



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

THE SIXTH WEEK IN SEASON OF CREATION

THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept.

HYMN

The Hymnal 400, v. 1 - 4



- 1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
*3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your
*6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal
7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



- 1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that
6 breath, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back
7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



- 1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:

Refrain



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

ACCLAMATION

Presider: Blessed be the One who creates all things.

People: **God's love is new every morning.**

SONG OF PRAISE

V: Holy One, to you belong praise, glory, honor, and blessing.

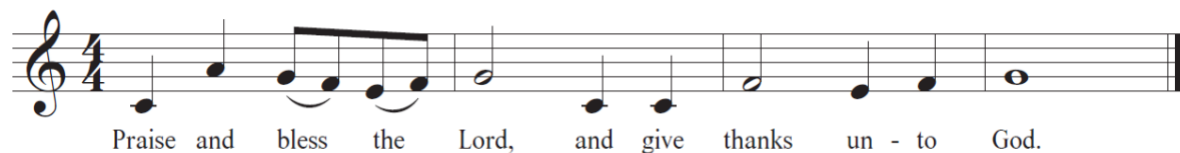
R: **Praise and bless the Lord, and give thanks unto God.**

V: O vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses

R: **Praise and bless the Lord, and give thanks unto God.**

V: This fragile earth, our island home.

R: **Praise and bless the Lord and give thanks unto God.**



COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Great Spirit God, we give you thanks for another day on this earth. We give you thanks for this day to enjoy the compassionate goodness of you, our Creator. We acknowledge with one mind our respect and gratefulness to all the sacred cycles of life. Bind us together in the circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and one another. **Amen.** *from Ojibwe Evening Prayer*

THE FIRST READING

Lamentations 3:19-26

Following the lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE OF CREATION -- *St. Francis of Assisi*

O Most High, all-powerful, good Lord God,
to you belong praise, glory,
honour and all blessing.

**Be praised, my Lord, for all your creation
and especially for our Brother Sun,
who brings us the day and the light;
he is strong and shines magnificently.
O Lord, we think of you when we look at him.**

Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Moon,
and for the stars

which you have set shining and lovely
in the heavens.

**Be praised, my Lord,
for our Brothers Wind and Air
and every kind of weather
by which you, Lord,
uphold life in all your creatures.**

Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Water,
who is very useful to us,
and humble and precious and pure.

**Be praised, my Lord, for Brother Fire,
through whom you give us light in the darkness:
he is bright and lively and strong.**

Be praised, my Lord,
for Sister Earth, our Mother,
who nourishes us and sustains us,
bringing forth
fruits and vegetables of many kinds
and flowers of many colours.

**Be praised, my Lord,
for those who forgive for love of you;
and for those
who bear sickness and weakness
in peace and patience
- you will grant them a crown.**

Be praised, my Lord, for our Sister Death,
whom we must all face.

**I praise and bless you, Lord,
and I give thanks to you,
and I will serve you in all humility.**

THE SECOND READING *“Saint Francis and the Sow” by Galway Kinnell*

The bud
stands for all things,
even for those things that don't flower,
for everything flowers, from within, of self-blessing;
though sometimes it is necessary
to reteach a thing its loveliness,
to put a hand on its brow
of the flower
and retell it in words and in touch

it is lovely
 until it flowers again from within, of self-blessing;
 as Saint Francis
 put his hand on the creased forehead
 of the sow, and told her in words and in touch
 blessings of earth on the sow, and the sow
 began remembering all down her thick length,
 from the earthen snout all the way
 through the fodder and slops to the spiritual curl of the tail,
 from the hard spininess spiked out from the spine
 down through the great broken heart
 to the sheer blue milken dreaminess spurring and shuddering
 from the fourteen teats into the fourteen mouths sucking and blowing beneath them:
 the long, perfect loveliness of sow.

HYMN

The Hymnal 554



'Tis the gift to be sim - ple, 'tis the gift to be free,
 'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
 and when we find our - selves in the place just right,
 'twill be in the val - ley of love and de - light.
 When true sim - pli - ci - ty is gained to
 bow and to bend we shan't be a-shamed, to turn, turn, will
 be our de-light till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come round right.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 12: 22 -32

Preceding the Gospel...

