

# **WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH**

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we welcome and accept you, and we trust God to take you where God wants you in God's timing. We want to be a safe place for you to experience God's grace, love, and presence with us. Welcome home.

## PRELUDE

*Savior of the Nations, Come* - Gregory Hamilton

*Prelude Variants for Advent* - Denis Eliot

*Salvation Unto Us has Come* - Anonymous

*Watchman, Tell Us of the Night* - Lyndell Leatherman

*Prelude on "Veni Emmanuel"* - Thomas Helmore

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

## Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

## Hymn 59

*Descant*

2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;  
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;  
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day."  
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;  
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.  
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt. Music: *Merton*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

*All standing, the Celebrant says*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People*

**His mercy endures forever Amen.**

*The Celebrant says*

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.*

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### Kyrie

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e

e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e -

le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

## THE COLLECT

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*           **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 64:1-9**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 80:3-7, 16-18

3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

4 O LORD God of hosts, \*

**how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*

**you have given them bowls of tears to drink.**

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*

**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*

**the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

17 And so will we never turn away from you; \*

**give us life, that we may call upon your Name.**

18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; \*

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

## SECOND READING

## 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Reader*                The Word of the Lord.

*People*                **Thanks be to God.**



1 O Je - sus, I have prom-ised to serve thee to the end;  
 2 O let me hear thee speak-ing in ac - cents clear and still,  
 3 O Je - sus, thou hast prom-ised to all who fol - low thee,



be thou for ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;  
 a - bove the storms of pas-sion, the mur-murs of self - will;  
 that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be;



I shall not fear the bat - tle, if thou art by my side,  
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
 and, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way, if thou wilt be my guide.  
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard-ian of my soul.  
 O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

Words: John Ernest Bode (1816-1874), alt. Music: *Nyland*, Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans (1874-1948) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

*Deacon*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark  
*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

*Deacon*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## SERMON



## 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.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Deacon:** Let us pray to the Lord on behalf of the Church, the world, and all people according to their need.

O Lord, we long for your salvation; make haste and help us. Come quickly with blessing and comfort for your people, O strong Deliverer of Israel and the Redeemer of the world.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Tear open the heavens and visit your people with salvation. Anoint your Church with your Holy Spirit. Make it radiant with holiness, lovely with compassion, and bright with faithfulness. Fill it with hope as it awaits the coming of your Son in power and great glory.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Tear open the heavens and visit your people with salvation. Come with healing and gladness for your servants. Make our words and deeds shine with your goodness and glory.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Tear open the heavens and visit your people with salvation. Anoint this congregation with your Holy Spirit. Make us generous in sharing the grace given to us in Christ.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Tear open the heavens, O Lord; and visit your people with salvation. Give wisdom and prudence to those who lead the nations, especially those newly elected. Make them good stewards of the authority granted them. Bless our nation with peace, prosperity, and justice.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Tear open the heavens, O Lord; and visit your people with salvation. Give courage, honor, and strength to those who serve and protect our country. Grant healing to those who have been wounded; patience and hope to their loved ones; and a swift, safe homecoming to them all.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.** Tear open the heavens, O Lord;

and visit your people with salvation. Kindle hope within the hearts of all who suffer – especially {List}. Bring them comfort and healing. Give their caretakers patience and compassion.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Tear open the heavens, O Lord; and visit your people with salvation. We give you thanks for the lives of all whom you have given victory over the grave. Lead us to our heavenly home, opened to us by your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved**

**Priest:** Graciously answer our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*Remain kneeling.*

*The Deacon then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence.*

*Minister and 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.

*The Priest stands and says*

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.*

## PEACE

*Celebrant*        The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*           **And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BIRTHDAY/ ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

## HOLY COMMUNION

### *The Celebrant says*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

## THE OFFERTORY

### **The storm is passing over**

**Arr. Tindley**

*Have courage, my soul, and let us journey on,  
Tho' the night is dark, and I am far from home.  
Thanks be to God, the morning light appears,  
The storm is passing over, Hallelu.  
Halleluia! Halleluia! The storm is passing over, Hallelu.*

## **The Doxology**

*(you may stand)*

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.

*(you may stand)*

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING (Prayer B)**

*The people remain standing.*

*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.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

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 you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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.

