

CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday, April 26, 2026

4 PM

Sung by the choirs of
St. Michael's Episcopal Church
The Church of the Good Shepherd

Kevin Kerstetter, Conductor
The Rev. Justin Gabbard, Officiant
Susan Lewellen, Lector
Dr. Kirsten Homdrom, Organist

Voluntary

Adagio from Sonata No. 1 in F minor

Felix Mendelssohn

Introit

Pilgrims' Hymn

Stephen Paulus

*Even before we call on Your name to ask You, O God,
When we seek for the words to glorify You, You hear our prayer;
Unceasing love, O unceasing love, surpassing all we know.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*Even with the darkness sealing us in, we breathe Your name,
And through all the days that follow so fast, we trust in You;
Endless Your grace, O endless Your grace, beyond all mortal dream.*

Both now and forever, and unto ages and ages, Amen.

-Michael Dennis Browne

We stand as the choir and clergy process into the church.

Opening Sentences

Said by the Officiant

Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

Opening Responses

Setting: William Byrd

Sung by the cantor and choir

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, and is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord, praise ye the Lord.

Psalm 23

Anglican Chant: C. Hylton Stewart

We sit as the choir sings the psalm.

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake. Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil: For thou art with me thy rod and thy staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me: Thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full. But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The First Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Magnificat

Setting: Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (in C)

We stand as the choir sings the Magnificat.

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his hand-maiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with his arm: He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The Second Reading

John 10:1-10

We sit for the reading.

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Nunc Dimittis

Stanford

We stand as the choir sings the Nunc Dimittis.

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

We remain standing and say together

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Byrd

We kneel as the cantor and choir sing

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer – Sung by all

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. Amen.

The choir continues

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the State.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*

The Anthem

O nata lux

Morten Lauridsen

We sit as the choir sings the anthem.

*Translation: O Light born of Light, Jesus, redeemer of the world,
with loving-kindness deign to receive suppliant praise and prayer.
Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost,
grant us to be members of thy blessed body.*

Following the Anthem, we kneel.

Prayers of Intercession

General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

The officiant says

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

1 The day thou gav - est, Lord, is end - ed, the dark - ness
 2 We thank thee that thy Church, un - sleep - ing while earth rolls
 3 As o'er each con - ti - nent and is - land the dawn leads
 4 So be it, Lord; thy throne shall nev - er, like earth's proud

falls at thy be - hest; to thee our morn - ing hymns a -
 on - ward in - to light, through all the world her watch is
 on an - oth - er day, the voice of prayer is nev - er
 em - pires, pass a - way; thy king - dom stands, and grows for

scend - ed, thy praise shall sanc - ti - fy our rest.
 keep - ing, and rests not now by day or night.
 si - lent, nor dies the strain of praise a - way.
 ev - er, till all thy crea - tures own thy sway.

Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893). Music: *St. Clement*, Clement Cottevill Scholefield (1839-1904).

Cantor or Officiant *People*
 Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

We remain standing as the choir and clergy leave the church, and are then seated for the closing voluntary.

Voluntary

Carillon

Louis Vierne

We are thrilled to welcome Kevin Kerstetter, Director of Music at St. Michael's Episcopal Church and the choir of St. Michael's to this afternoon's service.

This afternoon's offering is to benefit The Church of the Good Shepherd's Enloe High School Project, an outreach ministry to support 90 homeless students during the summer and winter breaks from school. If you have questions about this ministry, please contact Suzanne Prince (919.818.2222 or at SVPrince@gmail.com) or Gerard McNeill (919.270.3078 or at emeraldpointe04@yahoo.com).

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



All Are Welcome Here

*We are a welcoming, inclusive and affirming parish in the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina.
We seek to meet and serve Christ in all people and to glorify God in our words and our actions.*

THE RT. REVEREND SAMUEL RODMAN **THE RT. REVEREND JENNIFER BROOKE-DAVIDSON**
BISHOP DIOCESAN OF NORTH CAROLINA ASSISTANT BISHOP OF NORTH CAROLINA

THE REVEREND IMOGEN RHODENHISER
RECTOR

THE REVEREND JUSTIN GABBARD
ASSOCIATE RECTOR

THE REVEREND HERSHEY MALLETTE STEPHENS
PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

THE REVEREND DEVIN MCGINNIS
DEACON

Vestry

Dan Harris Senior Warden	James Deal Junior Warden	James Joslin Treasurer
Carolyn Manley Registrar		

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Dan Harris	Jason Hingerton	Anne Doster
Leslie Gilbert	Harry Johnson	James Joslin
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