



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

THE FIFTH WEEK IN SEASON OF CREATION

FEAST DAY OF SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE “Voluntary V: Adagio” by John Stanley


WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept.


HYMN

The Hymnal 282, vs 1, 2, 5, 6

HYMN PRINTED ON NEXT PAGE




1 Christ, the fair glo - ry of the ho - ly an - gels,
 2 Send thine arch - an - gel Mi - chael to our suc - cor;
 3 Send thine arch - an - gel Ga - bri - el, the might - y;
 4 Send from the hea - vens Ra - phael thine arch - an - gel,
 5 May the blest mo - ther of our God and Sa - vior,
 6 Fa - ther Al - might - y, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit,



1 ma - ker of all things, ru - ler of all
 2 peace - ma - ker bless - ed, may he ban - ish
 3 her - ald of hea - ven, may he, from us
 4 health - bring - er bless - ed, aid - ing ev - ery
 5 may the ce - les - tial com - pa - ny of
 6 God ev - er bless - ed, hear our thank - ful



1 na - tions, grant of thy mer - cy un - to us thy
 2 from us striv - ing and hat - red, so that for the
 3 mor - tals, drive ev - ery e - vil, watch - ing o'er the
 4 suf - ferer, that, in thy ser - vice, he may wise - ly
 5 an - gels, may the as - sem - bly of the saints in
 6 prais - es; thine is the glo - ry which from all cre -



1 ser - vants steps up to hea - ven.
 2 peace - ful all things may pros - per.
 3 tem - ples where thou art wor - shiped.
 4 guide us, heal - ing and bless - ing.
 5 hea - ven help us to praise thee.
 6 a - tion ev - er a - scend - eth.

Words: Rabanus Maurus (776-856); ver. *Hymnal* 1940, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Caelites plaudant*, melody from *Antiphoner*, 1728; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). Harmonization, Copyright © Oxford University Press. Used by permission.

ACCLAMATION

Presider: Blessed be the One who creates all things.

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

V. Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice!

R: **Let the sea roar and all that fills it;**

V: For every shower of rain and fall of dew, that waters the earth.

R: **Let the field exult and everything in it.**

V: Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

R: **Thanks be to God.** *Psalm 96:11-12*

SONG OF PRAISE

verse 1

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple
 2 There's a song in ev - 'ry si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o -
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i -
 tree; in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter -
 dy; there's a dawn in ev - 'ry dark - ness, bring - ing
 ty; in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our
 flies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of
 hope to you and me. From the past will come the
 life, e - ter - ni - ty; in our death, a res - ur -
 win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 fu - ture, what it holds, a mys - ter - y, un - re -
 rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,
 vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

Words and Music: *Promise*, Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992) © 1986 Hope Publishing Co., 380 S. Main Pl., Carol Stream, IL 60186
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COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals: Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your appointment they may help and defend us here on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Genesis 28:10-17

Following the lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103: 13-22

13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; *
he remembers that we are but dust.

15 Our days are like the grass; *
we flourish like a flower of the field;

16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone, *
and its place shall know it no more.

17 But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever on those who fear him, *
and his righteousness on children's children;

18 On those who keep his covenant *
and remember his commandments and do them.

19 The Lord has set his throne in heaven, *
and his kingship has dominion over all.

20 Bless the Lord, you angels of his,
you mighty ones who do his bidding, *
and hearken to the voice of his word.

21 Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, *
you ministers of his who do his will.

22 Bless the Lord, all you works of his,
in all places of his dominion; *
bless the Lord, O my soul.

THE SECOND READING

Revelation 12:7-12

HYMN

The Hymnal 677

Unison or harmony

1 God moves in a mys - te - rious way his won - ders to per - form:
 2 Deep in un - fath - om - a - ble mines, with nev - er - fail - ing skill,
 3 Ye fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take; the clouds ye so much dread
 4 Judge not the Lord by fee - ble sense, but trust him for his grace;
 5 His pur - pos - es will ri - pen fast, un - fold - ing ev - ery hour:

1 he plants his foot - steps in the sea, and rides up - on the storm.
 2 he trea - sures up his bright de - signs, and works his sov - ereign will.
 3 are big with mer - cy, and shall break in bless - ings on your head.
 4 be - hind a frown - ing prov - i - dence he hides a smil - ing face.
 5 the bud may have a bit - ter taste, but sweet will be the flower.

