

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

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



The Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 19, 2023

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept. The opening procession is in silence.

SILENT PROCESSION

ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the God of our salvation:
Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

LENTEN CHANT

Attende Domine



The Celebrant says:

Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. *Matthew 11:28-29*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept

Almighty and most merciful father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our
own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to
have done,

and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

May the God of all mercy forgive you, draw you forth into life and peace, and make real the hope that we, and all creation, be released from bondage and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

Levas 101, v 1 + 2

1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing,
2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing,
3. Time is now fleet - ing, the mo - ments are pass - ing,
4. Oh! For the won - der - ful love He has prom - ised,

1. Call - ing for you and for me; — Sec, on the por - tals He's
2. Plead - ing for you and for me? — Why should we lin - ger and
3. Pass - ing for you and for me; — Shad - ows are gath - er - ing,
4. Prom - ised for you and for me; — Though we have sinned, He has

1. wait - ing and watch - ing, Watch - ing for you and for me. —
2. heed not His mer - cies, Mer - cies for you and for me? —
3. death beds are com - ing, Com - ing for you and for me. —
4. mer - cy and par - don, Par - don for you and for me. —

Come home, Come home, come home, come home,

Ye who are wea-ry, come home! Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,
 Je - sus is call - ing, Call - ing, O sin - ner, come home!

Words: Will L. Thompson (1847-1909). Music: Will L. Thompson.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

WE PROCLAIM AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

Following the Lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

The choir and congregation will chant the Psalm, with notes changing on the text in bold.

1 The Lord is my **shepherd**; *

I shall not be in **want**.

2 He makes me lie down in green **pastures** *

and leads me **beside** still waters.

3 He revives my **soul** *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's **sake**.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no **evil**; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your **staff**, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who **trouble me**; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running **over**.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my **life**, *
and I will dwell in the house of the **Lord** for ever.

A READING FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

Ephesians 5:8-14

Following the Lesson...

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

HYMN

WLP 754

HYMN ON 2 PAGES

1. When from bond - age
2. When our God names
3. Through all stag - es
4. We must not lose
5. See the prize our

we are sum - moned out of dark - ness in - to light, we must
us a peo - ple, Je - sus leads us by the hand through a
of the jour - ney Christ is with us, night and day, with com -
sight of Je - sus, who ac - cept - ed pain and loss, who, for
God has prom - ised: end - less life with Christ our Lord. Now we

go in hope and pa - tience, walk by faith and not by sight.
lonc - ly, bar - ren de - sert to a great and glo - rious land.
pas - sion for our weak - ness ev' - ry step a - long the way. Let us
joy of love un - meas - ured, dared em - brace the shame - ful cross.
fix our eyes on Je - sus, walk by faith in Je - sus' word.

throw off all that hin-ders; let us run the race to win! Let us

has-ten to our home-land and, re-joic-ing, en-ter in. in.

Words: Delores Dufner, OSB (b. 1939). Music: *Haywood's Home*, Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Times for Grace*.

Preceding the Gospel...

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

THE GOSPEL

John 9: 1 - 41

Following the Gospel...

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

SERMON

The Reverend Mary Lindquist

After the sermon there is a period of silence.

THE 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.

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
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

ANTHEM

OFFERTORY HYMN

The Hymnal 429



1 I'll praise my Mak - er while I've breath; and when my voice is lost in
2 How hap - py they whose hopes re - ly on Is - rael's God, who made the
3 The Lord pours eye - sight on the blind; the Lord sup - ports the faint - ing
4 I'll praise him while he lends me breath; and when my voice is lost in



death, praise shall em - ploy my no - bler powers. My
sky and earth and seas with all their train; whose
mind and sends the la - boring con - science peace. He
death, praise shall em - ploy my no - bler powers. My



days of praise shall ne'er be past while life and thought and be - ing
truth for ev - er stands se - cure, who saves the op - pressed, and feeds the
helps the strang - er in dis - tress, the wid - owed and the fa - ther -
days of praise shall ne'er be past while life and thought and be - ing



last, or im - mor - tal - i - ty en - dures.
poor. And none shall find his prom - ise vain.
less, and grants the pris - oner sweet re - lease.
last, or im - mor - tal - i - ty en - dures.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); alt. by John Wesley (1703-1791), alt.; based on Psalm 146. Music: *Old 113th*, melody from *Strassburger Kirchenamt*, 1525; harm. Vicar Earle Copes (b. 1921).