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

Following the Gospel...

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

After the sermon a period of silence is kept

PROFESSION OF FAITH

We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.
We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world
and who suffers with it.
And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.
We believe in everlasting life in God.
And we believe in the hope that one day
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

**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: God, Giver of life,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

THE CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God,
we confess that we have failed to honor you
by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures.
We have walked heavily on your earth,
overused and wasted its resources,
taken for granted its beauty and abundance,
and treated its inhabitants unjustly,
not acting with love and care towards future generations.
Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.
Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth
as you desire and intend,
with grateful and compassionate hearts,
through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

Through the cross of Christ, God have mercy on you, pardon you and set you free.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal. **Amen.**

The Celebrant bids

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.

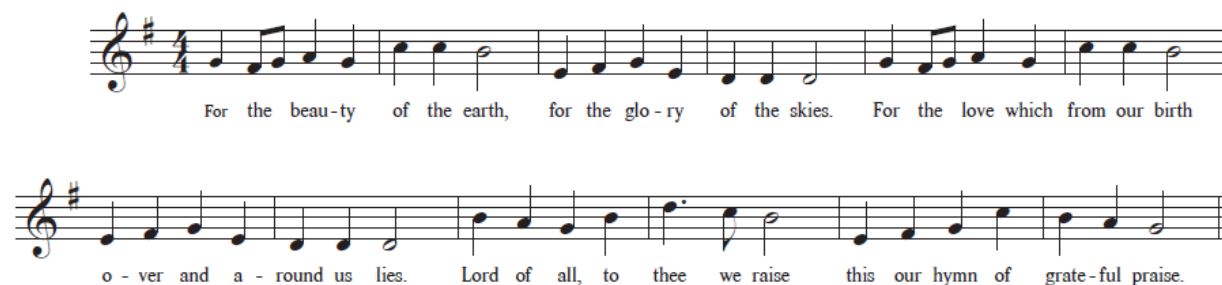
And also with you.

Following the Peace, the Celebrant recites a sentence from Holy Scripture; all prepare for the Holy Eucharist.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION TOGETHER

OFFERTORY HYMN

"FOR THE BEAUTY..."



2. For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light.
REFRAIN: Lord of all.....

3. For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent child.
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild.
REFRAIN: Lord of all.....

4. For each perfect give of thine
To the world so freely given,
Faith and hope, and love divine,
Peace on earth, and joy in heaven.
REFRAIN: Lord of all..

OFFERING

Please consider an offering/pledge to St. Michael's to support our many ministries. At this time, we have an offering plate located at the back of the church to collect contributions. You may also contribute online on our website,

www.stmichaelsvermont.org, clicking the "Give" and "Give Online" button on the top right hand corner. Our ministry at St. Michael's depends on your generosity.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