6 Blind unbelief is sure to err, God is his own interpreter,
 and scan his work in vain; and he will make it plain.

Words: William Cowper (1731-1800). Music: *London New*, melody from *The Psalms of David in Prose and Meeter*, 1635; harm. John Playford (1623-1686).

THE GOSPEL

John 1:47-51

Preceding the Gospel...

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

Following the Gospel...

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

SERMON

The Reverend Mary Lindquist

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: Lord, in your mercy,
People: Hear our prayer.

THE CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
and what our hearts can no longer bear,
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image,
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Celebrant bids

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.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION TOGETHER

ANTHEM "Earth Song" by Frank Ticheli

OFFERTORY HYMN

The Hymnal 290

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR



1. Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple, come, Raise the song of
 2. All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to his
 3. For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take his
 4. E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To your fi - nal

1. har - vest - home: All is safe - ly gath - ered in, Ere the
 2. praise to yield; Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to
 3. har - vest home; From his field shall in that day All of -
 4. har - vest - home; Gath - er all your peo - ple in, Free from

1. win - ter storms be - gin; God, our Mak - er, does pro - vide
 2. joy or sor - row grown; First the blade, and then the ear,
 3. fens - es purge a - way; Give his an - gels charge at last
 4. sor - row, free from sin; There, for ev - er pu - ri - fied,

1. For our wants to be sup - plied; Come to God's own
 2. Then the full corn shall ap - pear: Grant, O har - vest
 3. In the fire the tares to cast, But the fruit - ful
 4. In your pres - ence to a - bide: Come, with all your

1. tem - ple, come, Raise the song of har - vest - home.
 2. Lord, that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.
 3. ears to store In his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 4. an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har - vest - home.

Text: 77 77 D; Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt. Music: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893.

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. Thank you!

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, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! 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.

People and Celebrant may say the prayer below or the words of the traditional Lord's prayer:

Let us pray:

People and Celebrant

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.

Sing twice

Who - ev - er comes to me shall not hun - ger and

who - ev - er be - lieves in me shall nev - er thirst.

Music: Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Fraction Anthems, Canticles, and Chants*. Copyright © 1997 Carl Haywood.

He whose table was open to all is now present in this bread.

He whose word welcomed friend and stranger offers friendship through this cup.

**With people everywhere we affirm
God's goodness at the heart of humanity,
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.**

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

HYMN

The Hymnal 344

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's
 3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the

joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion
 world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace: O re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith-ful,
 glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith-ful to thy truth may we be found;
 may we ev - er reign with thee in end-less day.

Words: Att. to John Fawcett (1739/40-1817). Music: *Sicilian Mariners*, Sicilian melody; first published *The European Magazine and London Review*, 1792, alt.

Children in the congregation are invited to join in saying the words of the dismissal.

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE “Voluntary V: Andante Largo” by John Stanley

Participants Today

Alli Ackerman-Hovis, lay assistant; **Greg Lesch**, **Thurifer**, **Chris Chapman** and **Brian Morgan**, readers and element bearers; **Imogene Drakes**, intercessor; **Miranda Smith** and **Alex O’Pray**, chalicers, **Sherry Stimmel** and **Maida McKenna**, ushers; **Margit Lilly**, healing minister; **Jane Sbardella** and **Rebecca Olmstead**, 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.

- **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.
- **CARE IS AVAILABLE** for 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 and in-person Tues-Thursday in the Chapel
Breakfast with the Psalms, 8:30 – 10 am, 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: *Keane Southard, Nancy Ames*, Friday; *Valerie Abrahamsen*, Saturday.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO: *Christine & Richard Gauthier*, Tuesday.

TODAY IS ST. MICHAEL'S FEAST DAY: We are celebrating St. Michael the Archangel's Feast Day this morning. September 29 is the actual day appointed for this feast, which falls also in the Season of Creation. We will have incense at the 10:15 am service.

THE SEASON OF CREATION: This fall, St. Michael's joins with millions of Christians around the world to celebrate, for the second year, the Season of Creation. The movement, which began in the Eastern Orthodox Church and spread widely among Protestant, Catholic and Anglican congregations, is observed every year from September 1-October 4 (St. Francis' feast day, which will be celebrated on Sunday, October 6 at St. Michael's).

In our Sunday liturgy during this season, we integrate prayers, readings, music, sermons and a Eucharistic Prayer that reflect our love of God's creation, incorporating our grief, repentance and renewed commitment, with God's grace, to work for the healing of our earth. We hope you will join us for this special season!

