

A Christ-Centered Community of Practice Awaking to the Abiding Presence of God

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept.

HYMN The Hymnal 362



ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever.

SONG OF PRAISE





- 2. In my song, Lord, be glorified......
- 3. In your church, Lord, be glorified.......

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST READING

Job 38: 1-7, 34-41

God appears to Job out of the whirlwind and demands to know whether he is wise enough to question the Creator of the heavens and earth.

The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:

"Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.

Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?

On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone

when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

"Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you?

Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'?

Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind?

Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens,

when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together?

"Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,

when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert?

Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?"

Following the Lesson...

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

PSALM 104: 1-9, 25, 37b

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul; *
O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness! you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

- 2 You wrap yourself with light as with a cloak * and spread out the heavens like a curtain.
- 3 You lay the beams of your chambers in the waters above; * you make the clouds your chariot; you ride on the wings of the wind.
- 4 You make the winds your messengers * and flames of fire your servants.
- 5 You have set the earth upon its foundations, * so that it never shall move at any time.
- 6 You covered it with the Deep as with a mantle; * the waters stood higher than the mountains.
- 7 At your rebuke they fled; * at the voice of your thunder they hastened away.
- 8 They went up into the hills and down to the valleys beneath, * to the places you had appointed for them.

9 You set the limits that they should not pass; * they shall not again cover the earth.

25 O Lord, how manifold are your works! * in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

37b Hallelujah!

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 5: 1-10

Through obedience and suffering Christ reached the perfection of his destiny and was designated by God to be the eternal high priest.

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son, today I have begotten you";

as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Following the Lesson...

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

HYMN The Hymnal 652

Hymn printed on the next page



Words: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), alt. Music: Rest, Frederick Charles Maker (1844-1927)

THE GOSPEL Mark 10: 35-45

Jesus' followers still expect that his way will quickly lead to a state of glory in which they want special places. Jesus tells them of a different path of discipleship.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

Following the Gospel...

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON Adwoa Lewis-Wilson

After the sermon a period of silence is kept

WE PRAY FOR GOD'S CREATION, FOR THE WORLD, AND FOR THE CHURCH

The Leader bids us to pray for the sick and suffering, for those who have asked for our prayer, for those who rejoice in life events and for those who have died.

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

The Priest says a concluding Collect

Let us confess our sins to God.

My brothers and sisters, not out of dread and fear but believing that God is faithful to forgive, let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer.

Leader and People

Eternal God, maker of the skies above, lowly Christ, born amidst the growing earth, Spirit of life, wind over the flowing waters, in earth and sky, you are there.

O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul behind all souls, in everything we touch, in everyone we meet, your presence is around us, and we give you thanks. But when we have not touched but trampled you in creation, when we have not met but missed you in one another, when we have not received but rejected you in the poor, forgive us, and hear now our plea for mercy.

Hear now the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to renew their lives: your sins are forgiven. Go in peace; come and follow me.

BLESSING FOR JOHN & MARY CARNAHAN

THE PEACE

Not an easy peace, not an insignificant peace, not a halfhearted peace, but the peace of God in Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUION TOGETHER



Words: Latiu: tr. James Quinn (b. 1919), alt. Copyright ©1969, James Quinn, SJ. printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division of Cassell, Ltd. Music: Ubi caritas (Murray). A. Gregory Murray (b. 1905) Copyright © by permission of A. Gregory Murray. All rights reserved. Used with permission

OFFERING

We ask you to continue to support St. Michael's during this time. Those in person may leave offering in the offering plate. Or you may 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

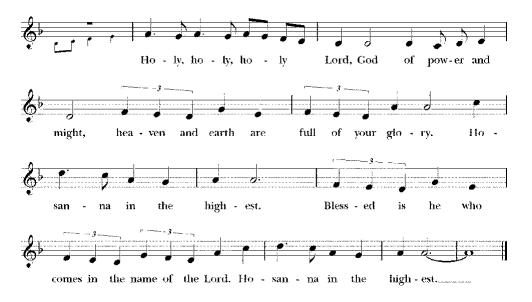
The Lord be with you.

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



The Presider recalls and makes present for all Jesus' life and last supper.