*The Celebrant continues*

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,

*Celebrant and People*

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

*The Celebrant continues*

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 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.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

*The Celebrant then continues*

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

*Celebrant and People*

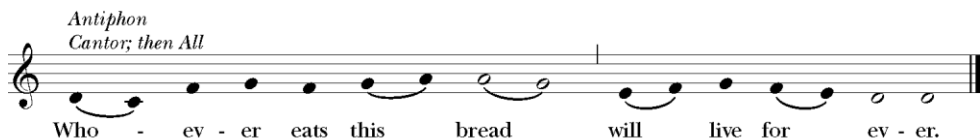
Our Father, who art in heaven,  
    hallowed be thy Name,  
    thy kingdom come,  
    thy will be done,  
        on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
        who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    for ever and ever. Amen.



## BREAKING THE BREAD

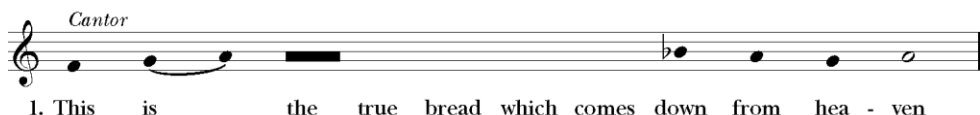
*A period of silence is kept.*

*Antiphon*  
*Cantor; then All*




Who - ev - er eats this bread will live for ev - er.

*Cantor*

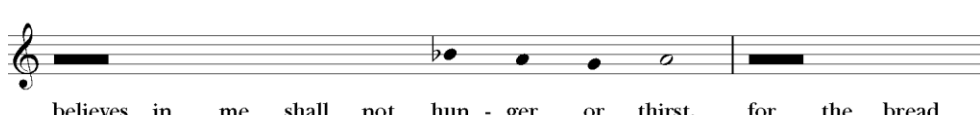


1. This is the true bread which comes down from hea - ven

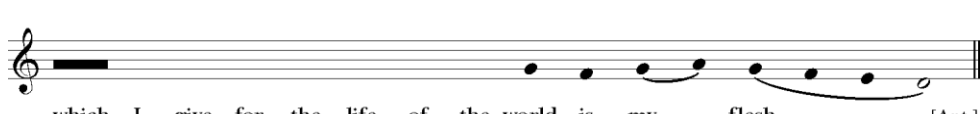
*Cantor*



and gives life to the world. [Ant.] 2. Who - ev - er



believes in me shall not hun - ger or thirst, for the bread



which I give for the life of the world is my flesh. [Ant.]

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Let us pray:

**In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that they may always be united to you. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally with my community, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live and die in your love. Amen”**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

