



# ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

The Feast of the Nativity, 2022

## WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

HYMN 87

*Hark, the herald angels sing*

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

### ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Creator, Son and Holy Spirit  
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

HYMN 96, v 1 + 3

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.  
What great bright-ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.  
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

*Refrain*  
Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

*Isaiah 52: 7-10*

*Following the Lesson...*

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 97

1 The Lord is King;  
let the earth rejoice; \*  
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, \*  
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

3 A fire goes before him \*  
and burns up his enemies on every side.

4 His lightnings light up the world; \*  
the earth sees it and is afraid.

5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

6 The heavens declare his righteousness, \*  
and all the peoples see his glory.

7 Confounded be all who worship carved images  
and delight in false gods! \*  
Bow down before him, all you gods.

8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, \*  
because of your judgments, O Lord.

9 For you are the Lord,  
most high over all the earth; \*  
you are exalted far above all gods.

10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; \*  
he preserves the lives of his saints  
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, \*  
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, \*  
and give thanks to his holy Name.

## A READING FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

*Hebrews 1: 1-4*

*Following the Lesson...*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# HYMN 81

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,  
 \* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.  
 with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind,  
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the  
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to  
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.  
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

Words: St. 1-2, German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). st. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859); tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. *Hymnal 1940* Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesang*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

*Preceding the Gospel...*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE GOSPEL

*John 1: 1-14*

*Following the Gospel...*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## HOMILY

*The Reverend adwoa Wilson*

# 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.*

*Stand or kneel if able*

Intercessor: Prince of Peace.

People: **Reveal to us your glory.**

*Silence*

*The Celebrant concludes with a Collect.*

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION TOGETHER

### INVITATION

### OFFERING



*During the hymn, ushers pass the offering plates. Representatives from the parish bring the people's offerings of food bread and wine for the Eucharist, and money for mission and ministry to the Altar. You may also make a donation online by scanning the QR code to the left or by going to St. Michael's website at [www.stmichaelsvermont.org](http://www.stmichaelsvermont.org) under "Give" & "Give Online"*

*Our ministry at St Michael's depends on your generosity!*

### HYMN 115

*Printed on the next page*

*Unison or harmony*

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for  
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

*Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant* *People*

Lift up your hearts. 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.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

*Celebrant and People*

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **BREAD IS BROKEN**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

We who are many are one Body, for we all share one bread, one cup.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## **BREAD AND WINE ARE SHARED**

### ***Invitation to Receive the Sacrament of 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. If you would like either, please indicate that preference to the liturgical minister.*

*Receive the Bread in your open palm followed by the Common Cup, taking the cup by its base and guiding it to your lips. You may also receive the Bread only, with arms folded over your chest afterwards. Or if you wish to come to the Altar for a blessing only, please fold your arms over your chest.*



# WE ARE SENT AND GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God,  
for you have visited and redeemed  
your people, coming to us in Jesus.  
With this meal and your love  
you have set us free to live in the light of a manger.  
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 savior. Amen.

## BLESSING

May God, who sent God's child to take our nature, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness, and brighten your heart with light.

*People*            **Amen**

May God, who sent angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy and make you heralds of the Gospel.

*People*            **Amen**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you peace and favor.

*People*            **Amen**

And the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you for ever.

*People*            **Amen**

## HYMN 105

*Printed on the next page*



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;  
 2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came  
 3 "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright;  
 4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ - mas Day,  
 and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:  
 this day is born a Sa - vior of a pure vir - gin bright,  
 and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.  
 how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.  
 to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's power and might."  
 this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.



O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and



joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

Words: London carol, 18th cent. Music: *God Rest You Merry*, melody from *Little Book of Christmas Carols*, ca. 1850; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

## DISMISSAL

*Presider* Let us go forth in the name of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*People* Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

## THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE THIS MORNING

Lay Assistant/Intercessor – *Kate McGinn*  
 Readers – *Maida McKenna* and *William Stearns*  
 Ushers – *Ricky Davidson* and *Judy Walker*