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,

People and Celebrant

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.



Celebrant: We who are many are one Body;

People: For we all share one bread, one cup.

(For those not gathered, the Prayer of Spiritual Communion is below)

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)

PRAYER

God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

HYMN The Hymnal 559

Hymn is printed on the next page



Words: James Edmeston (1791-1867), alt. Music: Dulce carmen, melody from An Essay on the Church Plain Chant, 1782, adapt. Collection of Motetts or Antiphons. ca. 1840; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

DISMISSAL

Participants Today

Annie Landenberger, Lay Assistant; Margery McCrum and Greg Lesch, Readers; Ricky Davidson, Intercessor; Brian & Joyce Vining Morgan, Ushers; Jane Sbardella, Charlene Kemp and Craig Newbert,, Altar Guild.

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

Morning Prayer, 8-8:30 am, Monday – Friday Wednesday Eucharist, 12 noon Contemplative Worship, 5:30-6:00 pm, Thursday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: *Dana McGinn* and *Jack Lilly*, Today; *David Birri*, Monday; *Mary Lindquist*, *Ed Sbardella* and *William Boggess*, Thursday.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO: Anita & Jim Crosson, Friday.

ADULT FORUM, 9 – 10 AM, MEETING ROOM: After trying hybrid Forum sessions, we decided to return to an in-person Adult Forum only. For special speakers, we will record the session and make it available for viewing on our Vimeo channel.

- THIS MORNING, ST. MICHAEL'S INTERFAITH REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT MINISTRY: Several members of the parish Jean Smith, Ricky Davidson, Daniel Dobson and Joyce Vining Morgan -- who are part of this ministry will speak about their reasons for involvement and the work before them. Come learn more about this ministry and your possible involvement.
- OCTOBER 24: WE WELCOME NORMA HARDY, BRATTLEBORO'S NEW POLICE CHIEF. Chief Hardy had a distinguished 26-year career with the Police Department of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. She was Executive Officer at the World Trade Center site in 2006, Police Captain and commanding officer at the Holland and Lincoln Tunnels in 2008, Police Inspector and Northern Zone Commander in 2011, and to Chief of Port Authority Bridges, Tunnels, and New Jersey Airports in 2013.

She joins the Brattleboro Police Department months after the town released an extensive report recommending significant reforms to local policing. When asked about dealing with systemic racism as a part of her job, Chief Hardy responded, "Oh, absolutely. Yes, absolutely. It's something that is not just a part of my job. It's a part of all of our jobs. And it's a part of the community's job, too." Jean Smith, who was very much involved with the Port Authority of New York as the head of the Seamen's Institute, NYC, will be leading the conversation with Chief Hardy.

BLESSING AND SEND-OFF FOR MARY & JOHN CARNAHAN, TODAY AT 10:15 SERVICE:

Although Mary and John Carnahan formally joined St. Michael's in 1965, they began attending the parish in 1957 when they rented an apartment on North Street. They moved to Washington DC for two years, then returned with two young children and purchased the old rectory house on Tyler Street, right down the street from St. Michael's. They have been very active parishioners for over 50 years! Mary has been a faithful member of the Altar Guild, a Sunday School and Godly Play teacher, and one of the founders of the Memorial Garden while John has been the unofficial "church historian," assisting son Paul in researching the architecture of St. Michael's for his book, *The History of St. Michael's*. Mary has also been a long-time attender of the Wednesday Eucharist. Now that they are both in their 90s, they are moving to a continuing care residence in Randolph Center, which will put them much closer to their son Paul.

Today we will thank Mary and John for their tremendous ministry at St. Michael's, as well as their friendship, support and faithfulness. We plan to say a special prayer of blessing at the 10:15 service, followed by a reception under the tent, weather permitting. We invite you to write a card or letter to Mary & John, letting them know what they have meant to you and to our church. Please send cards and letters to Mary and John Carnahan, 29 Tyler St., Brattleboro VT 05301.

