

Readings and Music for

The Third Sunday of Advent, December 14, 2025

Processional “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns” *H73*

Collect of the Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah:

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go
astray.

No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

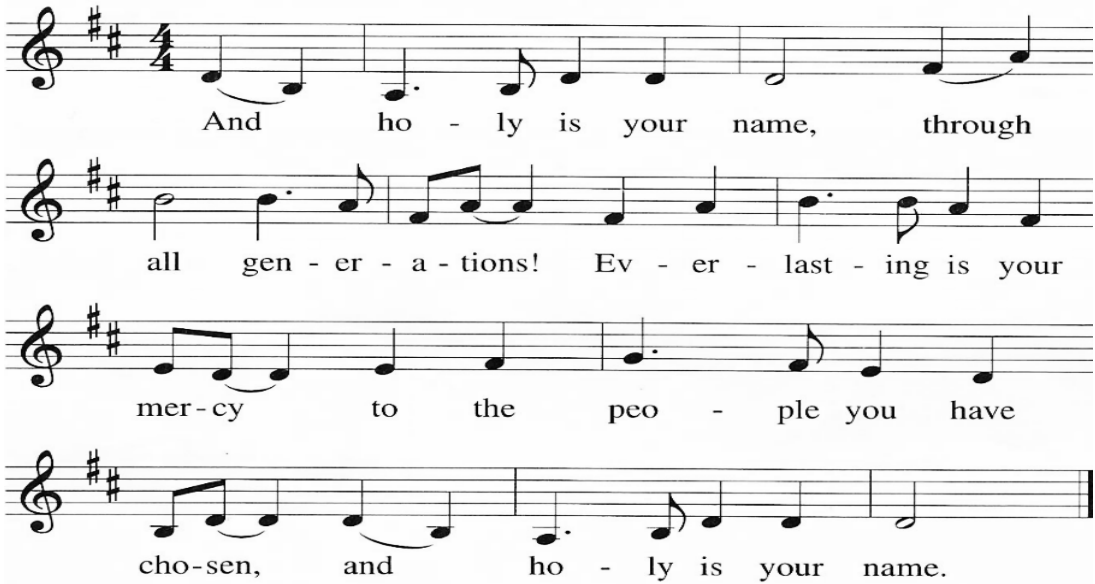
People **Thanks be to God.**

Adaptation of Canticle 15, The Song of Mary, *Magnificat*

HOLY IS YOUR NAME

Luke 1:46–55, adapt. D.H.

Trad. Scottish
Arr. by David Haas



Copyright © 1989 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Second Reading

James 5:7-10

A reading from the Letter of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

arr. ELCA

Advent I: Verses 1&2

Advent III: Verses 5&6

Advent II: Verses 3&4

Advent IV: Verses 7&8



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all thing
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

Refrain

7 O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new.

Refrain

6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight.

Refrain

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

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

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Rev. Jason Elliott

Offertory “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” *H66*

Communion “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” *H67*

Recessional “There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying” *H75*

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE REMAIN ON OUR PERMANENT PRAYER LIST AS THEIR NEED FOR PRAYER IS LONG-TERM RATHER THAN ACUTE: Don, Roberta, Marilyn, Jim, Mary, Emily, Meghan, Jan, Chelsea, Bob, Mark, Michael, John, Bob, Billy, Laura, Cindy, Pam, Katy, Lou, Nick, Brendan, Bob, Debra, Janet, Jacelyn, Sharon, Gabe, Chuck, Nancy, Mike, Tom, Betty, Carol, David, James, Kathy, Bill, John, Rosemary, Roberta, Earl, Patricia.

This week at Transfiguration:

<i>Today</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist</i>	<i>Church/FB</i>	<i>10:00am</i>
	<i>Coffee Hour</i>	<i>Leach Hall</i>	<i>11:15am</i>
<i>12/15</i>	<i>Bible Study</i>	<i>Zoom</i>	<i>7:00pm</i>
<i>12/16</i>	<i>Vestry</i>	<i>Leach Hall</i>	<i>7:00pm</i>
<i>12/17</i>	<i>Daycare Christmas Program</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>5:30pm</i>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Christmas Open House at the Rectory Postponed** – Hunter and Elizabeth have decided to postpone the open house at the rectory. Their new dog, Pepper, is still getting acclimated and is occasionally wary of new people. They are looking forward to opening their home to the congregation at a later date, but out of an abundance of caution, they feel it is better to wait until Pepper is more settled into the home.
- **Zoom Bible Study** – Join us online for Bible study tomorrow evening at 7PM. We are journeying together through the prophet Micah. The Zoom link is in the e-newsletter and on the calendar page of the church website.

- **Daycare Christmas Program** – Our daycare is putting on their annual Christmas program on December 17th at 5:30PM. It is a very cute program, and it would be great to see some folks from the parish come out to see the kids perform.
- **CYMC Giving Tree** – The Children's and Youth Ministry Committee has set up their annual giving tree in the back of the sanctuary by the baptismal font. During Advent and right on through Christmas, we will be collecting new unwrapped hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, and warm socks. This year, we will also be collecting grocery gift cards (\$20) for Beds Plus, who will distribute them to their clients. As always, thank you for your generous support.
- **CYMC Pageant and Coffee Hour** – Please join us on Sunday, December 21, after the service, for a special holiday coffee hour, sponsored by the Children and Youth Ministry Committee. That same day, our church school students will share a special Christmas presentation with us during the service.

Church of the Transfiguration Episcopal

12219 S. 86th Ave. • Palos Park • 708-448-1200



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

December 21st at 7 PM -

Longest Night (Blue Christmas)

December 24th at 5 PM -

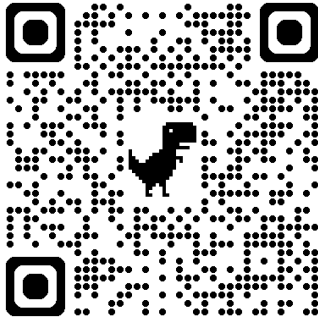
Festive Christmas Eve Service

With Special Musical Presentation at 4:45PM

December 25th at 10 AM -

Christmas Day Service

Online Giving:



Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Hunter Farrow, rector@transfigpalos.org

Deacon: Rev. Jason Elliott, jasonagelliott@gmail.com

Deacon: Rev. Ann Gaston, anngaston@outlook.com

Parish Administrator: Linda Hibberd, admin@transfigpalos.org

Administrator's Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:30AM to 2:30PM

Priest's Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 10Am to 3:00PM

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

12219 S. 86th Ave. PALOS PARK, IL

(708) 448-1200

TRANSFIGPALOS.ORG