

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Christmas Lessons and Carols

December 31, 2023

PRELUDE *"Now the Old Year hath Passed Away" by J.S. Bach*

HYMN 102 (vs 1, 3, 5) *Once in royal David's city*

BIDDING PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

FIRST LESSON Genesis 3: 8–15; 17–19
God confronts Adam; sin enters the world

HYMN 107 *Good Christian friends, rejoice*

SECOND LESSON Genesis 22: 15–18
God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed all the world shall be blessed.

HYMN 109 (vs 1 – 3) *The first Nowell*

THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9: 2; 6–7
The Prophet foretells the coming of a savior.

HYMN 247 *Lully, Lullay*

FOURTH LESSON Revelation 3:7-9
The Christ is called the Key of David.

HYMN 89 (vs 1 + 4) *It came upon a midnight clear*

FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26-38
The Angel Gabriel announces good news to Mary.

HYMN112 *In the bleak midwinter*

SIXTH LESSON Luke 2: 1-7
Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

LEVAS 27 *Away in a manger*

SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:8-16
The Shepherds go to the Manger.

LEVAS 21

Go tell it on the mountain

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus.

HYMN 128 (vs 1, 3, 5)

We Three Kings

NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

THE OFFERING

An offering will be taken during the singing of the next hymn.

HYMN 82 (vs 1 + 2)

Of the Father's love begotten

COLLECT

BLESSING

HYMN 92

On this day earth shall ring

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

"Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men" by Johann Gottfried Walther

Readers This Morning

Jenny Karstad

Ed McCatty

Susan Heimer

Elizabeth Freese

William Stearns

David Treadwell

Greg Lesch

Judith Reichsman

Maida McKenna

Thanks to Those Who Serve This Morning

Craig Hammond & Liz Vick - *Ushers*

ADVENT GREENS AND CHRISTMAS FLOWERS ARE GIVEN

TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

From Chris Hart

IN THANKSGIVING FOR:

My Family from Judy McGee

Our children and grandchildren from Liz Vick & Craig Hammond

Family and Friends from Judy Walker

The birth of Phoebe Heidel Landenberger from Annie Landenberger

The ministry of the Reverend Jean Smith from Charlene Kemp

The gift of St. Michael's Family from Margit & Jack Lilly

My sister Medora McCrum and my daughter Cassandra Coughlin from Margery McCrum

IN MEMORY OF:

George Lewis from Laura Lewis

My Family from Judy McGee

Tim Gallagher and Nancy & Halsey Hicks from Pam & Paul Gallagher

Bruce Hesselbach from Carol Hesselbach

Judith Wagenbach from Susan & Michael Wilmott

Family from Doug & Ann Switzer

Nini & Bumpa from the Cogliano Family

Vernon H. Rediske from Jared V. Rediske

Jane, Jim, Ron and Bella from Carolyn Taylor-Olson

Bob Anderson from Becky Anderson

Daniel Dobson from Susan Gantt Kubert

Poppies from his loving family

Peter Davidson from Judy & Jack Davidson

Phyllis Lindquist from Mary Lindquist

My parents Olivia & Laurence McCrum from Margery McCrum

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: *Robert Peeples*, Tuesday; *Andy Burrows*, Friday.

NO FORUM OR SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY: We will begin our regular schedule next Sunday, January 7.

EXPLORING THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLASS BEGINS ON JANUARY 3, 4-5:15

PM: Are you new to the Episcopal Church? To St. Michael's? This winter, Mary Lindquist will be offering a six-session class on Wednesday afternoons, beginning on January 3 from 4-5:15pm. In this class, we will explore the history, theology and spirituality of the Episcopal Church and the Christian faith in general. The class is open to anyone interested in learning more about how the Episcopal Church lives out its Christian faith. Although the class is especially suited for those seeking to be baptized, confirmed or received in the Episcopal Church, it is open to all who want to brush up on their knowledge or those who are just curious.

Please email Mary if you are interested in attending at mary@stmichaelsvermont.org, or call the church office at 802-254-6048, ext 104 by January 1. This class could be in-person or on Zoom depending on participants' preferences.

COFFEE HOUR HELP NEEDED: Our Coffee Hour angel, Craig Newbert, broke his arm recently. This means that we are in great need of people to help with coffee hour after the 10:15 am service. Please sign up for a Sunday in the Common Room to bring food and help clean up. We are also working on a schedule for people to help make coffee. In the new year, we will offer a coffee hour training!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, BAPTISM OF JESUS SUNDAY: We will be celebrating the Baptism of Jesus Sunday with three baptisms at the 10:15 am service! Jonah/Xiao Yi Osborne and Atticus & Azariah Coburn.

JANUARY 7 ADULT FORUM: The Forum meets on Sunday morning from 9-10 in the Meeting Room. All are welcome to join in.

- **January 7, “A Science of Consciousness: Pneumatology for a New Millennium”** -- Parishioner Shiva Shankaran shares about his book. Shiva writes, *This is a book I had been wanting to write for years before actually beginning the project based on a desire to share a lifetime of accumulated knowledge and wisdom. It proceeds from a major insight or cognition into the nature of our world and reality that is here expressed as a Theology of Holy Spirit that breathes new life into the experiential basis of the Judeo-Christian West, to form a bridge between Christian and Vedic philosophy, which has been a profound influence for me.*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, MLK SUNDAY: adwoa Wilson will be our preacher for this special day and will also preside at the baptism of Ocean Leitermann-Long. This will be adwoa's first baptism since being ordained as a priest last year.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE, JANUARY 15: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service. In the spirit of this holiday about service in community, you may wish to spend a few hours working on different tasks or with different people than those you encounter the rest of the year. Local partners including FoodWorks, Loaves and Fishes, Carry Me Home, and ECDC are working with St. Michael's Outreach Ministry to create one-day service projects on or near January 15. After Christmas, we will share information about these and how to sign up. It's not too late, if you're part of a group who would like to invite volunteers for a project: if so, and with any other questions, contact Alix Fedoruk at alixf@mac.com or 802-355-2256.

The Outreach Ministry is again running our annual **B.O.B. (“Bag of Basics”) Drive** to collect non-food, basic necessities badly needed by people with limited means. Please bring items from the list below, in reusable or paper shopping bags, and place in the designated area in the Undercroft by January 15. We will deliver collected items to Loaves and Fishes, St. Michael's Prison Ministry, and FoodWorks.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS for B.O.B.:

Acetaminophen (Tylenol), cold remedies (e.g. Dayquil, Nyquil, Emergen-C, throat lozenges), band-aids, deodorant, diapers, wipes, shampoo & conditioner, shaving cream, soap, paper towels, toilet paper, toothbrushes-toothpaste-floss, dish liquid, laundry detergent, all-purpose cleaner, new men's clothing items: white T-shirts, white socks, boxer briefs, socks, mittens, hats. Note that clear containers are best for Prison Ministry items. THANK YOU!