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 at www.stmichaelsvermont.org under "Give" & "Give Online." Our ministry at St. Michael's depends on your generosity. Please consider making a donation or a pledge.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

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 him thanks and praise.

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

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My heart is glad to

say the ___ words: You are ho - ly, Lord.

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

We praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,
We give thanks to you,
And we pray to you, Lord, our God.**

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.

BREAD IS BROKEN

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A - gnus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-ca - ta mun - di: mi - se-re - re no - bis,

mi-se-re - re no - bis, mi-se-re - re no - bis, mi - se-re - re no - bis.

13

A - gnus De___i, qui tol-lis pec-ca - ta mun - di: mi - se-re - re no - bis,

19

mi-se re - re - no - bis mi-se-re - re no - bis, do - na no-bis pa - cem.

Translation: "Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, grant us peace."

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

Celebrant: Come all you who hunger and thirst, come and eat, come and drink.

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.

If you wish to come to the Altar for a blessing only, please fold your arms over your chest.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us
in these holy mysteries,
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of our Savior Jesus Christ;**

**and for assuring us that we are very
members incorporate in the mystical body of Christ,
and are heirs, through hope, of your everlasting kingdom.
Assist us with your grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship,
and do all such good works as you have prepared for us to walk in;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the
Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end.
*Amen.***

WE ARE SENT AND GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD

LENTEN PRAYER

HYMN IN PROCESSION

The Hymnal 708

1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,

for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Words: *Hymns for the Young*, ca. 1830, alt. Music: *Sicilian Mariners*, Sicilian melody, from *The European Magazine and London Review*, 1792.

DISMISSAL

Participants Today

Ann Landenberger, lay assistant; **Jenny Karstad** and **Carol Hesselbach**, readers and element bearers; **Chris Chapman**, intercessor; **Miranda Smith** and **Ricky Davidson**, chalicers; **Brian & Joyce Vining Morgan**, ushers; **Jane Sbardella**, **Craig Newbert** and **Sherry Stimmel**, 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.

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 *Karen Guthrie*, Today; *Bob Walker*, Monday; *Bruce Lawrence*, Wednesday; *Joan Pinilla*, *Margery McCrum*, *Sherrill Wilson* and *James Wilmott*, Friday; *Kate LeBlanc*, Saturday.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to *Kate & Dana McGinn*, Thursday.

LENTEN ADULT FORUM SERIES -- "WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE?"
IN-PERSON, SUNDAYS 9-10 AM IN THE MEETING ROOM: As we approach the mysteries of Jesus' suffering in Lent, beginning with Jesus' temptations in the wilderness and ending with Jesus' death on the cross, St. Michael's Adult Forums are centering on the question of "Why do bad things happen to good people?" through the lens of theology, the life of Jesus, grief, and our own experiences of suffering and loss. All are welcome, regardless of whether you can come to all the sessions in the series.

- **Today, March 19: "Grief Observed"** - Join Lars Hunter, Hospice Bereavement Coordinator, as he shares about his experiences working with people who are in hospice care and their families. What are best practices for grieving? How does faith make a difference?
- **March 26 – Our Own Experiences of Suffering and Loss** – We will invite a few people from St. Michael's to share about their own experiences of loss and grief. How did/do they navigate these experiences? How does their faith connect with these experiences? What changes over time?

DID YOU MISS GETTING YOUR PHOTO TAKEN? You are in luck because Jeff Lewis is offering a bonus Sunday for photos this morning! We want to update the photos on our photo wall in the Common Room and on our online directory. Jeff will be available in the library following the 8 am and 10:15 am service. **LAST CHANCE!**

ST. MICHAEL'S 2023 LENTEN STUDY - *THIS HERE FLESH: SPIRITUALITY, LIBERATION AND STORIES THAT MAKE US.* TUESDAYS IN LENT, 5-6:30 PM: St. Michael's Lenten Series continues this Tuesday as we discuss the reading previously scheduled for the snowed-out March 14 session, chapters 6-8 (Belonging, Fear, Lament) All are welcome, even if you missed the first sessions. The five sessions will be a combination of prayer, conversation and sharing facilitated by Mary Lindquist and adwoa Wilson.