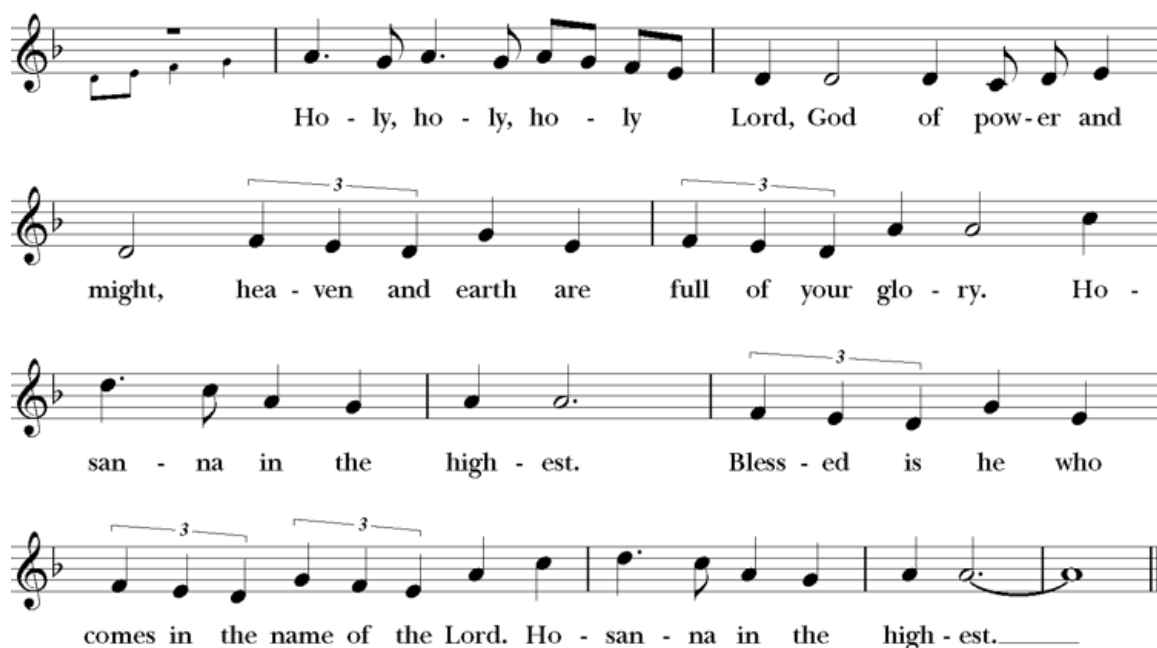
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

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.

Let us pray:

People and Celebrant

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

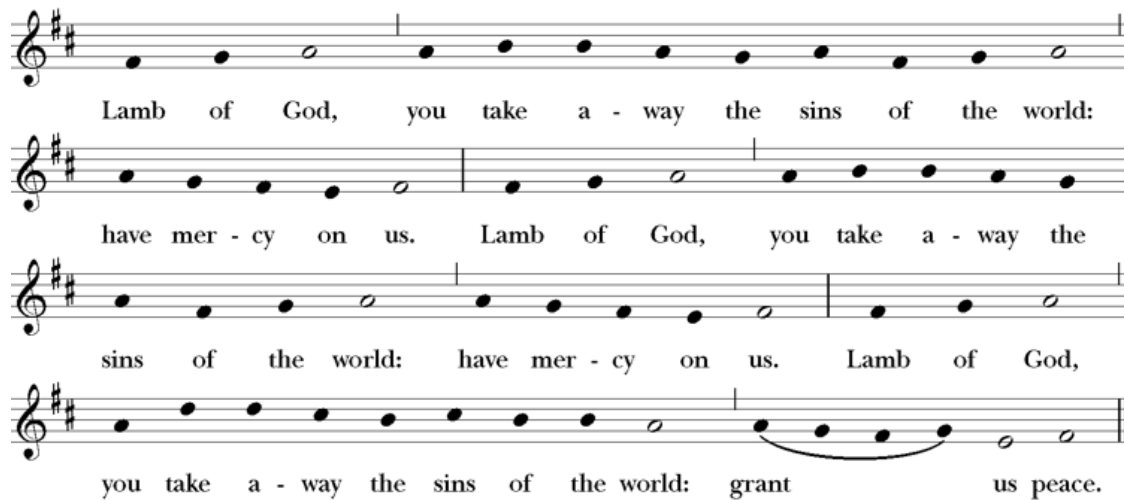
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your beloved community of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the ways we hurt one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.



Alleluia, Behold what you are!

May we become what we receive.

(For those worshipping online, 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)

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

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. In our celebration of the Eucharist, there is no one here who is ineligible or unwelcome; no one who has too many doubts or too few beliefs. This is the table of a loving God set for all creation through the power of Jesus Christ. You, who are part of that creation, are welcome.

Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Please indicate that preference to the liturgical minister.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Faithful God

in the wonder of your wisdom and love
you fed your people in the wilderness
with the bread of angels,
and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life.
We thank you for feeding us with this bread.
May it strengthen us
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may embody your will
and be renewed for your service
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING -- *A Celtic mother's blessing as a son or daughter leaves home:*

The keeping of God upon thee in every pass,
The shielding of Christ upon thee in every path,
The bathing of Spirit upon thee in every stream
In every land and sea thou goest.

