



ST. MICHAEL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

The Fifth Sunday in the Season of Easter

*April 28, 2024*

**WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST**

PRELUDE “Devotional Pieces No. 8+9” by Dom Paul Benoit

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept.*

HYMN

*The Hymnal 657*

*Printed on next page*

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee; changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

*The Presider says this opening acclamation responsively three times.*

*Priest* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

SONG OF PRAISE (*sing twice*)

Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the high - est!

Glo - ry to god, Glo - ry to God, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

*Acts 8: 26-40*

*After the reading the lector says*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Remain seated*

PSALM 22: 24-30

**24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.**

**25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"**

**26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.**

**27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*  
he rules over the nations.**

**28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.**

29 My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

SECOND READING

1 John 4: 7-21

*After the reading the lector says*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

*The Hymnal 489, vs 1-4*

1 The great Cre - a - tor of the worlds, the sov - ereign God of heaven,  
2 He sent no an - gel of his host to bear this might - y word,  
3 He sent him not in wrath and power, but grace and peace to bring;  
4 He sent him down as send - ing God; in flesh to us he came;  
5 He came as Sa - vior to his own, the way of love he trod;

1 his ho - ly and im - mor - tal truth to all on earth hath given.  
2 but him through whom the worlds were made, the ev - er - last - ing Lord.  
3 in kind - ness, as a king might send his son, him - self a king.  
4 as one with us he dwelt with us, and bore a hu - man name.  
5 he came to win us by good will, for force is not of God.

6 Not to oppress, but summon all  
their truest life to find,  
in love God sent his Son to save,  
not to condemn mankind.

Words: Epistle to Diognetus, ca. 150; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music:  
*Tallis' Ordinal*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585).

THE GOSPEL

*John 15: 1-8*

*The people turn to face the Gospel book and remain standing for the reading of the Gospel*

*Officiant* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*Following the Gospel, the Officiant says*

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

## THE SERMON

*The Reverend Lars Hunter*

*After the sermon a period of silence is kept.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Reader:* Lord, in your mercy.

*Congregational response:* **Hear our prayer.**

## THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ 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.*

## THE 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](http://www.stmichaelsvermont.org) under "Give" & "Give Online." Our ministry at St. Michael's depends on your generosity. Thank you!*

## ANTHEM

*All stand to sing*

## HYMN

*The Hymnal 304*

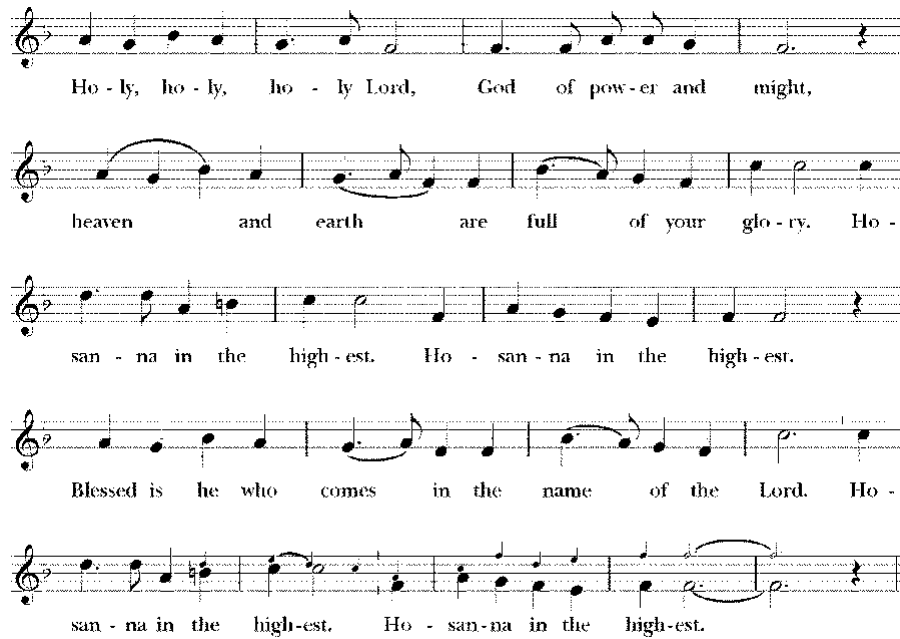
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*The Presider sings the Proper Preface.*