ABOUT ONE OF TODAY'S HYMNS: Dear Lord and Father of Mankind, hymn 652, is one of Mary Carnahan's favorite hymns. The words of this hymn are part of a much larger poem by Quaker poet John Greenleaf Whittier. This poem, "The Brewing of Soma" recalls the practice of ancient Vedic priests who brewed an hallucinogenic drink in order to communicate with the divine. Whittier goes on in the poem to liken that practice to that of Christians who use artificial means of ritual in order to experience God. He

concludes the poem by describing what he sees as the true pathway to connect with the divine, namely living lives dedicated to doing God's will by serving others, and seeking silence and reflection in order to hear the "still, small, voice of calm." John and Mary have richly blessed us with their own lives of service and witness, "interpreted by love." They have served our parish as well as our community in countless ways. I give heartfelt thanks for them both. "Let us, like them, rise up and follow Thee." ~ Susan Dedell

HEALING TEAM AFTER 10:15 SERVICE: A member of the healing team will be waiting at the door of the Mary Magdalen Chapel at the end of both the 8 AM and 10:15 services for people wanting individual, couple, or family prayers for healing, thanksgiving and other concerns. They will be masked, will maintain safe distance, and will work with you to make this familiar, but changed, experience a blessing for all.

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS CELEBRATED SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31: On October 31, St. Michael's will celebrate the Feast of All Saints at both the 8 am and the 10:15 am service. During this service, we will remember those saints who have gone before us and loved ones who have died, as well as recognize ourselves as those 'saints' who have been called to follow Jesus with our whole selves. On this day, we will remember in our prayers those who have died during the last year.

- If you have people who have died in the last year you would like to be named in the prayers, please add them to the book in the back of the church or email names to Jeanie at jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org
- If you have pictures of loved ones who have died whose lives you want to give thanks for, we will provide a table in the chancel area in front of the altar as a visible reminder of the saints who have come before us for worship that day. If you attend St. Michael's through Livestream, we invite you to have photos of loved ones with you as we worship and pray together.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORKSHOP ON "THE EXPERIENCE OF AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT IN THE US," OCTOBER 24, 1 – 2:30 PM: The state of Vermont has been approved to welcome up to 100 Afghan people for resettlement, beginning soon. CASP, the Community Asylum Seekers Project, is hosting a workshop on October 24 from 1 – 2:30 pm for local volunteers interested in working with the folks from Afghanistan. The workshop will be led by St. Michael's parishioner Noah Coburn and by Ismaeil Hakimi.

- Ismaeil Hakimi, originally from Ghazni province, trained as a lawyer in Iran. After the fall of the Taliban in 2001, he returned to Afghanistan and worked with a U.S. contractor to held rebuild the country's justice system. He came to the United States on a Special Immigrant Visa in 2014 and currently lives in Salt Lake City.
- Noah Coburn, PhD, an anthropologist at Bennington College, has spent several years in Afghanistan and investigated the human cost of the Special Immigrant Visa Program. He is the author of *Under Contract: The Invisible Workers of America's Global War* and several other scholarly works focusing on Afghan politics.

For more information, call CASP in Brattleboro at 802-579-1509 or go to info@caspvt.org. Prior registration is required, at

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSer7SQIhSl4sXuRazwa2SygwuDI_zSRZDWCNhArLIGpeZ_ePA/viewform. Then a Zoom link will be emailed to the registrant before the Workshop.

CARRY ME HOME IS COLLECTING DONATIONS! This local nonprofit run by St. Michael's parishioners Alix and Julia Fedoruk has a mission to help refugees and people fleeing conflict by providing them with clothes and other basic items. They are coordinating closely with St. Michael's initiative to obtain Refugee Resettlement Co-sponsorship status and with local and national agencies spearheading resettlement locally. We will provide items for the people arriving here, continue to send items to partners working at refugee camps, and donate to local people in need.

Please consider helping by donating new or gently used items from the list at https://bit.ly/2YgKSXg, or by volunteering to work with the Carry Me Home group. You may place items in the box in the Common Room. Email carrymehomecampaign@gmail.com to find out more. We gratefully accept donations via Paypal at the above email address or by check made out to Carry Me Home: please leave monetary donations in the manila envelope in the collection box in St. Michael's Common Room or mail them to Carry Me

Home, % Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main St., Brattleboro VT 05301. Follow us on Facebook @CarryMeHomeWithLove!