



ST. STEPHEN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RIDGEFIELD

*Belonging
with purpose*

Our Mission: Embracing and living God's commandment to love our neighbors through worship, stewardship, and service to others.

The Feast of the Transfiguration

August 9, 2026 • 10:00 A.M.

Prelude and Welcome

All stand and join in singing Hymn 7

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise!
Triumph over shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear!

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return
till thy mercy's beams I see,
as they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

3 Visit then this soul of mine!
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!
Fill me, radiance divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen

All join in The Collect for Purity

**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.**

*At this time, children are invited to follow
Storytime Leaders down to the Choir Room.*

Ratisbon

All sing the Song of Praise

Thaxted

O— God be-yond all prai-sing, we wor-ship you to-
day and sing the love a - ma - zing that
songs can-not re - pay; for— we can on-ly won-der at—
ev - ery gift you send, at— bless-ings with-out
num - ber and mer-cies with - out end: we—
lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up-on your
word, we— ho - nor and a -
dore— you, our great and migh - ty Lord.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, who on the holy mount
revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved
Son, wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white
and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being
delivered from the disquietude of this world, may
by faith behold the King in his beauty; who with
you, O Father, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and
reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All sit for A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter

I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to refresh your memory, since I know that my death will come soon, as indeed our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

For 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.

2 Peter 1:13-21

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 99 *said by all*

- 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.

All stand and sing Sequence Hymn (on last page)

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

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

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" —not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" 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.

Luke 9:28-36

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon The Rev'd Whitney Altopp, D.Min.

A moment for reflection follows the sermon.

All stand for The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy

catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

All kneel for The Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High.

Psalm 50:14

Offertory

All stand for the Presentation Hymn *Old Hundredth*

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.

The Great Thanksgiving

Book of Common Prayer p. 367

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. *The Celebrant prays a Proper Preface.* 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is
he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho -
san - na in the high - est.

All stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues and ends with

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues and ends with

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

People

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.

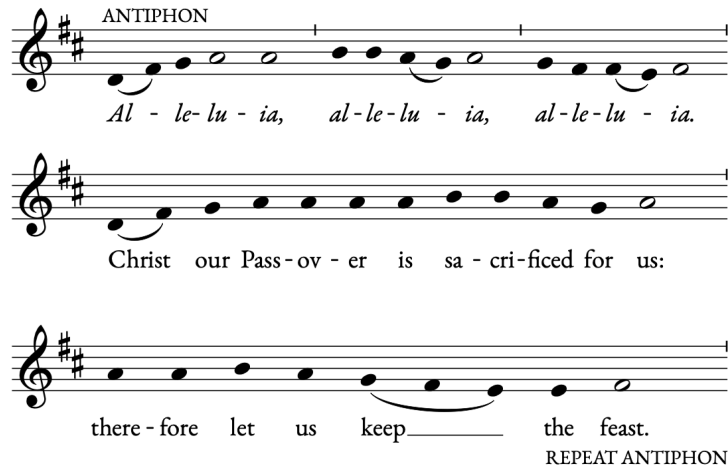
The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast: Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

ANTIPHON



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

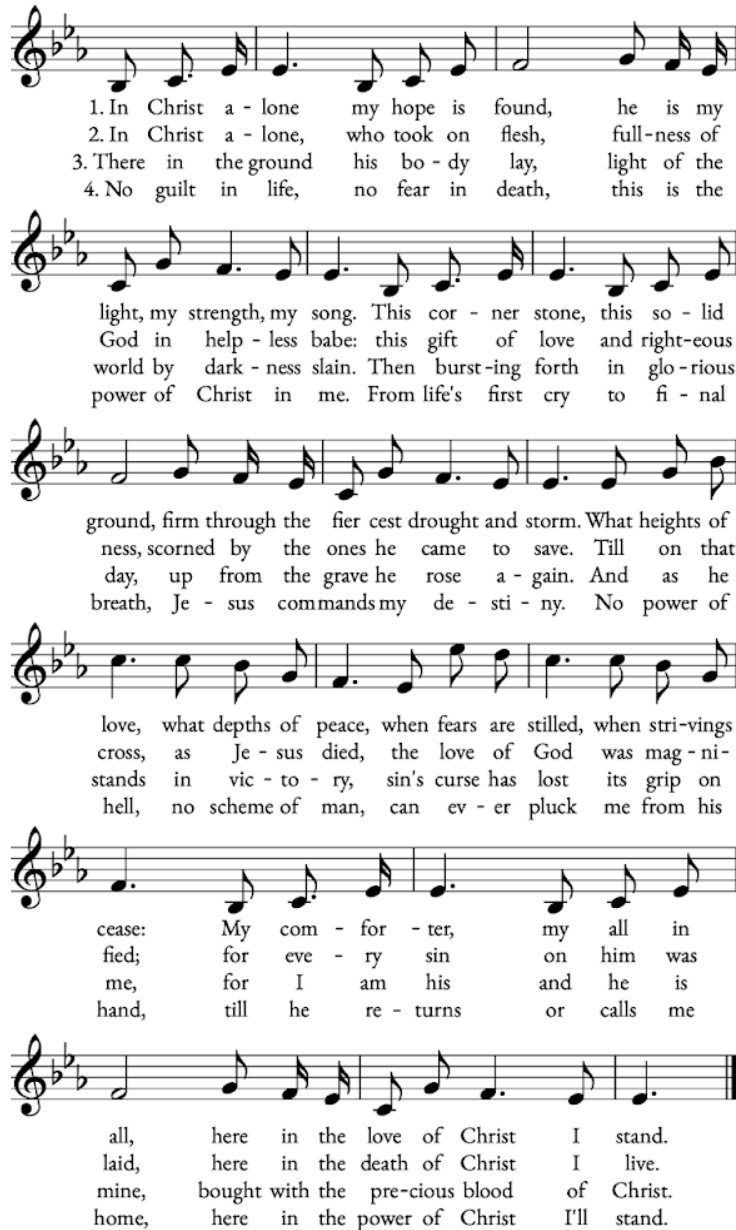
Christ our Pass - ov - er is sa - cri - ficed for us:

there - fore let us keep _____ the feast.

REPEAT ANTIPHON

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the people of God.

All join in singing Communion Hymn



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, he is my
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full-ness of
 3. There in the ground his bo - dy lay, light of the
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

light, my strength, my song. This cor - ner stone, this so - lid
 God in help - less babe: this gift of love and right-eous
 world by dark - ness slain. Then burst-ing forth in glo - rious
 power of Christ in me. From life's first cry to fi - nal

ground, firm through the fier cest drought and storm. What heights of
 ness, scorned by the ones he came to save. Till on that
 day, up from the grave he rose a - gain. And as he
 breath, Je - sus commands my de - sti - ny. No power of

love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when stri-vings
 cross, as Je - sus died, the love of God was mag - ni-
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on
 hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from his

cease: My com - for - ter, my all in
 fied; for eve - ry sin on him was
 me, for I am his and he is
 hand, till he re - turns or calls me

all, here in the love of Christ I stand.
 laid, here in the death of Christ I live.
 mine, bought with the pre-cious blood of Christ.
 home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

All kneel for the Prayer After Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

All 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

The Priest pronounces God's blessing and all respond Amen.

All stand and sing Hymn 137

Wareham

- 1 O wondrous type! O vision fair
 of glory that the Church may share,
 which Christ upon the mountain shows,
 where brighter than the sun he glows!
- 2 With Moses and Elijah nigh
 the incarnate Lord holds converse high;
 and from the cloud, the Holy One
 bears record to the only Son.
- 3 With shining face and bright array,
 Christ deigns to manifest today
 what glory shall be theirs above
 who joy in God with perfect love.
- 4 And faithful hearts are raised on high
 by this great vision's mystery;
 for which in joyful strains we raise
 the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
- 5 O Father, with the eternal Son,
 and Holy Spirit, ever One,
 vouchsafe to bring us by thy grace
 to see thy glory face to face.

Dismissal *Response* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude

Sequence Hymn

VERSE 1. Lord the light of your love is shin - ing in the midst of the
VERSE 2. Lord I come to your awesome pre - sence from the shadows in -
VERSE 3. As we gaze on your king - ly brightness so our fa - ces dis -

darkness shin - ing, Je - sus light of the world shine up - on us
 to your radi - ance by the blood I may en - ter your brightness
 play your like - ness e - ver changing from glo - ry to glo - ry

set us free by the truth you now bring us, shine on
 search me, try me, con - sume all my dark - ness shine on
 mirrored here may our lives tell your sto - ry shine on

me shine on me.
 me shine on me.
 me shine on me.

REFRAIN Shine Je - sus shine fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry

Blaze spi - rit blaze, set our hearts on fire Flow ri - ver flow
 flood the nations with grace and mer - cy send forth your word
 Lord and let there be light.

Music Notes

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, a beloved morning hymn by Charles Wesley, opens by greeting Christ as the true Light who scatters darkness and illumines every heart. On the Feast of the Transfiguration, it reminds us that the glory revealed on the mountaintop is the same divine light that continues to shine in the lives of all who follow Christ.

Written by Graham Kendrick in 1987, **Shine, Jesus Shine** is a joyful prayer for Christ's light to renew the Church and transform the world. Its themes of light, holiness, and mission echo the Gospel of the Transfiguration, where Jesus' divine glory is revealed and the disciples are called to listen to him.

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend's modern hymn **In Christ alone** traces the whole story of salvation—from Christ's incarnation and atoning death to his resurrection and eternal reign. Sung on the Feast of the Transfiguration, it proclaims that the radiant Christ revealed on the holy mountain is the same Lord who conquers death and is the sure foundation of our faith.

Dating from the twelfth century, **O wondrous type! O vision fair** is the Church's classic hymn for the Feast of the Transfiguration. The text reflects on Christ's appearance in glory before Peter, James, and John, with Moses and Elijah bearing witness to him. The tune **WAREHAM**, composed by William Henry Monk, has become one of the best-loved melodies for this ancient hymn, inviting the congregation to share in the wonder of Christ's revealed glory and to look forward to the day when all creation will be transformed in his light.