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:

*Then all sing:*



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

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

*Presider:*

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

*Presider and People*

**We remember Christ's death,  
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,  
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

*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,

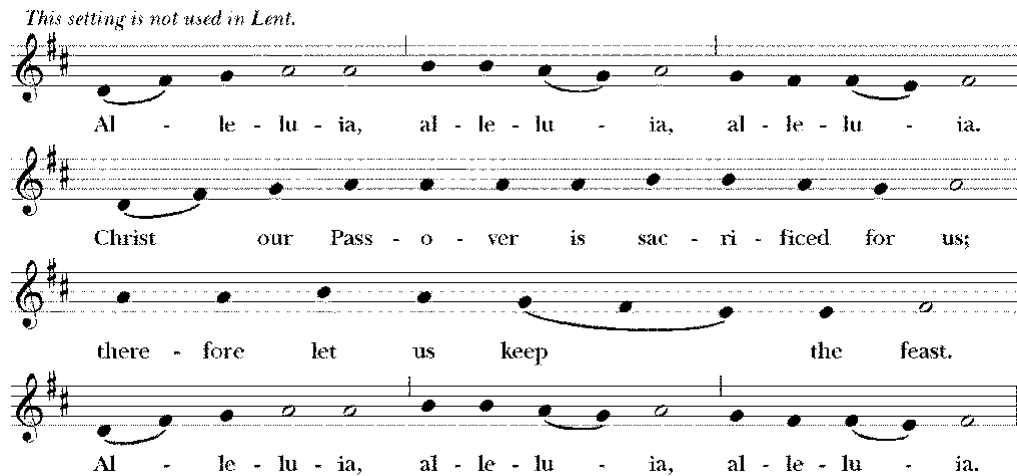
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The presider breaks the bread. Then all sing this hymn:*

*This setting is not used in Lent.*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### *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. Please indicate that preference to the liturgical minister.*

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
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 Lord. Amen.**

## BLESSING

*After the blessing, all stand to sing the*

## HYMN

*The Hymnal 213*

*Printed on next page*



*Unison or harmony*

1 Come a - way to the skies, my be - lov - ed, a - rise and re -  
 2 Now with sing - ing and praise, let us spend all the days, by our  
 3 For the glo - ry we were first cre - a - ted to share, both the  
 4 We with thanks do ap - prove the de - sign of that love which hath  
 \*5 Hal - le - lu - jah we sing, to our Fa - ther and King, and his

1 joice in the day thou wast born; — on this fes - ti - val day,  
 2 hea - ven - ly Fa - ther be - stowed, — while his grace we re - ceive  
 3 na - ture and king - dom di - vine! — Now cre - a - ted a - gain  
 4 joined us to Je - sus' — Name; — so u - ni - ted in heart,  
 5 rap - tu - rous prais - es, re - peat: — to the Lamb that was slain,

1 come ex - ult - ing a - way, and with sing - ing to Zi - on re - turn. —  
 2 from his boun - ty, and live to the hon - or and glo - ry of God. —  
 3 that our lives may re - main, through - out time and e - ter - ni - ty thine. —  
 4 let us nev - er - more part, till we meet at the feast of the Lamb. —  
 5 hal - le - lu - jah a - gain, sing, all heav - en, and fall at his feet. —

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Middlebury*, melody from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. Jack W. Burnam (b. 1946); alt. acc. Marilyn J. Keiser (b. 1941). Harmonization Copyright © 1984, Jack W. Burnam.

## THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE “A Lesson: III” by William Selby

### Participants Today

*The Reverend Lars Hunter*, deacon; *Alex O’Pray*, lay assistant; *Elizabeth Fisher* and *Sherry Stimmel*, readers & element bearers; *Jenny Karstad*, intercessor; *Ricky Davidson* and *Alli Ackerman-Hovis*, chalice; *Craig Hammond & Liz Vick*, ushers; *Bruce & Marie Lawrence*, coffee hour hosts; *Rebecca Olmstead, Zadic Olmstead* and *Charlene Kemp*, 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.
- **GLUTEN FREE WAFERS AND GRAPE JUICE** are available for Communion. 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 AVAILBLE** 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 Telephone + Tuesday and Wednesday also in the Chapel

Breakfast with the Psalms, 8 – 10:30 am, Wednesdays at The Works, 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:** *Rich Cogliano*, Today; *Marta McBean, Annie Landenberger, Brian Hesselbach* and *Zolt Pomazi*, Monday; *Lawrin Crispe*, Tuesday; *Francine Vellario*, Thursday; *Carol Beninati* and *Bruce Landenberger*, Saturday.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:** *Karren & Steven Meyer*, Thursday.

**MANY THANKS** to the Rt. Reverend Tom Ely (presider) and the Reverend Lars Hunter (preacher) for serving this morning while Mary, our Rector, is on vacation.

### ADULT FORUM, 9-10 AM, MEETING ROOM:

- **Today, April 28, "Housing as Community: Winston Prouty Campus"** -- Chloe Learey, Executive Director of The Winston Prouty Center, will talk with the Forum about the evolving vision for housing on the Winston Prouty campus and give an update on the status of the project.
- **Next Sunday, May 5, "Housing in Community: Creating Community at Home"** -- One way to have community at home is simply to share housing with one or two housemates. This is easy to say and complex to implement. Traditionally thought of for young people as they set out in life, there are very good reasons for older people to have housemates. The relationship of people who choose to share housing can be one of "home-mates." Come talk with Annamarie Pluhar, founder of Sharing Housing, Inc. about the barriers and benefits of creating shared housing in our larger community.
- **Sunday May 12, "Housing in Community: Houses of Hospitality"** – Houses of Hospitality were founded out of the Catholic Worker (CW) Movement by Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin in 1933. Here hosts live alongside their guests, responding to the needs of the world in its own way, based on local needs and guided by the interests, talents and faithfulness of its hosts. A Brattleboro house of hospitality for unhoused children and families, "skyberry," is being planned by parishioners and others in the area. Discussion will be led by a panel of three people who have lived in hospitality houses: Teresa Savel from St. Michael's, Jim Levinson of Marlboro who led the Brattleboro Jewish Community, and Elizabeth Moriarty, the pastor of Trinity Episcopal Lutheran Church in Claremont, NH.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY:**

- **Godly Play** (for ages 3 and up) will hear about the story of Jesus and the Paralytic. Miranda Smith is the storyteller.
- **Upper El** will meet today, April 28.

**“SHOWERS OF BLESSINGS,” CONCERT BENEFITTING ST. MICHAEL’S REFUGEE MINISTRY, 4 PM, TODAY, APRIL 28, WESTMINSTER WEST CHURCH:** River Singers’ Spring concert includes seasonal songs of joy, hope and peace from around the world and features Dr. Kathy Bullock. The concert at the Westminster West Church begins at 4 pm today. Entrance is \$15-\$25 dollars, cash or check. All proceeds go to St. Michael’s Refugee Ministry!

**THE TAG SALE IS HAPPENING AT ST. MICHAEL’S THIS SATURDAY, MAY 4! We hope to make a good amount of money to donate to Loaves and Fishes. Get ready to help us out and have fun! Here is how YOU can help:**

