Mary, Mother of Jesus Inclusive Catholic Community
Liturgy for The Transfiguration
Presiders: Dotty Shugrue and Joan Pesce

Prayer Leaders and Readers: MaryAl Gagnon and Luca Cruzat
IT: Cheryl Brandi, Michael Rigdon

Transfiguration by Lewis Bowman

Theme: Transfiguration/Transformation Experience

Dotty: *Welcome dear ones of MMOJ our inclusive Catholic Community, our "Church without Walls." We gather in community every weekend; we join in heart and spirit and hold one another in transforming light as we are transfigured in and with the Christ. With all struggles and concerns we have, we know that in this circle we are comforted, supported, and accepted.*

Whoever you are. Where ever you are. Just as you are. You are welcome at our table.

Opening Song: Now is the only Moment

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QKWZSGuWEAA

Transformation/TANSFIGURATION occurs for us every MOMENT OF LIFE. Wisdom comes to us every moment as we embrace the profound presence of Sacred Spirit, Holy Mystery in profound ways as we gather in community.
Today we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration, we hold the world and all the suffering that is everywhere on our planet as we pray together in hope and faith that the power of Transfiguration is ours to embrace, ours to reflect, ours to offer light to all life and we are indeed Transformed. This is the truth that sets us free.

Each one of us, all life everywhere is transformed every day. We are called to be transformed and to recognize transfiguration in all of life including our own life. We open ourselves to embrace the only reality, we are One with the Holy One. We embraced our call to join with the transfigured Christ as we commit to daily live our lives as a people who have that faith that can "move mountains."

Let it Be So

Luca: *Transformation Prayer*
"Nothing shall sully the image of the Holy One. No matter the power of evil, the Holy One is stronger and we need not fear …"

Let our faith be the source of our transfiguration.

Glory be to the One in whom we live,
and move and have our being,

All: Let our faith be the source of our transfiguration.

And to the many who participate in this ONE life,

All: Let our faith be the source of our transfiguration.

And to the Spirit who gathers us
as ONE in Love,

All: Let our faith be the source of our transfiguration.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever evolving,
World without end. Amen
(Mass of the World, Teilhard de Chardin)

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Maryal
The Home of Transformation
by Joyce Rupp from her new book: Prayer Seeds (adapted)

When the heart slowly sinks
into the mire of unhappiness,
when the mind insistently whispers
could, must, should and ought.
When the voice of the less-than-whole self
grows irritable and impatient with the way people are, or are not,
and with the way I am, or am not,
Let my faith, our faith make us whole, give us inner strength, let us embrace the undeniable presence of Christ in all that lives in all of life.

Move away. Step aside. Go into the inner dwelling place
where the Christ-light flames endlessly.
Stand in the center of that love,
untouched by ego demands, societal failures,
shattered hopes and unfulfilled yearnings.

Walk past all that hinders and that holds you and me stuck.
Move into the home of transformation and be transfigured,
into that grace-filled place within, into the spacious vessel.
Be restored, repaired, renewed, regenerated.

Come forth with germinating hope, start again
with less control, fewer anticipations, and more peaceful receptivity in the container of mind and heart. Live in the present moment as that is all we have. Yes, this is our Transfiguration.
The inspired word of Joyce Ruff and together we proclaim,

All: This is our truth, and we accept in faith.

Psalm: Luca

"A Psalm for the gathered community inspired and written by Miriam Therese Winter

Blessed are we who are glad to be part of the household of faith,
who gather to pray from time to time, remembering all who are in need
of the strength of our support.
Blessed are we who love to sing new songs of inspiration,
whose hearts are moved by the rhythms
and the harmonies of praise.
Blessed are we when the bread we break, corresponds to our cry for justice,
when the cup we take reiterates, those covenants sealed in blood.
Blessed are we when the world proclaims our own love's liberation,
freedom from fascination with the lure of transient gods.
Blessed are You, O Welcoming One, who lifts the yoke of our bondage,
And blessed are we who shelter within the shade of Your outstretched wind.

CELTIC ALLELUIA
https://youtu.be/o1rc7ojQtJU

Gospel: Dotty

A reading from the Gospel of the apostle Matthew

Six days later, Jesus took Peter and the brothers, James, and John, and led them up a high mountain alone. Suddenly, His face shone like bright light, and his appearance was transformed before their very eyes, his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as the light. Then they realized that Moses and Elijah were also there in deep conversation with Jesus.
Peter broke in and interrupted, "Jesus, this is a great moment! What would you think if I built three tents here on the mountain - one for you, one for Elijah, one for Moses?"
While he was going on babbling, a light-radiant cloud enveloped them, and sounding from deep in the cloud a voice said: "This is the child of humanity, my son, marked by my love, focus of my delight. Listen to him "When the disciples heard it, they fell flat on their faces, scared to death. But Jesus came over and touched them. "Don't be afraid." When they opened their eyes and looked around all they saw was Jesus, only Jesus.

Coming down the mountain, Jesus swore them to secrecy. "Don't breathe a word of what you've seen. After the son of humanity is raised from the dead, you are free to talk."

These are the inspired word of the apostle called Mathew, and the people say

So be it!

******* Shared Reflection *******

Statement of Faith: Joan P.

We believe in the Holy One, a divine mystery
beyond all definition and rational understanding,
the heart of all that has ever existed,
that exists now, or that ever will exist.

