

# Waiting, Watching, Wondering

11 December

*An Advent to Epiphany Course from the Diocese of Aberdeen & Orkney*



*Terracotta woman baking bread (ca. 600–480 B.C., Cypriot) from the Metropolitan Museum of Art*

## Matthew 17:9-13

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.’ And the disciples asked him, ‘Why, then, do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?’ He replied, ‘Elijah is indeed coming and will restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but they did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man is about to suffer at their hands.’ Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them about John the Baptist.



### *To ponder*

The Gospel passage for today is when Jesus, along with Peter, James and John the brother of James are descending the mountain following the Transfiguration. Jesus has become radiant, glowing in the glory of God's presence and has been joined by the Old Testament figures Elijah and Moses. Peter, James and John have heard a voice from a cloud proclaim Jesus as their son, the beloved – the Son of God, and in the passage for today Jesus refers to himself as the Son of Man. In Advent we are watching, waiting and wondering about the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel – God with us, fully human and fully divine – Son of God and Son of Man. However, we're still in the second week of Advent and the time to contemplate the incarnation is ahead of us.

The Transfiguration in the Greek Orthodox tradition is called the *metamorphosis*, a transformation. As Christians we're called to model our lives on Jesus Christ's, being aware of the Holy Spirit's work in forming us, refining us and calling us to shape our lives on Jesus'. As we walk through this Advent what does this call to transformation look like for you in this season of reflection and penitence as we wait, watch and wonder looking to the arrival of God incarnate.

### *To pray*

Lord who is hope,  
who is bread and water,  
who is help and healing,  
who is freedom,  
and who is love,  
Transform me anew,  
and so keep me close to you,  
as you transform the world.

*Prayer from Catholic Relief Service*

### *To listen to*

Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh on Me <https://youtu.be/JYfzcYohWZg>

Transfiguration by Hillsong Worship

<https://open.spotify.com/track/5XKPxXuDDkCqatONHZw39X?si=c9af809bd0b5423a>