HYMN

The Hymnal 405

Descant

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

Refrain

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.

all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Repeat Refrain

he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky,
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

DISMISSAL

Participants Today

Greg Lesch, lay assistant; *Laura Andrews* and *Ed McCatty*, readers and element bearers; *The Rev. Adwoa Wilson*, deacon; *Imogene Drakes*, intercessor; *Liz & Ian Harrison*, ushers; *Judy Walker* and *Carol Hesselbach*, Altar Guild. The flowers on the altar this week are given by *Bruce & Marie Lawrence in loving memory of their granddaughter, Hazel Ruth.*

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.

- **WELCOME TO VISITORS!** All are welcome at this table. If you have any questions about the liturgy, location of the bathrooms, or anything else, please ask one of the ushers or greeters. Thank you for joining us today.
- **GLUTEN FREE WAFERS AND GRAPE JUICE** are available for Communion at both 8:00 am and 10:15 services. Please make yourselves known to the priest when you come up for Communion.
- **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE!** There are clipboards with paper and crayons, as well as activity bags with coloring books at the back of the Sanctuary for children who are interested in coloring or drawing during the service. Feel free to come in and out of the worship area as needed with your children! Please ask an usher if you need assistance.
- **NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE** for young children during the service. Please ask the ushers for directions.

ST. MICHAEL'S WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Morning Prayer, 8-8:30 am, Monday-Friday, on Zoom

Centering Prayer, 11:30-11:55 am, Wednesday in the Chapel

Eucharist with the Saints, 12 noon-12:30, Wednesday in the Chapel

Contemplative Worship, 5:30-6:00 pm, Thursday in the Chapel, in-person and on Zoom

Centering Prayer, 8 am, Saturday in the Chapel

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: *Judith Reichsman* and *Keira Caponcelli*, Today; *Janet Cramer*, Monday; *Brendan McElhinney*, Tuesday; *Christy Fritz*, Wednesday; *Liz Harrison*, Friday; *Joanna Brown*, Saturday.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO: *Heddy & Zsolt Pomazi*, Today and *Louise LaChance & Aldrich Wright*, Tuesday.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS & THE SEASON OF CREATION: As the culmination of the Season of Creation, we are celebrating St. Francis Day this morning and we welcome a special preacher, St. Michael's parishioner Kim Peavey.

Kim Peavey and her husband, Frank Hunter, have been farming together and with draft horses for nearly twenty-two years, nineteen of those living and farming full time in Westmoreland, New Hampshire. Kim grew up on a family dairy farm in central New York State and studied literature, theology, and environmental issues before returning to her farming roots. Kim's essays and poetry have appeared in various periodicals, and she also writes the monthly column [Farm Talk](http://www.hillsidespringsfarm.com/blog), (<http://www.hillsidespringsfarm.com/blog>) on farming and sustainability.

GODLY PLAY, HOLY MAYHEM + CONFIRMATION CONVERSATIONS MEET

TODAY: Godly Play meets every Sunday and kids ages 3-10 are invited to attend Godly Play beginning at 10 am. Holy Mayhem (grades 5-8) meets today at 10 am and every other Sunday. The Confirmation Conversation for high school youth meets today after church for lunch and discussion. Please contact Mary Lindquist if you have any questions!

ST. FRANCIS DAY BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS, TODAY, 4 PM: All people, creatures and critters are invited to a special celebration in thanksgiving of our pets and animals!

When: Today, 4 pm

Where: The Rectory Lawn (across the parking lot from St. Michael's, 18 Bradley Avenue, accessible entrance available on Bradley Avenue).

What: A brief time of singing, readings and prayer, followed by a time of blessing each pet individually.

Who: You, your pet or a picture of your pet, or a stuffed animal, plus your animal-loving friends and neighbors!

