

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

MARTIN LUTHER KING SUNDAY

January 17, 2021

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Blessed are God, Creator, Son and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed by God now and forever. Amen.**

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.*

SONG OF PRAISE

Celebrant Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One.
People **Have mercy on us.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the hand of Moses your servant you led your people out of slavery, and made them free at last: Grant that your church, following the example of your prophet Martin Luther King, may resist oppression in the name of your love, and may strive to secure for all your children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; 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

Genesis 37: 17-20

The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, "Let us go to Dothan." ' So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, 'Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.'

Following the Lesson...

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

PSALM 36: 5-10

**5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, *
and your faithfulness to the clouds.**

**6 Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,
your justice like the great deep; *
you save both man and beast, O Lord.**

**7 How priceless is your love, O God! *
your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.**

**8 They feast upon the abundance of your house; *
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

**9 For with you is the well of life, *
and in your light we see light.**

**10 Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you, *
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

THE SECOND READING

"I have a dream"

Martin Luther King

Following the Lesson...

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

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6: 27-36

Preceding the Gospel...

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

'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Following the Gospel...

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ

POEM

REFLECTION

Wylene Wood

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**

LITANY FOR JUSTICE

Intercessor : Brothers and Sisters:

In baptism, we promise to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves, striving for peace and justice, and respecting the dignity of every human being. Let us now honor those vows and pray for our nation, our leaders, and the needs of others.

We pray for continued blessings on all peacemakers, especially this day as we honor the life and vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We pray for an end to the cycles of violence and warfare around the world.

God of peace and gentleness,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

We pray for the will to address the needs of the poor, to support and strengthen families, and to provide the means for all to have healthy food and safe housing.

God of generosity and compassion,
HEAR OUR PRAYER.

We pray that the Holy Spirit will enliven our resolve to end the disparity between rich and poor and give us courage to strive for economic justice.

God of community and equity,
HEAR OUR PRAYER.

We pray for the will to respect all people as precious children of God, and that racism, sexism, and all other forms of discrimination which divide us will be banished from our laws. Heal our hearts and strengthen our resolve to change.

God of all gifts and blessings,
HEAR OUR PRAYER.

We pray for the tools and the will to conserve the beauty of creation, and the determination to use its bountiful resources in the service of others.

God of nature and the universe,
HEAR OUR PRAYER.

We pray for all immigrants, refugees and pilgrims, that we may welcome them in our midst and treat them with fairness, dignity and respect.

God of outcasts and wanderers,
HEAR OUR PRAYER.

We pray for the sick, the aged and those stigmatized because of mental illness or addiction, that all may have access to proper health care, and feel God's loving embrace.

God of comfort and healing,
HEAR OUR PRAYER.

We pray for those who are orphaned, neglected, abused, and for those imprisoned, that they may find hope, relief and safety.

God of children and families,
HEAR OUR PRAYER.

We pray for all those who have died as a result of violence, war, disease or famine, especially those who died because of human cruelty or neglect.

God of eternal life and resurrecting love,
HEAR OUR PRAYER

Together let us pray: **Create in us a new mind and heart that will enable us to see beyond our safety and privilege to heal the wounds of racism and together work to create that Beloved Community where all people are welcomed at the table as one family of God AMEN**

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.*

THE PEACE

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

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Participants Today

Jeff Lewis, Reader and *Jay Pomponio*, Prayer Leader

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: *David Mattocks*, Monday; *Pam Carr*, Tuesday; *Miranda Smith*, Wednesday; *Linda Neilson* and *Lily DeLeon*, Thursday; *John Carnahan*, Friday; *Julie Cogliano*, Saturday.

TODAY IS MARTN LUTHER KING, JR. SUNDAY: Parishioner Wylene Wood is the speaker at both services for St. Michael's celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday. When Wylene was growing up, her father Wiley A. Branton, Sr., was a civil rights lawyer who worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and later worked for the Johnson administration helping to implement the Civil Rights act and as Dean of Howard University Law School. Her family history and her own experiences have led Wylene to a life of action in social justice causes, primarily through her work as an educator and later as a volunteer in related educational projects. Now a member of the Windham County NAACP and an incorporator of Kurn Hattin, Wylene continues to be active in work related to social justice.

ADULT FORUM, 9 – 10 AM TODAY:

- **“Celebrating MLK Sunday”:** The Forum will be an overview of the Windham County chapter of America's oldest civil rights organization, the NAACP. Cliff Wood will interview the branch's president Steffen Gillom, a doctoral student at Antioch University. You will learn the history of the chapter and its work to ensure social justice for all residents of southern Vermont. 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

MEETING ON PROPOSED BUDGET, TODAY, AFTER 10:15 SERVICE: Those who would like the opportunity to review St. Michael's budget for 2021 and ask questions prior to the Annual Meeting are invited to a budget meetings today beginning right after the 10:15 service ends. A draft of the 2021 Budget may be viewed [HERE.](#)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82201078567?pwd=MU9NM3U1M3JXdWxKSS9mdng3R0h5UT09>
Meeting ID: 822 0107 8567, Passcode: 997212

OR Phone: +1 646 558 8656, Meeting ID: 822 0107 8567, Passcode: 997212

THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO JOIN OUR VIRTUAL B.O.B.

(BAG OF BASICS) DRIVE, MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OF SERVICE: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 18 this year, is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. It's often called “a day on, not a day off.” Due to COVID, we will not work together in person tomorrow. Instead, we have been gathering in spirit through gifts from our hearts over the 12 days from Epiphany to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The B.O.B. Drive supplements our parish's ongoing food offerings with a special drive for non-food items that are much needed and often not supplied by existing programs. We will then deliver them to Loaves and Fishes, to Groundworks, and to St. Michael's Ministry for the Southern Vermont Correctional Facility, on or after tomorrow, January 18.

