

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom 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

Holy God
Holy and Mighty
Holy Immortal one
Have mercy on us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 10: 44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit

just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Following the lesson...

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

PSALM 98

1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

3 The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

THE EPISTLE

1 John 5: 1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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 15: 9-17

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

Following the Gospel...

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Adwoa Lewis-Wilson

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.

MISSION PRAYER FOR ST. MICHAEL'S

**Dear God, help us
to be a loving, welcoming
and dynamic faith community,
deeply rooted in the conviction
that we are all children of God.**

**Through the joyful experience and power of Christ,
help us serve all people.
Guide us to practice
stewardship of the Earth,
deep generosity
and social, racial and economic justice.**

**Through these practices
of compassion, love and service,
may your presence be manifested in our time. Amen.**

EASTER BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Participants Today

Jeff Lewis, Reader and *Steve Guerriero*, Prayer Leader

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: *Brian Morgan, Diana Bingham* and *Julien Siegel*, Tuesday; *KC Mattson*, Wednesday.

THE ADULT FORUM WILL BE TAKING A BREAK FOR THE SUMMER

BEGINNING MAY 23. Normally we stop mid-June when the choir goes on break and the coffee hour morphs into lemonade on the lawn. This year, because we are going to be having church outside at Christ Church, **our last forum will be May 16th.** We will start up again in September - and maybe even - can we hope in person!?

ADULT FORUM, MAY 16, NEXT SUNDAY: "Celebrating Women's Journeys": In this Forum we enlarge "Mothers' Day to "Celebrating Women's Journeys" which for some women include motherhood, others not. A panel of women looks at challenges, expectations and barriers they have faced in their lives as women. St. Irenaeus said, "The Glory of God is in men and women fully alive." The panel is asked: "What they experience as still needing to happen for women to achieve this?"

BREATHE: CELEBRATING ASCENSION, PENTECOST AND THE GROWING TIME

*ST. MICHAEL'S OUTDOOR GATHERING FOR KIDS, FAMILIES & ALL WHO ARE
INTERESTED! SUNDAY, MAY 16, 4 PM ON THE RECTORY LAWN*

Now that the weather is nice, we are planning another special gathering on the Rectory Lawn for kids, parents, teachers and kids-at-heart. The theme of this gathering is Celebrating Ascension, Pentecost and the Growing Time, based on a new book called Breathe, by Laura Alary. There will be a story walk, crafts, food, and time to greet each other. Every family who attends will receive a copy of the book, Breathe, which you can check out [here](#). The crafts we prepare can be used to celebrate Pentecost on May 23 at our outdoor services at Christ Church. Just like last fall, we will all wear masks and practice social distancing. Please let us know if you will be attending by emailing mary@stmichaelsvermont.org

LEGACY SUNDAY, MAY 16: The Stewardship Team has been reflecting on Legacy Giving and how important legacy gifts to our parish. Since our fall stewardship season is focused on encouraging support for the coming year, we decided to spend one Sunday, the last Sunday in the Easter Season, reflecting on legacy giving and the importance of aligning the gifts God has given us with our deep values. In addition, we will be naming and celebrating some of the ancestors who have made our ministry at St. Michael's possible through their generosity.

MAY 23, PENTECOST SUNDAY

BOTH 8 AM AND 10:15 SERVICES OUTSIDE AT CHRIST CHURCH

On May 23 we will celebrate The Feast of Pentecost outside at Christ Church with Holy Communion at both services. Please wear red in honor of the Holy Spirit!

If you wish to attend one of these services at Christ Church, please email or call Jeanie at the church (jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org & 802 254-6048, ext 104). In your message, please let us know how many people are in your family group. Also, let us know if you have any special requests (sitting toward the front, staying in your car, etc.). We will also use this list to contact you by noon on Friday if we need to tell you that the services will not be outside, due to inclement weather forecast for Sunday morning.

BIN ON THE BENCH FOR SOUTHERN STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY: *From Cliff Wood* – “On Wednesday May 12, I will again deliver donations. **Please leave donations in the bin by noon on Tuesday, May 11.** Always welcome are toiletries in clear bottles, individually wrapped candies and cookies, paperback books, magazines, cards, games and puzzles. Thanks for your wonderful generosity.”

TREASURER NEEDED: The Board of the Christ Church Guilford Society seeks a volunteer to serve as Treasurer. The Treasurer will manage the Society's finances and checking account, pay bills, and report to the Society's financial situation to the Board, which currently entails about 1 hour per month. The Treasurer will work with the Board on any grant funds received. Preferred qualifications: knowledge of QuickBooks or other accounting software program; some past experience with financial responsibilities in a nonprofit setting. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Anne Montgomery (amontgomery1254@gmail.com) or the Rev. Mary Lindquist (mary@stmichaelsvermont.org). Thank you!"