

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 4, 2021

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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 taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; 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

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Paul tells of both exaltation and infirmity, and the discovery of a strength that comes through weakness.

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard

things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Following the lesson...

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

PSALM 123

To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

So our eyes look to the Lord our God, *
until he show us his mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud

Preceding the Gospel...

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

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6: 1-13

Jesus returns to his home town and finds suspicion and lack of faith.

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust

that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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: Lord, in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us confess our sins to God.

Leader and People

**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.**

The Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive 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.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERING

We ask you to continue to support St. Michael's through your offering, in person or remote. Please send your pledges or donations through the mail or online on our website, www.stmichaelsvermont.org, pressing the "Donate now" button on the top right hand corner. Our ministry at St. Michael's depends on your generosity.

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.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider recalls (and makes present for all) 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,

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread.

We who are many are one Body, for we all share one bread and one cup.

The Presider invites the following prayer to be said by all who do not have the physical elements of Holy Communion:

My 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 myself entirely to you; never permit us to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant and People

**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
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

Karin Bleecker, Reader and ***Kiersten McKenney***, 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: *Matthew Wojcik*, Today; *Thea Porter* and *Rebecca Porter*, Monday; *Duncan Hilton*, Wednesday; *Lori Palmer* and *Joanne Patalano*, Wednesday; *Judith McGee*, Thursday; *Anita Crosson* and *Irene Burtis*, Friday.

St. Michael's will re-open for Sunday Services on July 11

Please note that this is a week earlier than previously published.

We are excited to move back into the church for Sunday worship, where there is plenty of shade and lots of seating. This will be a *soft opening* to allow us time to rebuild many of our liturgical ministries. Think simple and streamlined!

Here are some important things to keep in mind:

Masks

We had hoped to be free of all COVID restrictions, but with the presence of the Delta variant in Vermont we ask that everyone who attends the 10:15 service wear masks for now. We will revisit the mask recommendation in a few weeks.

Those attending the 8 am service may choose not to mask because the service does not involve singing and is a much smaller gathering.

Virtual Church

We will be livestreaming the 10:15 am service on our website and on our Vimeo channel. This means that we will no longer be using our Sunday Zoom Links! Next week, we will update the St. Michael's website to reflect these changes. We will also send out the Vimeo link in the eNews. At present, we are unable to livestream the 8 am service.

Holy Communion

We will continue to offer Holy Communion of one kind (bread) for now. We hope to include wine again in the fall.

The Peace

As everyone has different levels of comfort regarding hand-shaking and hugging, we recommend a wave or bow as we greet one another at the Peace for now. We encourage hugs outside of worship for those who are consenting!

FUNERAL FOR JONQUIL CLOUET, THIS COMING SATURDAY, JULY 10, 10 AM -

St. Michael's will host a funeral for Jonquil Clouet Boyle on Saturday, July 10 at 10 am. "Jonquil Clouet Boyle, 30, beloved daughter of Dianne Clouet and Kenneth Boyle and cherished sister of Eleanor Cautela-Clouet, died suddenly of an accidental overdose after a four year struggle with heroin use." You may find Jonquil's full obituary here: <https://obituaries.neptunesociety.com/obituaries/kenner-la/jonquil-boyle-10181891>. There will be a reception following the service.

SHARING FOR MEALS PROJECT TO BENEFIT LOAVES AND FISHES, JULY 17

(JULY 24 RAIN DATE) ~ 9 AM - 2 PM: The Sharing for Meals Project, a benefit for Loaves and Fishes, will be presented by the St. Michael's Tag Sale Ministry from 9-2 on Sat., July 17th (rain date

July 24th) under tents on the lawn of St. Michael's. We are all aware of the financial challenges the pandemic has brought to our community. Because of this, we are holding this "by donation" event rather than our traditional Tag Sale. Our goal is to help the whole community as well as Loaves and Fishes. Therefore, at the Sharing for Meals Project, please feel free to take what you need and leave what you can afford.

We will be offering gently used clothing and shoes for all seasons and linens at this event. Our goal is to raise \$3000 for Loaves and Fishes.

Of course, volunteers are needed to help this benefit succeed! In the coming weeks at outdoor services at Christ Church we will have a table set up for people to choose times to join us as a volunteer, or if you'd rather, you can call Charlene Kemp, our volunteer coordinator, at (802) 254-2083 to sign up.

We are now collecting monetary donations towards our ambitious goal. If you feel like helping us succeed in meeting this goal, please contribute as generously as you can. There will be a donation jar at our table at the Christ Church services, or you can send a check to St. Michael's with "Loaves and Fishes" noted on the memo line. Thank you, everyone, for your amazing support! *-The St. Michael's Tag Sale Ministry*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP FOR JOHN LAAMANEN: We exceeded the goal and John is thankful for the financial donations but also for all of St. Michael's assistance in the past months when Julie was so ill. The visits, the flowers, the meals and the prayers are much appreciated.

THE "JUST IN CASE" DOCUMENTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE! These forms were developed by our Pastoral Care Team and our administrator, Jeanie, to help us prepare for emergencies. They are not just for older people, but for people of all ages, as none of us can predict when accidents or emergencies will happen.

We have developed four forms, all of which are available as forms to be filled in on a computer or as forms to be filled in by hand:

- **Information for First Responders** – a quick reference for those who provide initial help in an emergency. This form is meant to be in an obvious place, such as the refrigerator door, and to be accompanied by a medication list and a copy of your advance directive.
- **General Information** – information needed by family, neighbors or friends who might be caring for you, your home, pets etc. during a time when you cannot do that. It would also be helpful for St. Michael's to have a copy of this form.
- **Care Management Plan** – Here you can record your thoughts about how you would like to receive various kinds of care if needed, identify others to be involved or consulted in making any decisions about care you might need, and direct another person to pieces of information that might be needed such as copies of your insurance cards or policies, military discharge papers, or a copy of a power of attorney.
- **Funeral Information** -- This form where you record your preferences can be on file at St. Michael's as well as in your papers at home.

Here is the link to the forms on St. Michael's website: <https://www.stmichaels-vt.org/just-in-case-documents/> Printed forms are also available at the church office or can be mailed to you. If you would like help in understanding or filling out the forms, contact the Church office. Jeanie will connect you with one of the members of the Pastoral Care Team who have volunteered to help.

