

GOSPEL FAMILY SERVICE

HOPE

PEACE

St. Michael's Church
Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 7 at 9 AM

WE GATHER

Advent Wreath Prayer: Week 2 - Peace

Let us pray.

Prince of Peace, calm our anxious spirits. Heal the wounds of our world and the conflicts within our own souls. Make us instruments of your peace, bearers of your mercy, and builders of your kingdom. **Amen.**

(please stand)

OPENING SONG We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise

We bring the sacrifice of praise
Into the house of the Lord.

We bring the sacrifice of praise
Into the house of the Lord.

And we offer up to You
The sacrifices of thanksgiving;
And we offer up to You
The sacrifices of joy.

(repeat two more times).

Priest: Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. God's grace, mercy, and peace
 be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Let us pray:

**All: Loving God, whose word is life: Come to us with saving power to free our praise
inspire our prayer and shape our lives. For the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ
our Lord, Savior, and Friend. Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Here I am to Worship

Light of the world, You stepped down
into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see Beauty that
made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus So, here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God!
You're altogether lovely, altogether
worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me!

King of all days, Oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in Heaven above,
Humbly You came to the earth You
created, All for love's sake became poor.

Chorus So, here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely, altogether
worthy Altogether wonderful to me!

Bridge I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross! I'll never
know how much it cost To see my sin
upon that cross!

Chorus So, here I am to worship, Here I
am to bow down Here I am to say that
You're my God You're altogether lovely,
altogether worthy Altogether wonderful
to me!

(please be seated)

Priest: The Lord is here.

All: **God's Spirit is with us.**

Priest: Let us pray:

All: **Lord God, help us see Jesus and hear his voice, that we may love
him in our hearts, think about him in our minds, and experience
him in our lives. Amen.**

WE LISTEN

THE PSALM FOR THE DAY

Psalm 116:1-7

I love the LORD, because he hears me;

he listens to my prayers.

He listens to me

every time I call to him.

The danger of death was all around me; the horrors of the grave closed in on me;

I was filled with fear and anxiety.

Then I called to the LORD,

“I beg you, LORD, save me!”

The LORD is merciful and good;

our God is compassionate.

The LORD protects the helpless;

when I was in danger, he saved me.

Be confident, my heart,

because the LORD has been good to me.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

THE TALK

THE ST. MICHAEL'S CREED

I believe in God the Father,
who created me and all the world.
I believe in God the Son, who saved me on the cross and loves me.
I believe in God the Holy Spirit, who is in me and gives me life.
I believe in one God, who lives forever and ever.

(sit or kneel)

WE PRAY TOGETHER

Let us pray to the Lord of Love for His Church and the world:

Loving God, we thank you for our time together today: for all the people gathered here, and those gathered elsewhere.

All: We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them to you, God.

Gracious God, we pray for people in our neighborhood, our country, and around the world--for everyone who needs help, and for everyone who is hungry.

All: We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them to you, God.

Merciful God, we pray for the leaders and future leaders of our world--send us leaders with a heart for goodness and truth.

All: We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them to you, God.

Ever-present God, we pray for those especially on our hearts and minds today. Make your presence known to them, Lord.

All: We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them to you, God.

God, we pray for all of these things, and for everything we are thinking and feeling but haven't said out loud.

All: We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them to you, God.

Priest: Loving God, we thank you for always being with us. Open and transform our hearts so that we may fully love you and our neighbor as ourselves, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE FIND REST & RELEASE

Priest: God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for turning away from you and ignoring your will for our lives.

Priest: We have wounded your love by behaving as we wish, without thinking of you or others.

All: O God, heal us.

Priest: We stumble in the darkness and fail you in what we think, say, and do.

All: Light of the world transfigure us.

Priest: We forget that we are your home by letting ourselves be drawn away from you by the temptations in the world about us.

All: Spirit of God, dwell in us.

(silence)

All: Merciful God, take all these our burdens into your life. We lay them down in faith for healing, forgiveness, re-creation and release through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Priest: May God forgive you, Christ befriend you, and the Holy Spirit renew and change your life. Amen.

THE PEACE

Priest: The peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also, with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAY PRAYER:

Watch over this your child, O Lord.

Bless and guide (him/her) wherever (he/she) may be.

Strengthen and comfort (him/her) to do that which is good and right.

May (he/she) feel the touch of Thy Divine Hand, and receive the joy and power of the Holy Spirit,

that (he/she) may be blessed forever more, 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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERING

WE SHARE A MEAL TOGETHER

(sit or kneel)

Beloved, Jesus often met people at tables— not to judge them, but to welcome them. To break bread. To remind them they belonged. To show them the Father's love.

So come to this table— not because you've earned it, not because you've got it all together, but because you're hungry... hungry for grace, for peace, for the embrace of a Father who has been waiting for you all along.

This is the table where shame has no seat, where striving ends, and love is poured out like wine. Come. Let yourself be fed. Let yourself be known. Let yourself be fathered by God. The table is ready. And so is the Father's love.

