

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

a Christ-centered community of practice awakening to the abiding presence of God

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

November 22, 2020

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Blessed be God, Creator, Son and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. *Matthew 11:28-30*

THE CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**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.**

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.*

SONG OF PRAISE

Celebrant Lord have mercy.
People **Christ have mercy.**
Celebrant Lord have mercy.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

WE PROCLAIM AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24

The Lord promises to be the shepherd of the people.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Following the Lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 100

1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

2 Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

4 For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

Paul gives thanks for the faith and love of the Ephesians and prays that they may see with their inward eyes the power of God, who has raised and enthroned Jesus far above all earthly and heavenly dominions.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Following the Lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25: 31-46

A picture of the universal judgement when the Son of Man, acting as judge and king, will separate humankind into two groups: those who have cared for the Lord in the needy, the stranger, and prisoners – and those who have not.

Preceding the Gospel...

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

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Following the Gospel...

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

THE SERMON

Adwoa Lewis-Wilson

After the sermon a period of silence is kept

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:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

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,**

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
who 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

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

Prayers are offered for the world, the church, the sick, etc. followed by a period of silence. Congregation members are invited to offer intercessions during the silence, either aloud or silently.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION TOGETHER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people remain standing.

The Celebrant says

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 Presider praises God for God's creation and love. Then all sing the Sanctus together:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider recalls and calls forth Jesus' life and last supper.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of Faith

Celebrant and People

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

The Presider asks the Holy Spirit to consecrate the bread and the wine to be God's holy food.

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

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,

the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAD IS BROKEN

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

We who are many are one Body;
For we all share one bread and one cup.

Dear God, we believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. We love you above all things, and long for you in our souls. Since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into our hearts. As though you have already come, we embrace you and unite ourselves entirely to you; never permit us to be separated from you. **Amen.** (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

**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 of your presence
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

DISMISSAL

Participants Today

Dan & Beth Houder, Readers and *Joanne Patalano*, Prayer Leader

At St. Michael's we believe that God's love is unconditional. We welcome all people and we affirm the worth, dignity, and gifts of every person as a beloved child of God.

ST. MICHAEL'S WEEKDAY WORSHIP ON LINE OR BY TELEPHONE

Morning Prayer, 8-8:30 am, Monday-Friday
Evening Prayer, 5-5:30 pm, Monday-Friday
Contemplative Worship, 5:30-6:00 pm, Thursday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: *Anne Brown*, Today; *Pam Crispe* and *Juniper Ridgway*, Tuesday; *John Laamanen* and *Laurie Chiperfield*, Saturday.

ADULT FORUM, 9 – 10AM TODAY:

- **"Racial Messages Given to Young Children of Who is of Greater and Less Worth"**
-- Using the short video called "The Doll Test" we see and hear how children pointing to a black or white doll reveal what they have learned about who is prettier, smarter, and better. We see how young children, black, brown and white, have already internalized who has greater value and who does not. We see and hear how deadly racist thoughts invade our minds at the earliest age, as a deadly virus. *Led by Phillip Wilson.*

To enter the Forum meeting on Sunday mornings, click the link in the eNews or on the website.

Meeting ID: 932 0641 6516

Password: theology

OR

Call by phone: +1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 932 0641 6516

Password: 679508

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: Many thanks to everyone who has made a pledge in support of St. Michael's ministry and mission for 2021. As of November 18, we have received 96 pledge cards for a total of \$ 200,132. Among the pledges we have received so far, 46 % have increased their pledges this year! We are well on our way towards our goals for pledges received (135) and total pledged (\$270,000). If you have not had a chance to pledge, we encourage you to do so soon. Pledge cards may be returned in the mail or by pledging online through St. Michael's website (www.stmichaelsvermont.org). Just look under "Give" at the top of the homepage.

If you have not received a pledge card, we can send one to you. Just contact the office at (802) 254-6048, extension 104. Many thanks for your great generosity and support!

