



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

DECEMBER 1, 2024

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE “Evening Prayer” by Engelbert Humperdinck (arr. Aubrey Tucker)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept. Please stand when you hear the music for the first hymn.

HYMN

The Hymnal 616

hymn printed on next page

1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
 2 He comes with speed to those who suffer wrong,
 3 He shall come down like show-ers upon the fruitful earth,
 4 Kings shall bow down before him, and gold and incense bring;
 5 O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest;

1 Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
 2 to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
 3 and love, joy, hope, like fountains, spring in his path to birth:
 4 all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing;
 5 from age to age more glorious, all blessing and all-blest:

1 He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
 2 to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
 3 before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;
 4 to him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
 5 the tide of time shall never his covenant remove;

1 to take away transgression, and rule in equity.
 2 whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.
 3 and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.
 4 his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
 5 his Name shall stand forever, his changeless Name of Love.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72. Music: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*, German folk song; adapt. and harm. *A Student's Hymnal*, 1923, after Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941).

ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People You come to your people and set them free.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

Antiphon

Unison or harmony

1. My soul pro - claims the great - ness
of the Lord, my spi - rit re - joic - es in
God my Sa - vior; for he has looked
with fa - vor on his low - ly ser - vant.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Following the lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-9

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

THE SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

HYMN

The Hymnal 68

hymn printed on the next page

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark-ened sphere!

The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

Preceding the Gospel...

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
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

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.
 We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.

who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen

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.

Intervenor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Lord God,

we praise you for sending light into this world.

We confess that we live as though

the light had never defeated darkness.

We confess that we ignore the Savior you sent

to be among us and to live in us.

Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus.

Prepare us for His return.

Help us rejoice in the light

so that your grace can illuminate

the darkened places of our hearts.

Amen.

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

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 "Remember, O Thou Man" by Thomas Ravenscroft

All stand to sing

OFFERTORY HYMN

The Hymnal 82



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -
2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,
3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on
and un - wea - ried prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry



are, that have _____ been, and that fu - ture
world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in
and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____

This hymn may be performed in equal note values:

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt. Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

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

...we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come 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,

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.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sins of the world: — have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sins of the world: — grant us peace.

slower

Words: from The Book of Common Prayer (1979) of the Episcopal Church USA.
Music: Peter Crisatulli, from *Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II* © 2002 Peter Crisatulli.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Celebrant: Come all who hunger, come all who thirst, come eat 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. 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. '

Following Communion, the congregation stands to say the final prayer:

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

**God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

WE ARE SENT AND GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD

BLESSING

HYMN

The Hymnal 74

Descant

3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

1 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 4 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of

God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
 God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
 God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All

barred! Not robbed in roy - al splen - dor, in
 heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
 God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

things are in his hand, all a - ges and all

power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
 have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
 things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!

poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
 Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
 peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 bear it so he can make us free!

Children are invited to process out with the liturgical party and say the dismissal.

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE “Glorificamus” by Gordon Young

Participants Today

The Reverend Lars Hunter, deacon; ***Alli Ackerman-Hovis***, lay assistant; ***Brian Morgan*** and ***David Treadwell***, readers and element bearers; ***Paul Gallagher***, intercessor; ***Greg Lesch***, chalice; ***MJ Woodburn***, healing minister; ***Robin Manning*** and ***David Baxendale***, ushers; ***John Byrnes***, ***Kiersten McKenney*** and ***Sue Dyer***, Altar Guild.

The greens on the Altar during Advent are given by ***Laura Lewis in memory of George***.

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: *Liz Vick*, Today; *Mark Horton*, Thursday.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO: *Brian & Joyce Vining Morgan*, Thursday and *Michael & Susan Wilmott*, Saturday.

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

- **Today: Advent Voices: Dietrich Bonhoeffer** -- Theologian and martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer left many pieces of writing about Advent and Christmas that we will explore during this forum, including one of his last letters - a Christmas letter he wrote to his parents from prison. Led by Mary Lindquist
- **December 8: Advent Voices: Alfred Delp** – We will explore the writing and life of Alfred Delp, a Jesuit Priest, philosopher and member of the resistance during the Nazi regime. Delp wrote an essay called “The Shaking Reality of Advent” while he was in prison. Led by Craig Irvine.

THANKSGIVING DIAPER DRIVE: Please put any diapers you have brought in the front of the sanctuary. We will distribute them tomorrow. Thank you for thinking of our needy neighbors!

ST. NICHOLAS DAY FAIR IS TODAY! Please come and celebrate the beginning of Advent with St. Michael's St. Nicholas Day Fair! **This year we have materials for you to make your own Advent Wreath**, so that you can light candles and say daily prayers throughout this Holy Season. In addition, you can make ornaments at craft tables, meet St. Nicholas and share in goodies from the kitchen. We will gather in the Undercroft immediately following the 10:15am service.

COME SIGN UP FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT AT THE ST. NICHOLAS FAIR! Calling toddlers, children, and teens! Join St. Michael's Christmas Eve pageant and help bring the Nativity to life for our parish! We've been doing our own Vermont Nativity for many years now and will continue to do so, this year with some new twists!