Please note that the version of the Lord's Prayer we are using for this season is from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer; the Profession of Faith is from South India and the Eucharistic Prayer was compiled by Nina Ranadive Pooley using sources from the Anglican church in South Africa and a Creation Eucharist written by Sam Wells.

ADULT FORUM TODAY: The Adult Forums are held each Sunday morning from 9 – 10 in the Meeting Room.

- **Today, September 29 -- Climate Change and Justice:** As a part of our Season of Creation reflection, Fred Taylor will lead this Forum focusing on the relation between climate change and issues of justice. Fred, a Keene State College professor of Environmental Studies with a focus on Environmental Ethics and Sustainability, is also the Vermont United Church of Christ environmental representative on the Justice and Witness Ministries group. With Fred, we'll examine the views of several African-American environmental leaders and how they analyze the impacts of climate change on their communities. We'll then see how their visions can be a guide for all of us to find a hopeful path into the future.
- **Sunday October 6 -- “Walking The Little Way Together: Treading Gently In Community”** -- In this Forum, our guest preacher, Brother John Michael Longworth, will share stories from his 14 years of being a member of the Order of Ecumenical Franciscans.

ST. FRANCIS' FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS, OCTOBER 4 & OCTOBER 6: We will celebrate St. Francis' feast day with an animal blessing on Friday, October 4 at 4 pm at Centre Church (to precede Gallery Walk) and on Sunday, October 6, with special preacher, Brother John Michael Longworth, a member of the Ecumenical Order of Franciscans.

NEW SINGING PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN HAS BEGUN! The Beloved Community Youth Choir sponsored by St. Michael's is free of charge and open to all children in grades 2-6 in the Brattleboro area who love to sing and want to learn more.

There is no requirement of an affiliation with St. Michael's and no requirement for previous musical training or experience. **Rehearsals are in St. Michael's music room on Tuesdays from 3:45 – 4:45 with the option to come at 3:30 for a snack.** Please contact Keane Southard at keane@stmichaelsvermont.org for more information. Registration link is in the eNews and on the Church website.

BE STILL AND KNOW: BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF CENTERING PRAYER BEGINS THIS WEDNESDAY: Wednesday evenings October 2 through November 13, from 5:30-7pm, St. Michael's will offer a class on Centering Prayer for beginners and experienced practitioners alike. Given that many of us will be experiencing more stress and anxiety this fall with the presidential election, we invite you to “find an anchor in the storm” through opening to the presence of God and through being supported by the presence of one another in community. Each session will involve teaching, practicing and sharing. One recommended resource you may want to purchase is Cynthia Bourgeault's Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening. This will be a hybrid offering and we encourage people to carpool. You will find the Zoom link in the eNews.

“PRAYING THROUGH CINEMA” BEGINS THIS THURSDAY: Facilitator Gabriel Sistare, says “One of my favorite activities is going to the movies by myself, choosing a film that will leave me a little spiritually woozy when I leave. I've spent plenty of time fine-tuning my YouTube algorithm to feed video essay after video essay on film analysis. So, through these activities I've learned there is plenty to investigate about spirituality as expressed through ‘the big screen.’ I am curious to see who at St. Michael's and our local community may want to join a group that wanders through spirituality in film for 6-8 weeks. We will watch full films in between meetings and discuss the films in person along with viewing clips and video essays. Discussions will broadly ask how we

attempt to relate with God through film or as film portrays that relationship. Potential directors may include Terrance Malick, Andrei Tarkovsky, Werner Herzog, and Wim Wenders.” **Start Date and Meeting Time: Thursday, Oct. 3; 4:15 pm.** Please email Gabriel if you are interested, gabriel.sistare@icloud.com

FALL GRATITUDE GATHERINGS: Our Stewardship theme this year is “Together in Gratitude,” and part of the joy of gratitude is sharing it with others! Come join with some friends from St. Michael’s to gather around the hearth for a time of conversation, light refreshment and storytelling. The Gathering is a time for us to get to know one another better and to reflect on our gratitude for God’s many blessings in the special setting of parishioners’ homes. Each Gathering will be limited to 12-14 people, so you need to sign up ahead of time. Once you sign up, we will give you directions to the home where you are going. Please sign up in the Common Room or by using the link in the eNews to the sign up form.

- Sunday, October 20, 4-5:30 pm at the home of Craig Irvine and John Spooner (Brattleboro)
- Sunday, October 27, 4-5:30 pm at the home of Margery McCrum and George Moore (Brattleboro)
- Friday, November 1, 4-5:30 pm at the home of Jack and Margit Lilly (walking distance from St. Michael’s)