HOLY MAYHEM MEETS THIS MORNING, 9:15 : Holy Mayhem for kids in grades 5 - 8 meets this Sunday, November 22. The group meets every other week. The links to the online meeting are on the church website under "Sunday Morning." Please contact Lydia if you have any questions at lydiafin1@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE, WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP, ALL WELCOME, 5:45 – 7:

On **Wednesdays from 5:45 – 7 pm**, we reflect on the appointed scripture for the coming Sunday on Zoom. On December 2, we will begin the scriptures for Advent; our time will be bracketed with Advent songs and prayer from the Sunday services. No prior biblical knowledge or sign up is required. This is a time for fellowship and shared conversation as we deepen and live our faith together. All are welcome for occasional or ongoing participation. Links can be found in the eNew or St. Michael's *COVID resources page (at the bottom)*, on the website. If you are interested in more information, please contact adwoa at adwoa@stmichaelsvermont.org or call her at 254-6048, ext [103](tel:254-6048-103). [The Zoom links are on the website.](#)

THANKSGIVING DAY OFFERINGS

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE: St. Michael's will be offering our traditional Morning Prayer Thanksgiving Day service at 10 am from St. Michael's sanctuary. This service will be streamed live that morning. We will send you the links to the service or you can find them on St. Michael's website under "News & Events."

THANKSGIVING TREE GATHERING: Home for Thanksgiving? Missing your family? Want to touch base with folks from your St. Michael's community? Come to our Thanksgiving Tree Gathering on Zoom!

- The gathering will be from 4:30-5:30pm. Come for the whole thing or just pop in to say hello!
- If you want to participate in creating a Thanksgiving Tree at your home bring a couple of small tree branches, some construction paper, scissors, a hole punch and pipe cleaners or old bag ties. There are actually many ways to make a Thanksgiving Tree, so you can pick how you would like to create yours. Here is a link with gives many different possibilities.
<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/holidays/thanksgiving-ideas/g33525114/thankful-thanksgiving-tree-ideas/>
- We will be creating them together on Zoom (think "parallel play"), chatting, hanging out, drinking tea, sharing tales of Thanksgivings past.
- You need not create a Thanksgiving Tree to participate. You can just come and enjoy some community time.
- Here is the Zoom Link for Thanksgiving Day, 4:30-5:30pm.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85317851518?pwd=VTZqY2tTQWk3dGNrM0pMY0hWdW52UT09>

Meeting ID: 853 1785 1518 Passcode: 463042

THANKSGIVING DAY CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER will hold their usual Thursday evening service chant, scripture and silence from 5:30-6pm on Thanksgiving Day over Zoom. Join Zoom Meeting: [ZOOM MEETING](#)

Meeting ID: 817 9678 9109

Passcode: AMEN

VIRTUAL DIAPER SUNDAY ENDS TODAY: The Outreach Committee invites you to bring packages of disposable diapers (any size) to one of four collection points. Today you may leave diapers on the porches of:

- Judy Davidson, 42 North St, Brattleboro;
- Shirley Hodgdon, 34 Hampshire Circle, West Brattleboro;
- Alix Fedoruk, 169 Park Laughton Rd, Dummerston; or
- Susan Wilson, 105 Westminster Road, Putney.

We will deliver them tomorrow to Parks Place Diaper Bank and to Groundworks. In this time of financial stress, many parents have difficulty affording this basic health and comfort need for their children. Thank you for thinking of them as you do your own family's shopping!

OPERATION ST. NICHOLAS -- St. Nicholas is coming early this year, just in time for Advent! We have recruited a gaggle of elves to deliver Advent gifts to you on Saturday, November 28, weather permitting! The elves will be delivering a copy of our Advent Devotional to each family unit within a reasonable distance from the church (i.e. we cannot deliver to Florida...). The packages will be left on your doorsteps, so please look for them.

In addition to the Advent Devotional, the Bishop of Vermont is allowing us to take Holy Communion together on the first Sunday of Advent, November 29! How is this possible, you may ask? We have ordered tiny communion sets which will be consecrated and delivered to you with the Advent Devotionals. You are then invited to worship with us at the 8 am and 10:15 am services over Zoom and receive your Communion in your home, virtually connected to others in our church community.

If you do not wish to receive Holy Communion and/or the Advent devotional, please let us know before Saturday, November 28. Just call the office (802) 254-6048 Extension 104 or email Jeanie, jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org

In addition, if you have been attending our services, but we do not know your address, please do contact us and let us know. Also, if you have a PO Box address and want to receive an Advent package, please send us a street address for our delivery elves. Again, we can only deliver to Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts!

If the weather looks to be bad on Saturday, November 28, we will try to deliver the packages earlier in the week.