## ADVENT GREENS AND CHRISTMAS FLOWERS ARE GIVEN

### TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

*From Ian & Liz Harrison*

*From Laura Lewis*

*From Sue & Paul Dyer*

### IN THANKSGIVING FOR:

Susan & Paul Dedell's music programs at church *from Raquel Moreno*

The music ministry of Susan Dedell *from Cliff & Wylene Wood*

Family and Friends *from Judy Walker*

### IN MEMORY OF:

Family *from Ann & Doug Switzer*

Evelyn & Charles Swift, the McGee Family, and Marie Turek *from Judy McGee*

Leonard & Shirley Ely, Martha & Spider Wiggins, and Scott Ely *from Tom & Ann Ely*

My Gram Carmel Parvo *from Susan & Charlie Daigneault*

My Godmother Mary Alice Parvo Russo *from Susan Daigneault*

Bruce Hesselbach *from Carol Hesselbach*

Corky Elwell *from Chris, Bill and Ben*

Peter Davidson *from Judy & Jack Davidson*

Nini & Bumpa *from Hailey and Ryan Cogliano*

Nancy & Halsey Hicks and Jeffrey Durborow *from Pam & Paul Gallagher*

Robert R. Anderson *from Becky Anderson*

Kate & Glenn Mayo *from The Fisher Family*

My Parents and Grandparents *from Lise Sparrow*

**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.  
All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.**

- **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.
- **TO RECEIVE THE RITE OF HEALING:** Trained lay healing ministers are available in the chapel to pray with you individually before or after you receive communion. A healing minister will say prayers, lay her or his hands upon you, and anoint you with consecrated oil. You can come for yourself, for another person, for a need or for a thanksgiving. Please ask ushers for assistance if you have questions.
- **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.

### **ST. MICHAEL'S WEEKDAY WORSHIP**

Morning Prayer, 8-8:30 am, Monday-Friday, on Zoom, Tuesday & Wednesday in-person the Chapel

Breakfast with the Psalms, 8:30-10 am, Wednesday at The Works, Main St, Brattleboro

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:** *Joyce Vining Morgan, Imogene Drakes*, Monday; Today; *Jeanette Landin, Hugo Taggart* and *Susan Ruggles*, Tuesday; *MJ Woodburn, Christine Gauthier*, and *Stephanie Diamondstone*, Wednesday; *Annamarie Pluhar* and *Laurel Harrison*, Friday.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:** *Bruce & Kerry Capponcelli*, Tuesday and *George Moore & Margery McCrum*, Friday.

**WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE CHANGES:** This week, December 28, there not be a Centering Prayer or noon Eucharist or Breakfast with the Psalms. There will be a Thursday Contemplative Service and a Saturday Centering Prayer, as usual.

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED THIS WEEK:** The office will reopen on Tuesday, January 3. We will listen to phone messages occasionally during the week.

**NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 1:** There will be Holy Eucharist at 8 am. The 10:15 service will be Christmas Lessons & Carols with no Eucharist. The 10:15 service will be in-person and livestreamed. There will be no Adult Forum or children's education until January 8.

**ADULT FORUM, JANUARY 8: “Hymn Extravaganza”** -- The January 8 forum is going to be a HYMN EXTRAVAGANZA! What are your favorite hymns? Why? Do they have a special memory, or do you just love singing them? Susan wants to know, and she wants to play them for you, and maybe even share a bit of their history with you. Jot down your faves on a bit of paper and leave it in the office or give it to Susan, or email her at [dedellsusan@gmail.com](mailto:dedellsusan@gmail.com), and she'll do her best to include it in the line-up. The choir will be on hand to help those beloved melodies soar!

**NANCY AMES CONTINUES TO RECOVER IN CHICAGO:** Nancy has gone to Chicago to live with daughter Mary for a little while. There she will have the benefit of Mary's healthcare expertise + additional caregivers and therapists to help continue her great progress. The hope is to get her strength up enough to head back home in the spring. Please continue to pray for Nancy and if you would like to send her a card, her address in Chicago is: Nancy Ames c/o Louis Sudler, 2608 North Lakeview Avenue, Apt. 7A Chicago, IL 60614

**CELEBRATING SUSAN:** On Saturday, January 14, St. Michael's is hosting a special event to honor our beloved music director of 32 years, Susan Dedell, who is retiring effective Sun, Jan 15, 2023. All in the congregation are invited to attend a special Taize service at 4 pm in the sanctuary, with a dinner and celebration immediately following in the Undercroft. Please join us on Sat, Jan 14 for this spirited, heartfelt time of gratitude and appreciation for our amazing Susan!