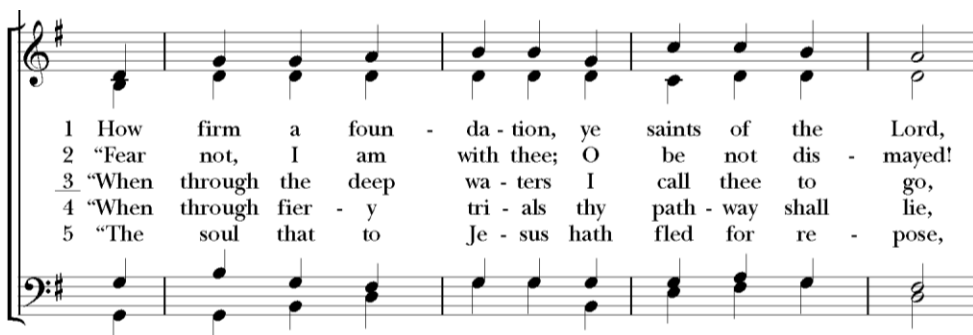
Let us pray.  
*(you may kneel)*

*Celebrant and People*

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

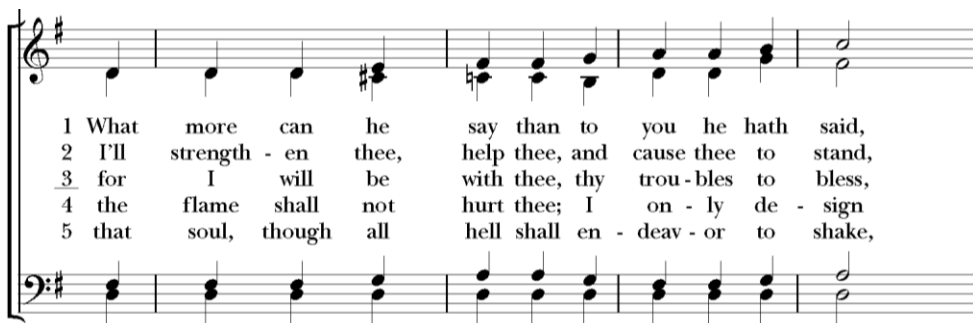
*The priest blesses the people.*



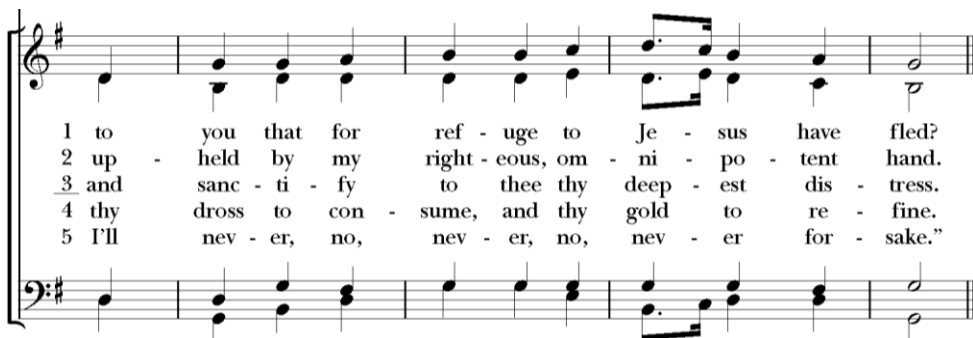
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
 4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
 5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,



1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
 2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
 3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
 4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
 5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,



1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

*Deacon*            Let us bless the Lord.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

Prelude in E minor

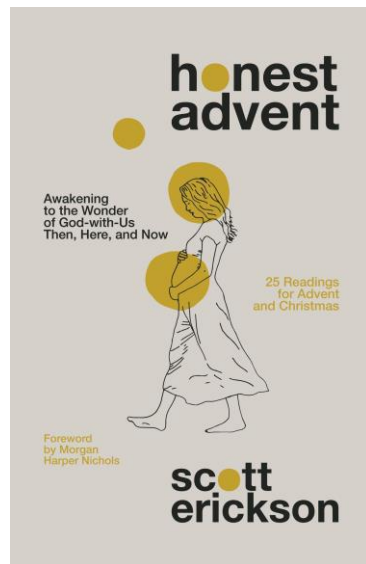
J. S. Bach

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Honest Advent: Advent Book Study: December 6 and 20th**

Is the Christmas story just something that happened a long time ago . . . or is it a story that is still happening today? *Honest Advent* seeks to illuminate the astonishing, hope-filled truth that the God who showed up in the hardest parts of our humanity is still showing up today in those same places.

Celebrated artist-storyteller Scott Erickson gives us 25 days of refreshingly new illustrations and meditations to rekindle the wonder of God-with-Us. We often forget that the encounter with the incarnate Christ happens in unexpected places, like a pregnancy announcement in a time of political unrest and empirical bloodshed, the morning sickness of a Middle Eastern teenager, or the shocking biology of home birth that goes far beyond the sanitized brand of Christmas as we know it.



“Let’s go and see” is the relevant invitation to finding God-With-us today as it was back then. You are invited to join Emilie Vick and Mike Robertson, Sundays Dec. 6th and 20th at 12 noon in the choir room (Fordham Hall). Masks are required. For more information please email [pastoralcare@stmichaelschurch.com](mailto:pastoralcare@stmichaelschurch.com) or call the office (407) 843-8448. Please read through chapter 6 for our first gathering.

*Honest Advent* is available on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [betterworldbooks.com](https://www.betterworldbooks.com)

# St. Michael's Angel Tree



St Michael's is again assisting Lake Silver Elementary with their Angel Tree Project to support students and families during the holidays.

Unwrapped gifts should be dropped off at the St. Michael's Office by **December 7th** to allow the PTA to wrap and distribute the gifts before the Christmas Break.

Please include the Student # with your items when you drop them off.  
If you are able to include wrapping paper or gift bags, it would be appreciated!

Sign-up here: <https://stmichaelschurch.co/AngelTree>

---

**Thank you!**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our "Share the Bounty!" food drive. We put together 68 baskets with complete dinners and gift cards for those in need this holiday season. You made this possible. Thank you.