BODY PRAYER & MEDITATION WITH MARY LINDQUIST, SPECIAL OFFERING FOR THE SEASON OF ADVENT, TUESDAYS, 5:30-6 PM: In Advent, we are preparing for the Feast of the Incarnation. Incarnation literally means "in the flesh." Although Christians affirm the goodness of our bodies in remembering that God has become a body in Jesus Christ, we often do not act; we often regard our faith as something mental and not embodied. I hope you will join me in the Season of Advent with a bit of an experiment; we will practice joining gentle movement, breath and body awareness exercises to prayer and scripture, in the hope of experiencing the goodness of the incarnation in our own bodies.

Please join me via Zoom on Tuesday afternoons in Advent, beginning December 1, from 5:30-6 pm! All ages and bodies welcome. Zoom links will be provided in your eNews and on St. Michael's website.

OUTDOOR CLOTHING NEEDED AT OAK GROVE SCHOOL: The Oak Grove School Council has requested outdoor clothing from toddler sizes through children's size 12 for use by students, as they are spending much more time in outside classes during this pandemic. Used clothing is fine as long as it is clean, unsoiled, and ready for more use. The Council has also asked for handmade mittens and hats. Perhaps parishioners who knit or crochet would like to take on this project.

Please bring items to the box outside on the porch bench at St. Michael's. We will then deliver the clothing, hats, and mittens to the Recreation Center where the outdoor gear is being sorted for delivery to the school.

THANKSGIVING PIE UPDATE FROM LOAVES AND FISHES: Please deliver your pies to FOOD WORKS at 141 Canal Street on Tuesday, November 24. Pies must be in boxes and we will provide you with boxes at Loaves and Fishes. The boxes can be picked up Tuesday or Friday morning, 9-12 AM of the previous week, 11/17 or 11/20. If this box pick-up is inconvenient for you, please let me know and I will arrange another way for you to receive your boxes.

Loaves and Fishes is downstairs (basement) at Centre Congregational Church on Main Street. Enter through the side entrance off the Community Bank parking lot. According to health department protocol, each box must have a printed label of ingredients. If printing a label is a complication, let me know and I'll make sure you have a label for your pie. Thanks to all who have volunteered. **It's not too late to sign up to make a pie.** If you want to help out, let Ruth Tilghman or me know to count you in. Many thanks, Jean Smith (revjrsmith@comcast.net or 258-4824)

PROJECT FEED THE THOUSANDS: Project Feed helps your neighbors have access to food. Again this year, St. Michael's has joined the project as a site to collect food and money through November and December. Last year St Michael's collected 356 pounds of food and \$1420 through Mission and Outreach and individual donations. Our collections will go directly to Loaves & Fishes. We are especially in need of food to give to those who come to our back door to get a hot meal and bags of food to go. We are also serving people at Dalem's Chalet, a new mission of the Groundworks Collaborative. We need unperishable food such as: boxed mac and cheese, tuna fish, canned chicken, canned soups, peanut butter, boxes of spaghetti, jars of spaghetti sauce, toiletries, dish soap, laundry soap....And of course financial help is always appreciated.

Your contributions can be dropped off at St. Michael's during office hours from 8 am to 12 noon, Tuesday through Friday. Please knock at the door to the offices off Bradley Ave. Please mark your bags or boxes for Project Feed or Loaves & Fishes.

Thanks, *Ruth Tilghman*

TAG SALE CLOTHING DROP OFF ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 9-12 NOON: We are taking clothing donations of clean, not soiled, clothing in good condition and any season. Clothing includes shoes and boots. Pack the clothing in securely closed strong garbage bags and label contents as "ladies", "kids", or "men's". **CLOTHING ONLY may be dropped off at the Church between 9 and 12 noon on:**

- Saturday, December 12
- A Core Team member will meet you at the door off the parking lot on these days.

CONTACT A TAG SALE CORE TEAM MEMBER WITH ANY QUESTIONS:

Becky Anderson; broadaxe@comcast.net; 802-257-0064

Daniel Dobson; dbdrunner@dobsongroupinc.com; 425-785-8262

Charlene Kemp; charkemp@outlook.com; 802-254-2083

Sherry Stimmel; sherrys@iglide.net; 802-254-8470

Liz Vick; ebethvick@gmail.com; 802-254-7060