- **Sign up as a volunteer on the Tag Sale Volunteer Schedules in the Common Room.** Pick your ways to help us out such as: Setting up during the last week of April / putting up tents/ picking up furniture/ “selling” at the Sale/ helping clean up after it’s over.
- **Take some Tag Sale posters and hang them** in your local shops, town offices, and wherever people will see them! There are some in the back of the church for this purpose.
- **Lend us your big tarps!** We need tarps to cover furniture which will be out under a tent overnight before the sale. PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON A CORNER OF YOUR TARP AND WRITE DOWN HOW MANY YOU ARE LEAVING ON THE LIST. A bin for the tarps and a list will be inside the main office door, near the elevator.
- **Lend us your pop-up tent! (8x8 or 10x10).** Contact Liz Vick at 802-579-5536 or 802-254-7060.
- **DONATIONS OF CLOTHING, LINENS, HOUSEWARES and BOOKS HAVE ENDED.**
- **LAST DAY OF DONATIONS OF FURNITURE: THIS THURSDAY, MAY 2 firm** unless special arrangement is made ahead. Items need to be ok’d by a Tag Sale representative. Please contact Linda Rice at [lindariceaprn@gmail.com](mailto:lindariceaprn@gmail.com) or (802)257-7982 or Liz Vick at [ebethvick@gmail.com](mailto:ebethvick@gmail.com) or 802-254-7060 to discuss items. For pickup call Liz Vick. Furniture pickups will end today. During the week of Monday, April 29-Thursday, May 2 at 4 pm, items may be dropped off at the rectory garage by arrangement with Linda or Liz (see above) or another Tag Sale representative.

**Thank you for your help and participation!!**

**JOIN US FOR THE FILM “ENTERTAINING ANGELS, THE DOROTHY DAY STORY,” THURSDAY MAY 9, 6-8 PM IN THE UNDERCROFT:** In preparation for the May 12 Adult Forum on “Houses of Hospitality,” join us on Thursday, May 9 from 6-8 pm for inspiration, fellowship and food in the Undercroft. All are welcome for any part of the evening. You can view the trailer of the film at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kvd\\_GXZ4l4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kvd_GXZ4l4).

**MOTHERS' DAY DIAPER SUNDAY IS SUNDAY, MAY 12:** Twice a year, at Thanksgiving and Mothers' Day, times when we are thankful for our own blessings, the Outreach Committee invites us to express our gratitude by donating diapers for our neighbors. In one year, a typical baby uses about 2400 diapers costing up to \$950, an enormous impact on family budgets. Yet Federal safety net programs such as WIC and SNAP don’t cover diapers. Children need regular diaper changes to prevent rashes and infections and to attend child care where they can grow socially and intellectually.

Please bring a pack or box of disposable diapers (any size) or wipes to St. Michael's on Diaper Sunday, May 12, placing them in the front of the Sanctuary. Alternatively, place a check to St. Michael's in the collection plate with the memo "Diaper Sunday," which the Outreach Committee will use to purchase diapers in bulk. Your donations will be shared between Parks Place Diaper Bank in Bellows Falls, the Putney Foodshelf, and Foodworks and Loaves and Fishes in Brattleboro."

**SLIDE LECTURE, PUTNEY COMMUNITY CARES, MONDAY MAY 13, 6 PM:** Parishioner and choir member, Dr. Valerie Abrahamsen, will present a free slide lecture, "The Birth of the West: New Insights from Archaeological Finds of the First Three Centuries CE," on Monday evening, May 13, at 6:00 pm. Using photos taken at archaeological sites around Europe, Valerie will highlight several liberating themes from antiquity, including the involvement and leadership roles of women and the positive contributions of same-sex missionary pairs. A packet of resources will be available to attendees, and there will be time for questions. Come to 54 Kimball Hill in Putney on Monday May 13 at 6 pm. All are welcome!

**THE FEAST OF PENTECOST WILL BE CELEBRATED ON SUNDAY, MAY 19:** The Feast of Pentecost, which marks the end of the season of Easter, will be celebrated on Sunday, May 19 at the 8 am and 10:15 am services. This is the occasion when we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit, the birth of the Church and the sending of the apostles into the world to proclaim the Good News of God in Christ. ***We are looking for people who can speak in different languages to enact the Pentecost story.*** If you would like to volunteer, please email to Mary Lindquist at [mary@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:mary@stmichaelsvermont.org).

For this special feast:

- We invite you to WEAR RED in honor of the Holy Spirit.
- Children and youth are invited to gather at 9:45 am to create special Pentecost streamers to carry in the opening procession.
- Incense will be part of our celebration at 10:15 am.