The Priest says:

Loving God, we remember that on the night before he died, Jesus sat at a table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my Body, given for you. Do this to remember me."

Then he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it, saying, "This is my Blood, poured out for you and for all, for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, remember me."

Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and this cup, that they may be for us the Body and Blood of Christ. And as we receive them, may we be filled with your love, renewed by your grace, and made one with Christ and one another. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, our Savior and our Friend. Amen.

JESUS' FAMILY PRAYER

(all pray together)

**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.**

WE BECOME ONE

Priest: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.

WE GO

(sit)

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim and demonstrate your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

We Sing Praises

We sing praises to the King
for He is the King of Kings.
We sing praises to the King
for He is the King of Kings.

Give Him glory for He is the King.
Give Him glory for He is the King of Kings.

2x

DIMISSION

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A vertical poster with a dark blue background speckled with golden stars. At the top, the words "Blue Christmas" are written in a white, elegant cursive font. Below the title is a central image of two hands, palms up, holding a lit yellow candle. The candle's light creates a soft, circular glow. Underneath the image, the text "THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18TH" and "AT 6:30 PM" is written in a white, all-caps, sans-serif font. At the bottom, a paragraph of text in a smaller, white, all-caps, sans-serif font reads: "HERE AT ST. MICHAEL'S, WE KNOW CHRISTMAS CAN BE A TIME OF GREAT JOY FOR MANY AND A TIME OF SORROW, LOSS, OR LONELINESS FOR OTHERS. WHEREVER YOU FIND YOURSELF THIS SEASON, OUR PRAYER IS THAT YOU ARE MET DEEPLY BY THE LOVE AND HOPE OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST." Below this paragraph, another line of text in the same font reads: "IMMANUEL, GOD WITH US. MAY THIS BE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS."

Who are you?

In The Blues Brothers, they say, *"We're on a mission from God."* We are too. You are part of something bigger than yourself, making God visible through your generosity and service.

Through your faithful giving at St. Michael's:

YOU share Christ's love in homes, hospitals, schools, and our community.

YOU support healing, hope, and spiritual growth.

YOU help the hungry, guide children, and make worship possible.

YOU are the ministers of St. Michael's.

We want to build on this strong foundation in 2026, and what we can do depends on you.

Please:

PRAY about your part in God's mission,

GIVE generously, and

SERVE with your gifts.

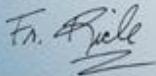
God will do more than we can imagine when we trust Him and work together.

Who are you?

A vital part of God's work here.

Please return your pledge card soon so we can prepare faithfully for 2026.

In Christ's Amazing Love,





**ECYC Meets every Sunday
from 5pm-7pm**

Dinner is Provided for the youth.
Friends are welcome.

Date	Special Events	Reminders
12/05	Advent Festival	• Quigley Hall 6pm-8:30pm
12/13	Making Gingerbread houses	• 11:30am-3:30pm • Orlando Union Rescue • Lunch provided • Community Service Hours Available
12/14	Christmas Party	• Hosted by The Chrisman's • Thursdays 5:00-8:00
01/11	ECYC Semi-annual Parent Meeting	• After Church 12pm • Hors d'oeuvres • Food for youth provided

YOUTH GINGERBREAD HOUSE

Decorating Event

Join us to help underprivileged kids at the Orlando Union Rescue create gingerbread houses from 11:30 AM to 3 PM! Enjoy lunch on us and earn community service hours.

13 DECEMBER 2025

Scan here to RSVP



ST. MICHAEL'S YOUTH NEWS

ECYC CHRISTMAS PARTY

HEAVY APPETIZERS, DRINKS AND DESSERT SNACKS PROVIDED

14TH DEC 5-8PM | **CHRISMAN'S HOME 1017 EASTERN WAY ORLANDO, FL 32804**

WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT SWAP!
BRING A WRAPPED GIFT TO JOIN THE FUN—
NEW? KEEP IT UNDER \$10.
REGIFTED OR HANDMADE? ANY VALUE!
GO FOR FUNNY, WEIRD, OR AWESOME—
THE MORE CREATIVE, THE BETTER. LET THE TRADING CHAOS BEGIN!

Scan here to RSVP

ECYC SPRING PARENT MEETING

JANUARY 11, 2026 | 12:00 PM

CONFERENCE ROOM

Save the date! Join us for a light lunch and pizza for the youth gathering in the youth room. This event happens only twice a year, so we encourage your participation.





Celebrate the
Season with Us!

stmichaelschurch.com

* *BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE* *

Thursday, Dec.18 @ 6:30 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES & SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24

3:30 pm	Family Service
5 pm	Christmas Pageant
5:30 pm	Christmas Eve Service
10 pm	Carols
10:30 pm	Christmas Eve Service

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

Thursday, Dec.25 @ 10AM

Thank you for worshipping with us today!



St. Michael's Episcopal Church
Your Church Home in College Park

St. Michael's Episcopal Church
"Your Church home in College Park"
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