**CONGRATULATIONS! YOU DID IT!**



**GOOD NEWS. GREAT JOY.**

St. Michael's family has met and exceeded the goal. You have provided 116 children a shoebox full of delight and love and the opportunity to hear the Good News of the Gospel for the first time. Thank you to everyone who participated and remember to include these children in your prayers. As these children have been blessed by you may you be blessed in this season before us. Peggy and Roger Trubey, Project Leaders

---

**GUIDED IMAGERY PRAYER WORKSHOP:  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 - VIA ZOOM**

Guided Imagery Prayer is a way of encountering the Divine Presence using Holy Imagination. Laura Baber will introduce the fundamentals of using guided imagery prayer with Scripture and archetypal metaphors from the Christian tradition. Participants will experience this form of prayer and practice, developing a prayer of their own. Cost is \$25.00



**Go to:** [centerformation.org](http://centerformation.org)

- event
- [guided-imagery-prayer-workshop](#)

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

The evergreens and flowers that enhance our Christmas celebration are purchased with gifts from members of the parish, both as thank offerings and as memorials.



To have your memorials and thanksgivings placed in the Christmas Eve Bulletin, please have them in to the Church Office ***no later than Friday, December 18.***

Please go to: **<https://stmichaelschurch.co/ChristmasFlowers>** to complete the form for Christmas Flowers or stop by the church office to fill out a physical form. Physical forms are located next to the home communion "pick-up station", just inside the glass double doors of Fordham Hall.

Checks are payable to St. Michael's Church, marked Christmas Flowers or go to [stmichaelschurch.com](https://stmichaelschurch.com) to pay online. There is no set amount for your donation of flowers.

---

### Children's Ministry Update

Dear Parents,

Can you believe Advent is here! Although we cannot meet in person on Sundays I have some great ways you can keep the kids engaged this season. There are two options.

The first is a virtual Advent Calendar that you can access every day for a new short video. It starts on December 1st.

The second is a printable Advent Calendar. I will also post this on Facebook every day. If you need me to print this out for you please send me an email and I will mail one to you. Next week I will send out a fun family Advent activity you are sure to love! ***You can access all of these in the Children's Ministry Updates and the weekly E-messenger.***

For the link to this Sunday's lesson. Click on the video that was released today.

Please call, text, email or facetime with anything you might need or just to say hi! I am here if the kids need to talk! 407-415-4523. Don't forget to like our Facebook page for more!



## EYC CANCELLED TONIGHT, NOVEMBER 29

EYC is cancelled for tonight, November 29. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Greg at [Greg@stmichaelschurch.com](mailto:Greg@stmichaelschurch.com)

---

## EYC CHRISTMAS PARTY



GET TICKETS HERE: <https://stmichaelschurch.co/EYCXMAS>



# **JOIN US FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT ST. MICHAEL'S!**

## **ONLINE & IN-PERSON**

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18: BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE AT 7PM**

Blue Christmas recognizes that the holiday season, and for especially this year, can be hard for those who are separated from loved ones, those who are weary with the state of our world, and grieving all the losses big and small due to life in pandemic times.

In this service, we make room for that fact as well as the understanding that not everyone feels joyful at Christmas. We honor the need in each of us to reach out seeking peace and comfort for our souls. We trust that you will find hope and comfort this night in knowing you are not alone.

No Expectations. No Pressure. Just Be.

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24: CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AT 5PM**

**RSVP HERE:** <https://stmichaelschurch.co/ChristmasEve>

### **CHRISTMAS EVE LESSONS AND CAROLS AT 9PM**

**RSVP HERE:** <https://stmichaelschurch.co/LessonsandCarols>

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25: CHRISTMAS DAY MORNING PRAYER AT 10 AM via ZOOM**

Whether you are in your pjs or your Sunday best, grab your favorite warm beverage and join us for a St. Michael's family gathering on Christmas morning at 10 AM via Zoom. You are also free to invite your family, whether they are near or far. ALL are welcome!

**REGISTER HERE:** <https://stmichaelschurch.co/ChristmasDay>

*"Being a Christian is more than just an instantaneous conversion - it is a daily process whereby you grow to be more and more like Christ."* --Billy Graham

Conversion or transformation is a change of mind and heart, this commitment is expressed not in a single action, nor even in several actions over time, but in an entire way of life. It means committing one's very self to the Lord.