BUILDING HOPE FOR THE EARTH PROJECT UPDATE: The construction has officially begun! The insulators from Farnum started on Monday. They are putting new planks and insulation over the Bradley Wing, which means that the heat we have been losing through the second-floor roof of the Bradley wing will be much reduced. Also, the Building & Grounds Committee erected a temporary fence in the Rectory Lawn for the Preschool to use while their regular playground is unusable because of roof constructions. Phoenix roofing will begin setting up on Wednesday!

BUILDING HOPE CAMPAIGN UPDATE: We are pleased to announce that we are nearing our goal for the Building Hope Campaign. We now have \$748,730 raised through pledges and grants toward our goal of \$800,000 and 57 pledges toward our goal of 100 pledges. If you have not turned in your pledge form yet, please turn it in today. If you need a pledge form, there are some in the back of the church or in the Common Room. Thank you so much for your great generosity -- We are building hope together!

DEADLINE IS TODAY - SACRED LOSS GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP, OCTOBER 11 – NOVEMBER 15, 5:30 – 7 PM: This grief support group, which is for parishioners who have experienced any type of death or loss of a loved one, will meet on Tuesday evenings for six weeks from 5:30-7 pm, October 11 through November 15, in the Meeting Room. The Rev. Deacon Lars Hunter will facilitate the group. Lars is the Bereavement Program Coordinator at Brattleboro Area Hospice and he brings a history of pastoral care and grief support to those who are experiencing loss. To register or for more information, please contact Mary at mary@stmichaelsvermont.org or call the Church office at 802-25406048, ext 104.

PAGAN, JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN WOMEN IN THE ROMAN EMPIRE; THURSDAY, OCT 13, 2 - 4 PM; JOHN ZON SENIOR CENTER, GREENFIELD MA: Parishioner and choir member Valerie Abrahamsen will present "Pagan, Jewish and Christian Women in the Roman Empire" at the John Zon Senior Center, 35 Pleasant St, Greenfield, Mass., on Thursday, October 13, 2022, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. The lecture, sponsored by the Senior Symposia program at Greenfield Community College, will be illustrated with Dr. Abrahamsen's photos from Greece, Italy and elsewhere in Europe. Registration is required at <https://go.gcc.mass.edu/seniors/senior-symposia/>, and the cost is \$10 per person. (Note that the Center does not accept cash or check payment at the door.) All are welcome!

CALLING ALL COOP SHOPPERS: October is round up month for Loaves and Fishes. When you are checking out, you can round up your purchases to an even dollar. We are excited to be part of this community involvement since people have been very generous and groups have received thousands of dollars. We are in need of support to purchase foods for our Afghan market. We support

our community with specialty foods as well as our grocery bags, hot meals and Everyone Eats meals to our community. Thanks for your support in this fund raiser for Loaves and Fishes. *Ruth*

PLEASE FILL OUT THE HOSPITALITY SURVEY - The Hospitality Team is reforming and blossoming this season, after a period of dormancy during the first years of Covidtide. This important ministry supports church events by providing food and welcome to all members of our congregation. Weekly offerings like Coffee Hour are opportunities for volunteers to contribute to our life as the church. Other opportunities are special seasonal events such as Advent Lessons and Carols, St. Nicholas Day and the Easter Vigil and significant gatherings, such as funerals and celebrations of all kinds. This new team welcomes participation by all, and we are grateful for the support of all past helpers — bakers, cheese slicers, coffeemakers, table setter-uppers, and more!

Please fill out the survey that will be sent via the eNews in the coming weeks which will list ways you can join and support the re-emergence of this ministry.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE WEDDING! OCTOBER 22, 1 PM AT ST. MICHAEL'S - Susan Nichols and The Reverend Deacon Darcey Mercier will be celebrating their nuptials on Saturday, October 22 at 1:00, here at St Michael's. They are inviting all to attend and asking people to wear a splash of rainbow for the ceremony. No gifts are necessary, but if people would like to bring finger foods for the potluck reception, that would be great! Please be in touch with Megan Buchanan (mbuchanan@hotmail.com) or Rosie Wojcik (rosie@wojnet.org) to coordinate. And please remember to wear your mask. They would love to celebrate with you all!