

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

Second Sunday of Easter

April 11, 2021

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Celebrant and People

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

WE PROCLAIM AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING

Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Following the lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 133

1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!

2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,

3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

THE EPISTLE

1 John 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Following the lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

Preceding the Gospel...

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20: 19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Following the Gospel...

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend. Mary D. Lindquist

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

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.

Intercessor: Risen Lord,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

THE PEACE

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

EASTER BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Participants Today

Jeff Lewis, Reader and *Steve Guerriero*, 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: *Peter Johnson* and *Kurt Johnson*, Today; *J. Michael Wilmott* and *Devin Starlanyl*, Monday; *Diane Clouet*, *Ron Bell* and *Lyndsay Hesselbach*, Tuesday; *Ian McBean* and *Emily Brown*, Thursday.

ADULT FORUM TODAY, APRIL 11: "THE JERUSALEMA CHALLENGE!" In January of 2020 a South African spiritual "Jerusalema," sung in Zulu, became a hit in southern Africa. When Angolan dancers choreographed it in February and recorded themselves dancing while they ate lunch, the song and the dance began to go viral. People danced it in law offices in Zimbabwe, a Catholic church in Montreal, a monastery in Israel, on the streets of Havana. Firefighters danced, and street kids, and pilots; the Swiss police challenged the Irish Garda. An Australian dance teacher made an instruction video. So we will explore why the Jerusalema Challenge became a global response to the pandemic, why cloistered Irish nuns took up the Challenge not only "to cheer people up" (as the Kenyan Parliament did), but as "a creative way to pray." We might also dance.

SPRING CLEAN UP DAY, NEXT SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 8:30 AM, ST. MICHAEL'S: All hands on deck for St. Michael's Spring Clean Up Day, Saturday, April 17 beginning at at 8:30 am at St. Michael's. Don't forget to wear your mask and bring rakes and gloves if you have them. Many hands make light work! Rain date is April 24.

ADULT FORUM, NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 18: "MONARCH GARDENING: BEING A GOOD HOST FOR MIGRATING BUTTERFLIES" — In early spring, Monarch butterflies in eastern North America leave their overwintering home in Mexico to start a migration they'll never complete. Three generations are born along a route of thousands of miles as they make their way to Vermont and the north east. Each generation needs milkweed plants to nourish caterpillars, and the adults need plenty of flowers' nectar as fuel. This remarkable natural spectacle requires a careful choreography of weather and habitats. Human activities threaten the dance and are threatening the Monarch population. We'll discuss how, through gardening and advocacy, we can be good stewards of these beautiful butterflies. Led by *David Treadwell*.