We're at a table in the Undercroft today where you can sign up, hear how you can be involved, and get more information about the pageant plan. If you can't make it today, no worries: kids can sign up by email--info to follow soon. For more information, contact Annie Landenberger, 802-348-7156, verbatimvt@gmail.com

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 4 PM - We invite you to this year's Service of Lessons and Carols which will take place on Sunday Dec. 8, at 4 pm. In addition to the singing of Advent carols with the congregation, the St. Michael's choir will be singing a diverse set of old and new Advent anthems by Chilcott, Brahms, Howells, Ireland, and Gorecki (this last one sung in Polish!). Come join in this yearly tradition of scripture and music as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ.

At the service, there will be an offering for skyberry house of hospitality. If you wish to make an offering, please bring cash or checks made out to "skyberry house."

Child care will be available during the service.

PLEASE BRING FOOD FOR THE ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS RECEPTION, DECEMBER 8- The reception after the Lessons and Carols Service on December 8 is a St. Michael's tradition and is a wonderful way to thank our choir and to provide hospitality to visitors to our church. We are asking the congregation to help by bringing food. If you are able to help, please bring snacks such as sweet finger foods, fruit, cheese and crackers, and gluten free options. Food may be dropped off at Coffee Hour on December 8 or before the Lessons and Carols service later that day. Thank you ahead of time for your help!

THE GREENING OF THE CHURCH, SATURDAY DECEMBER 7, 9 AM: All are invited to the greening of the church on Saturday, December 7 at 9 am. This is a festive time when parishioners of all ages are invited to adorn the church with greens and decorate the Christmas tree. Please join us for this festive gathering!

ADVENT GREENS & CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA CONTRIBUTIONS: If you would like to contribute to the Advent Greens and Christmas Poinsettias at St. Michael's, please fill out a form in the sanctuary or the Common Room, or send a check to the office with a note, or call (802-254-6048, ext 104) telling us if the contribution is:

- "To the Glory of God,"
- in thanksgiving for someone, or
- in memory of someone.

If the contribution is in thanksgiving for or in memory of someone, please send the appropriate names. You may also ask that your contribution be anonymous. Please send your contributions by Friday, December 13.

"SWORDS TO PLOWSHARES, VT" SPECIAL FUND-RAISING INITIATIVE:

Between now and Giving Tuesday on December 3, a generous donor will match up to \$1,000 for all donations to "Swords to Plowshares, VT" received by December 3. Please consider making a financial gift to support this important work and have your tax-deductible donation matched dollar for dollar! To donate please send a check payable to Saint Michael's Episcopal Church (the current

fiduciary for Swords to Plowshares, VT) and write “Swords to Plowshares, VT” in the memo line. To learn more about “Swords to Plowshares, VT,” visit the website

<https://www.swordsploowsharesvt.org/> and the Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2744204809093960/about>

PRISON MINISTRY UPDATE: “SOCK IT TO EM...” Please join in The Holiday Spirit by providing socks for the gift bags for the men at the Southern State Correctional Facility. I would like to have at least two pairs of socks to place in each bag of treats I will provide to the men on December 22. As you shop, please purchase men’s socks of any style in any color. These much-needed socks are A Gift Of The Magi for the men. Please leave all socks in The Bin on the Bench by December 20.

We had two wonderful services in November with 41 men attending November 8. and 37 attending November 22. Thank you for your continued support of this special ministry. *Cliff Wood*

CELEBRATING JEANIE CROSBY’S MINISTRY AT ST. MICHAEL’S, SUNDAY,

DECEMBER 22, 9–10 AM: Please join us for a special between-the-services Coffee Hour on Sunday, December 22, from 9–10 am. Jeanie has been St. Michael’s Parish Administrator for 12 years! How fortunate we have been to have someone so brilliant, so compassionate, so good at her job, so easy to talk to and so wise serving St. Michael’s for such a long time.

We will also be collecting a purse for Jeanie as a way of showing our gratitude. Please send checks to St. Michael’s, c/o Mary Lindquist, 16 Bradley Avenue, Brattleboro, VT 05301 OR you may put your check in the offering plate (please note “Jeanie’s Purse” in the notation). Please note that these gifts will not be tax-deductible because they are a gift. Thank you!

PROJECT FEED THE THOUSANDS RUNS THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024:

Everything people at St Michael’s donate in the name of Project Feed goes directly to Loaves & Fishes. Donated food goes into family grocery bags and the free market for our local refugees. Some of the food is directly cooked in meals which are served to the homeless, the hotel population, and homebound people. Donations of money give us the ability to purchase more food from the Food Bank, wholesale, and local farms.

There is a bin at the church by the elevator for the food items listed in the Nov/Dec Guardian. Also, you can deliver to Loaves & Fishes or directly order food from Amazon to be delivered to Centre Church, 193 Main St, Brattleboro 05301. Donations of checks can be made out to Loaves & Fishes with Project Feed in the memo line.