Stewardship is an expression of your commitment and faith in the God, with the power to change how you understand and live out your life. As a disciple of Jesus, when you practice stewardship you recognize God as the origin of life, the giver of freedom, the source of all you HAVE, ARE, and WILL BE. You become fully and deeply aware of the truth that: *"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."* (Ps 24:1).


In other words, you realize you are a recipient and caretaker of God's many gifts. Followers of Jesus are grateful for what they have received and eager to cultivate their gifts out of love for God and one another. Generous sharing of resources, including money, is central to its practice, and church support is a necessary part of this.

Essentially, it means helping the Church's mission with money, time, and personal resources of all kinds. This sharing is not an option for Christians who understand what membership in the Church (the Body of Christ) involves. It is a serious duty and privilege. It is a consequence and fulfillment of the faith which Christians profess and celebrate.

Listen and watch **Mark DiDea** as he shares his understanding of being a disciple of Jesus and how he and his wife Susie have committed themselves to the Lord and trust God as the ultimate Giver of all their needs in the midst of a pandemic. <https://stmichaelschurch.co/JoyofGenerosity>

In Christ's love,

*Fr. Phil*

<b>2021 PLEDGE COMMITMENT</b>	Name _____	 <b>SAINT MICHAEL'S CHURCH</b> 2400 N. Westmeadow Drive Orlando, Florida 32804
	Phone _____	
	Email _____	
	During 2021, I/we pledge \$ _____ towards God's work through St. Michael's Church.	
	Weekly installments of \$ _____, Monthly installments of \$ _____.	
	One-time gift of \$ _____.	
I/we would like to receive pledge envelopes _____ YES _____ NO		
I/we prefer to use _____ Check _____ On-line Giving _____ Shares of Stock (please call the church office for information)		

**COMPLETE YOUR 2021 PERSONAL GIVING PLAN:**  
**<http://stmichaelschurch.co/GIVINGPLAN>**

## ST. MICHAEL'S PRAYER LIST

### **Those who have commended themselves to our prayers:**

Ann P., Ann R., Arel, Barbara, Benny, Besa, Bill C., Bill H., Bill T., Brayden, Brittney, Charlie, Dave, Deirdre, Edgerton, Ellen, Emilie, George M., Greg, Gylla, Jamie, Jonathan, Kathy, Kim, Kristina, Lauren, Lisa, Martin, Mary, Nayim, Nina, Peter, Robert, Ron, Shaun, Tracey, Walter, Wik.

### **Rest in Peace:**

Penny Willis

### **Those serving in the armed forces and in harm's way:**

Bradley H., Chad S., Jonah H., Will M., Kenneth K., Ben V, Nick R., Carolyn H.

### **This Week's Birthdays:**

29: Paul Bryan, Jon Eichelberger, Phoebe Vick 30: Eric James, Andrew Walker, Kimmons Wilson 2: Grey Chapin, Tate Piercy, Picton Warlow IV 3: Nate Bedell, Erin Stearns 4: Katie Airth Terry, Bailey Hester 5: Allyson Jennings, Ford Leger

### **This Week's Anniversaries:**

29: Ronny & Anna Mobley

---

## **Clergy and Ministerial Staff**

The Rev. Rick Luoni, *Rector*

The Rev. Greg Favazza, *Assisting Priest*

The Rev. Carter A. Smith, *Deacon* The Rev. Happy Gafford, *Deacon*  
Andrew J. Walker, *Director of Music* Ella Eagen, *Assistant Director of Music*

Tiffany Stieger, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Melanie Olivier, *Director of Preschool*

## BIRTHDAY PRAYER

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) *N.* as *they* begin(s) another year. Grant that *they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* life (lives); through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

O God, we ask that you pour your grace and mercies on this (these) couple/s. Guide them with your wisdom, protect them with your love, fill their home with your presence, and may they grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ all the days of their life. *Amen.*

---

Thank You for Worshiping with Us Today



St. Michael's Episcopal Church  
"Your Church home in College Park"  
2499 N. Westmoreland Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32804  
407-843-8448  
[www.stmichaelschurch.com](http://www.stmichaelschurch.com)

**You Tube** .com/SaintMichaelsOrlando

## Music Copyright

All music printed in this bulletin is printed with permission as defined in the Church Publishing "Rite Stuff" software, CCLI License #2006989, and OneLicense.net license # A-726194. Every effort has been made to comply with all applicable copyright laws for the material contained within this bulletin.