. Epiphany Blessing from *Common Worship*.



ST. MARK'S CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Mark's Annual "Theme Tray/Basket Auction" is THIS AFTERNOON! Doors open at 1 pm; drawings are at 3 pm. \$5 admission gets you a sheet of tickets, a piece of pizza and a drink. Auction includes baskets, gift cards, big ticket items and a 50/50 drawing.

Experience the health benefits of therapeutic massage...right here at St. Mark's, with special discount rates available to our parishioners! Call Marlene Marciniak, LMT at 743-8844 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

SCRIPTURE READINGS for next Sunday: *Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 • Psalm 32 • Romans 5:12-19 • Matthew 4:1-11*

Please see the following inserts/flyers for more details on upcoming events:

- **2/22- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** from 5-6:30 pm, by donation.
- **2/23 - Ash Wednesday** services at 8 am and 7 pm. (*No 10 am service will be held this Wednesday.*)
- **3/1 - St. Mark's Annual General Meeting & Vestry Election** at 11:30 am (immediately following the 10 am service).
- **11/7 - Hold the date for our first annual Meat Raffle!**



St. Mark's
NORTH TONAWANDA
150!
years of service & love

61 Payne Ave., North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Phone: 716-692-3735

Visit our webpage: www.stmarksnt.net

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The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, Bishop of Western New York

The Rev. John Seib, Priest-in-Charge:

Mobile phone: (315) 775-9851; Email: jnseib@gmail.com

Vestry:

Rich Fischer (Treasurer), Rebecca Goris (Co-Warden, Clerk),
Marty Hall, Linda Hardy, Jane Lemley, Benjamin
Phillips (Co-Warden), Jeff Trenchard, Ray Wolf