- **When:** Tuesdays in the Season of Lent, from 5-6:30 pm (February 28, March 7, 14, 21 & 28).
- **Where:** This is a *hybrid offering*, which means that you may gather in-person in the Meeting Room at St. Michael's or you may attend on Zoom. The Zoom link is available on St. Michael's website or through the Thursday eNews.

PLEASE HELP WITH SAINT MICHAEL'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT: The Easter Eggs are in the common room. Please take a bag of 12 plastic eggs home, fill them, **and bring them back before Easter Sunday, April 9.** We will hide them on Easter Sunday for our kids to find. The Easter Egg Hunt takes place outside after the 10:15 service. Kids of all ages are urged to participate. Consider bringing a guest to Easter Service. This is a wonderful event and a way to introduce friends and neighbors to our Saint Michael's community.

EASTER FLOWERS: If you would like to contribute to the flowers for the parish's celebration of Easter, you may send your contribution and any dedication information to the church office, drop it off at the church office or fill out the form in the bulletin and put it in the offering plate. Please send your contribution and dedication information **by Palm Sunday, April 2.**

PALM SUNDAY PARADE, APRIL 2: We are celebrating Palm Sunday this Sunday with a joyful parade around the neighborhood of Sunday, April 2! There will be a Coffee Hour in the Undercroft between 9-10am (no Adult Forum), then we will gather outside to begin the parade at 10:10. Please bring drums, maracas or musical instruments (if you have them) so that we can make a joyful noise during the parade! This service marks the beginning of Holy Week, the most important week in the Christian year. PHISHING EMAILS &

DONATIONS FOR THE ST. MICHAEL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY TAG SALE (coming up on Sat., May 6) continue to be open for clothing, jewelry, linens, housewares, books and puzzles. Donations for these items may be left inside the Tag Sale donation closets in the downstairs back hallway near the parking lot. Please be sure to review the guidelines posted on the doors when leaving donations.

In addition, we are now accepting furniture and other larger items (sporting goods, etc.). All items should be in good, clean and useable condition. Pickups of larger items are available. Sorry, we cannot accept any furniture made from particleboard. We do need to review upholstered furniture, so if you would like to donate some, please call someone can come and look it over. Also, if you would like to arrange a furniture pickup, or arrange to drop something off, please call or email to schedule it: Liz Vick, 802-254-7060 or ebethvick@gmail.com. Thank you very much!

PHISING TEXTS & EMAILS: Please note that someone has been sending emails and texts pretending to be Mary Lindquist. Please do not respond! They usually start by saying, "YOUR NAME, I need a favor from you. Please respond and I will give you the details." If you respond, they will ask you to buy gift cards and send them to Mary. Unfortunately, there is nothing we can do to prevent these phishing attempts. One way to be sure it is Mary is to check the sending email address. If it is not mary@stmichaelsvermont.org or marydail7@gmail.com, it is not Mary. Also, Mary would never ask you to buy gift cards or donate money in an urgent manner.

TOILETRIES NEEDED FOR MEN AT SSCF: There is a great need for men's toiletries at the prison. Many inmates are indigent and have no outside resources to purchase these basic items, including deodorant, body wash, shampoo, toothpaste and brushes. It is also nice to send individually wrapped candies and snacks. Please leave your donations in the Bin on The Bench. You may also send a donation to St. Michael's marked "prison ministry." Cliff then uses these donations to order large quantities of the needed items at great prices. A special thanks to those who already have made a donation to the prison ministry.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2

8 am Holy Eucharist

9–10 am Coffee Hour

10 am Gather outside for our Palm Sunday Parade

10:15 am Holy Eucharist & Procession with Palms

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

7 pm Tenebrae Service

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 6

6 pm Dinner in the Undercroft, followed by

7 pm gathering in the church for foot washing & Holy Eucharist

8 pm–12 am Night Watch

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7

12 pm Good Friday liturgy & 7 pm Good Friday liturgy with music and veneration of the cross

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 8

9–9:20 am A brief, informal service of scripture and prayers in the church.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9

5:15 am The Great Vigil of Easter

8 am Holy Eucharist

10:15 am Festival Holy Eucharist