We believe in Jesus, messenger of the Divine Word,
bringer of healing, heart of Divine compassion,
bright star in the firmament of the Holy One's
prophets, mystics, and saints.

We believe that we are called to follow Jesus
as a vehicle of divine love,
a source of wisdom and truth,
and an instrument of peace in the world.

We believe in the Spirit of the Holy One,
the life that is our innermost life,
the breath moving in our being,
the depth living in each of us.

We believe that the Divine kin-dom is here and now, stretched out all around us for those with eyes to see it, hearts to receive it,
who have the hands to make it happen.

Let it Be So

Maryal: *As we prepare for the sacred meal, we bring to the table our prayers and intentions. Please voice your intentions beginning with the words, "I bring to the table."*

We bring to the table the hope and blessing of peace to all borders especially Ukraine, Gaza, and Israel and that leaders of these countries will commit to a lasting peace agreement which includes the release of innocent hostages.

We bring to the table all women who are and will be affected by laws that seek to limit women's rights and freedom.

We bring to the table prayers for the end of world hunger, the end of Worldwide sickness and disease, and the end of Worldwide conquest through war.

We bring to the table all vulnerable persons being trafficked into slavery—for purposes of sex, marriage and /or work.

We bring to the table indigenous children and their families in both Canada and the United States as they continue to mourn children lost, and the impact of forced acculturation.

As we prepare for the sacred meal, we bring to the table our prayers and intentions. Please voice your intentions beginning with the words, "I bring to the table"

We pray for these and al your individual intentions in our hearts. Amen.

Holy, Holy, Holy: *Here in this Place by Christopher Grundy* https://youtu.be/uXyu57tR2gk?si=xAc1gOkkEdxoz3sv

Joan P. *Let us pray our Eucharistic prayer with open hearts:*

We have gathered in faith and hope to celebrate the Transfiguration of Jesus. We recognize mystery in the experience of Peter, James, and John. This story told in the gospel of Matthew is an invitation to us to experience our own Transfiguration.

We can travel deep into the Divine Spirit within us to understand how we too can experience the Transfiguration of Jesus. We believe with deep conviction that divisions will be healed. We bring a tender heart to the broken, to our broken country and our broken world. We celebrate the gift of life, and we support one another on the journey to transformation.

Holy One, we commit to follow the ministry of Jesus and bring comfort to wherever people are in need. We pray for wisdom, patience, and persistence to make a difference in our world. We resolve to love as Jesus loved, to discern the better transformed aspects of our nature with open hearts.

Dotty: *Please extend your hands over the bread and wine you have placed before you and pray:*

We call upon you Spirit of life. We recognize your presence in us at this Eucharistic table. We are grateful for the bread and wine that remind us of our call to be the light of Christ and to witness to the world our personal and continuing Transfiguration. As we share this bread and cup to proclaim and live the gospel of justice and peace, we choose to live justly, love tenderly and walk with integrity

On the night before he faced betrayal and death, Jesus shared supper with his friends. He reminded them of all that he taught them, and to fix that memory clearly with them, he bent down and washed their feet.

When he returned to his place at the table, he lifted the bread, spoke the blessing, broke the bread, and offered it to them saying:

> *Take and eat, this is my very self.*

Then he took the cup of the covenant, spoke the grace, and offered it to them saying:

> *Take and drink.*
> *Whenever you remember me like this,*
> *I am*
> *among you.*

What we have heard with our ears, we will live with our lives; as we share communion, we will become communion, both Love's nourishment and Love's challenge. Let us share this bread and cup as we proclaim and live the gospel of justice and peace.

Please consume your bread and wine with the words "I am transfigured today and every day"

Communion song: Be Still And Know by Shaina Knoll
Video created by Mary Theresa Streck

https://youtu.be/CCGsExqtYKo

Joan P: *Let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

Holy One, you are within, around and among us.
We celebrate your many names.
Your wisdom come; your will be done,
unfolding from the depths within us.
Each day you give us all that we need.
You remind us of our limits, and we let go.
You support us in our power, and we act with courage.
For you are the dwelling place within us,
the empowerment around us,
and the celebration among us,
now and forever, Amen.
Created by Miriam Therese Winter
As we bring our celebration to a close let us pause and share thanks for special gifts we hold in gratitude
Are there any Gifts in your life you wish to share---Any Announcements?

Introductions. Thanksgivings. Announcements.

Maryal: *Let us all extend our hands for our mutual blessing:*
May vision and truth companion us.
May beauty be in our eyes.
May peace fill our being.
May Love hold us close.

Luca: *May the Earth give us guidance.*
May the Stars give us hope.
May the experience of transfiguration in our lives awaken wisdom, truth, and abiding hope.

Let It Be So

As we go forth with conviction that our Country will be Transfigured and Transformed, that our Democracy will be restored on all levels of government, that we will continue to witness to justice, to personal freedom, that we will stand up for truth, we will be compassionate in listening to the needs of all our sisters and brothers, no matter where you are, no matter who you are, no matter how you express your faith, we are united in the One Divine and Sacred Energy, that lives and breathes and has its life in the entire universe. Our closing song holds a profound hope of where and howour country will carry us forward….

Closing Song: The Title is in the Singing……

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sOspr-9S0z4

Please send personal intentions to Joan Meehan. Jmeehan515@aol.com
They will be added in our Community Prayer Book.

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