To minimize contact, please read the list of suggested items (much reduced this year to keep our process simpler!) and donate ONE TYPE OF ITEM per box or bag (reusable or paper), CLEARLY LABELED on the outside stating what kind of item and how many. We will pass the boxes and bags directly to our three partners based on which types of items they each requested.

SUGGESTED ITEMS: for B.O.B. Drive * okay to package together

Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
Band-aids
Cold remedies (e.g. Dayquil, Nyquil, Emergen-C, throat lozenges)*
Deodorant
Diapers (especially larger sizes)
Sanitary napkins & tampons*
Shampoo & conditioner*
Shaving cream
Soap
Toilet paper
Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Floss*
Dish liquid
Laundry detergent
Men's white T-shirts
Men's white socks
Men's underwear/boxers
New socks, mittens or hats

Today or tomorrow, please leave your donations (see map in The Guardian) on the porches of:

- Judy Davidson, 42 North St, Brattleboro,
- Alix Fedoruk, 169 Park Laughton Rd, Dummerston (use brick porch, or wooden "Packages" box at front corner of house near driveway), or
- Susan Wilson, 105 Westminster Road, Putney.

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

On **Wednesdays from 5:45 – 7 pm**, we reflect on the coming Sunday's scripture on Zoom. Our time is bracketed with the 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 eNews 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. The Zoom links are on the website.](#)

THURSDAY CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE, 5:30 – 6 PM EACH WEEK: Join this service at **ZOOM MEETING.** The Meeting ID is 817 9678 9109 and the Password is AMEN. If joining by phone, call

1 646 558 8656. The Meeting ID is 817 9678 9109 and the Password: 478114.

ANNUAL MEETING, NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2 PM: Please join us for our first ever, virtual Annual Meeting! Instead of beginning right after church, we want you to take a screen/lunch break and come back at 2 pm for our Annual Meeting. At this meeting we will be able to see one another, hear reports, elect new Vestry members and delegates to Diocesan Convention, and see our Annual Meeting Slide Show!

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87646043468?pwd=aG5Ma29NK1puTDhhRlF0VzNRYnBXdz09>

Meeting ID: 876 4604 3468, Passcode: 913269

OR

Phone: +1 646 558 8656 , Meeting ID: 876 4604 3468, Passcode: 913269

CANDIDATES FOR VESTRY: Those attending the Annual Meeting will vote on these candidates for the three places on the Vestry.



STEVEN GUERRIERO: I am starting my fourth year as a member of St. Michael's Community. I live in Spofford NH, along with my wife Joy and our German Shepherd Emma. We have two grown children and four grandchildren, living too far away! After a long career in higher education as a faculty member and in administration, we now operate our family farm, Pisgah Farm LLC, where we grow and sell produce and flowers wholesale and retail. My professional background includes years of leadership experience and consulting in private and nonprofit organizations.



ANN LANDENBERGER: My family and I joined St. Michael's in 1996 after moving to Williamsville from Providence, RI, where we belonged to St. Stephen's on College Hill. Recently retired from Leland and Gray in Townshend where I taught English and directed 65 shows including five that toured China, I founded the Rock River Players in Williamsville in 2015 and remain active in theatre while also performing music with my partner, T. Breeze Verdant, as Bard Owl. Always eager to write, I'm working on a memoir and have contributed regularly to area publications both as a freelance essayist and as a PR practitioner. I feel blessed to be in Vermont where one can thrive on fresh air, deep woods and wide views from a canoe or a bike, on skis or on foot. A proud grandma of Henry, age 3+, I'm a grateful mother of three grown sons, all of whom performed in some of the many pageants I'd worked on, including a long run of them at St. Michael's where I'm also a reader and lay assistant. This would be my second time serving on the Vestry: I feel clearly called to serve again and would be honored to do so-- to have a chance to contribute to the good health and ever-widening reach of our remarkable parish. *Annie*



ALAN MCBEAN: Greetings St. Michael's. My name is Alan McBean and I am a candidate for the Vestry class of 2021. My wife Judith and I were married at St Michael's in 1981 and have been members of St. Michael's since our return move in 1999. I grew up in Dummerston where my family attended Dummerston Congregational, the center of all things spiritual and social in the 60s. Living in Essex, VT for a time, I attended St. James where I was confirmed by Bishop McLeod and served a term on the Vestry. Since returning to Brattleboro, I have served on Vestry, the Schroeder Fund, committees for the renovation project, and Buildings and Grounds. I look forward to once again being more closely involved in church business especially in this time of creating new and innovative ways to stay connected as a congregation. I'm praying for everyone's health this winter and lemonade on the lawn together by June! *Yours in Christ, Alan McBean*

NEW BOOK CLUB LED BY NANCY AMES:

Dear Friends,

I would like to have a book club around the New York Times bestselling book, “Caste,” by Isabel Wilkerson. As the jacket describes, Wilkerson, a Pulitzer Prize winning author examines the unspoken caste system that has shaped America and shows how our lives today are still defined by the hierarchy of human divisions. It is an Oprah book club selection and gets a solid five stars on Amazon reviews.

If you would like to be a part of this book club, please email me, Nancy Ames, at alderyacht@gmail.com. We will need to determine a reading schedule as well as times when we can meet on Zoom to talk about our experiences of reading the book the book. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks, *Nancy*

WONDERING WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS? We are collecting them for use in craft activities at the next St. Nicholas Fair in December. There is a container for these cards on the bench at the entrance to the offices. Come by and drop your cards in the container that says “Christmas cards.” Or contact the church office at 254-6048, ext 104 if your cards need to be picked up. Thank you!