



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION

February 2, 2025

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

"Trio"

Josef Rheinberger

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

HYMN IN PROCESSION

The Hymnal, 436

Hymn printed on next page

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

The Hymnal 1982, #436

The musical score is presented in three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line, with line numbers 1 through 5 indicating different verses. The music is in a common time signature (C) and features a simple, hymn-like melody with block chords in the piano part.

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
5 So come, my Sov - ergign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

Words: Georg Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878). Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmody Evangelica*, Part II, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen

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

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's

6
peo-ple on earth; ——— Bread for the hun-gry and

11
love for the lone - ly, glo - ry to God on earth.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WE PROCLAIM AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Malachi 3: 1-4

Following the Lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 84

1

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *

**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

2

The sparrow has found her a house

**and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.**

3

- 4 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
 they will always be praising you.
- 5 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
 whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 6 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
 for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 7 They will climb from height to height, *
 and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 8 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
 hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 9 Behold our defender, O God; *
 and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 10 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
 and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
 than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 11 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
 he will give grace and glory;
- 12 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
 from those who walk with integrity.
- O LORD of hosts, *
 happy are they who put their trust in you!

A READING FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

Hebrews 2: 14-18

Following the Lesson...

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

HYMN

The Hymnal, 499

Hymn printed on next page.

Lord God, you now have set your servant free

The Hymnal 1982, #499

Unison or harmony

The musical score is written for unison or harmony in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The lyrics are: 'Lord God, you now have set your ser - vant free to go in peace as prom-ised in your word; my eyes have seen the Sa - vior, Christ the Lord, pre-pared by you for all the world to see, to shine on na - tions trapped in dark - est night, the glo - ry of your peo - ple, and their light.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fifth system.

Lord God, you now have set your ser - vant free to go in
peace as prom-ised in your word; my eyes have seen the
Sa - vior, Christ the Lord, pre-pared by you for all the
world to see, to shine on na - tions trapped in dark - est night,
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, and their light.

Words: Rae E. Whitney (b. 1927); para. of *The Song of Simeon*. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Song 1*, melody and bass Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

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 Right Rev. Thomas Ely

After the sermon a period of silence is kept

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.*

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

THE CONFESSION

Silence may be kept.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

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 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

"Spaseniye Sodelal" ("Salvation is Created")

*Pavel Chesnokov
(arr. Keane Southard)*

All stand to sing

OFFERTORY HYMN

The Hymnal, 259

Hymn is printed on next page.

Hail to the Lord who comes

The Hymnal 1982, #259

1 Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his tem - ple gate;
2 but, borne up - on the throne of Ma - ry's gen - tle breast,
3 There Jo - seph at her side in rev - erent won - der stands;
4 O Light of all the earth, thy chil - dren wait for thee!

not with his an - gel host, not in his king - ly state;
watched by her du - teous love, in her fond arms at rest,
and, filled with ho - ly joy, old Si - meon in his hands
Come to thy tem - ples here, that we, from sin set free,

no shouts pro - claim him nigh, no crowds his com - ing wait;
thus to his Fa - ther's house he comes, the heaven - ly guest.
takes up the prom - ised child, the glo - ry of all lands.
be - fore thy Fa - ther's face may all pre - sent - ed be!

Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893), alt. Music: *Old 120th*, melody from *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1570; harm. Thomas Ravenscroft (1592?-1635?), after Richard Allison (16th cent.); adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

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 people remain standing. The Celebrant says

	May God be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,
People	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe,
you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you forever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and give it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.

Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:
Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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, and all sing



Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

Celebrant: Behold what we are.

People: **May we become what we receive.**

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.

WE ARE SENT AND GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD

Let us pray.

**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.**

THE BLESSING

HYMN

The Hymnal, 616

Hymn printed on next page.

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

The Hymnal 1982, #616

1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2 He comes with suc - cor speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth,
4 Kings shall bow down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;
5 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest;

1 Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
2 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
3 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth:
4 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing;
5 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest:

1 He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;
2 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
3 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
4 to him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows a - scend;
5 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;

1 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
2 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
3 and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
4 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
5 his Name shall stand for ev - er, his change - less 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).

DISMISSAL

Response: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

"Fugue"

Anonymous

PARTICIPANTS TODAY

The Right Rev. Thomas Ely, celebrant and preacher; ***The Rev. Lars Hunter***, deacon; ***Miranda Smith***, lay assistant; ***Candice Taylor*** and ***Craig Irvine***, readers and element bearers; ***Paul Gallagher***, intercessor; ***Ricky Davidson*** chalice; ***Elizabeth Freese*** and ***David Baxendale***, ushers; ***John Daly***, healing minister; ***Youth Group***, coffee hour host; ***John Byrnes, Kiersten McKenny and Sue Dyer***, 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-Thursday in-person the Chapel

Bible Study, 8:30-10 am, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays 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 *Olive Hightower*, today; *Chris Landin*, Friday; *Emma Allen and Susan Marshall*, Saturday

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

Today February 2: In lieu of the Adult Forum, please consider attending the Budget Review session in the Meeting Room.

BUDGET REVIEW MEETING TODAY AT 9 AM

St. Michael's draft budget for 2025 will be available by late January for your review. Please take the opportunity to meet with our treasurer Gwen Mousin, hear an overview, and ask questions prior to the Annual Meeting. The meeting will take place at 9 AM in the Meeting Room.

COFFEE HOUR TODAY: A YOUTH GROUP WAFFLE BAR FUNDRAISER

The St. Michael's Youth Group will be making waffles with a variety of toppings Coffee Hour this morning. (There will be a gluten-free waffle option, and other food will be available at coffee hour as well). Donations for the waffles will be used by the Youth Group to purchase much-needed supplies for the Windham County Humane Society (animal shelter), so please bring cash for donations.

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING: FEBRUARY 9 FOLLOWING THE 10:15 SERVICE

SKYBERRY HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY UPCOMING EVENTS

Food and Thought, Fridays 12-1 Join us in our learning as a community while breaking bread together. These intimate gatherings are open to the greater community. If you or a friend is curious about being a ***skyberry Host***, this is a great way to begin a relationship with our work and volunteers. We will explore a variety of themes including hospitality, culture care, peace, prayer, and local action with the unhoused community facilitated by a different thought-filled leader each week. A simple lunch will be provided.

Feb. 7th- Peace Pilgrim

Feb. 14th- History of Hospitality

RSVP houseskyberry@gmail.com by the Thursday before the Friday you are interested in joining us for Food and Thought.

Cocoa and Tea: Sunday's at the Brattleboro Transit Center with our unhoused neighbors. Volunteer with us to make and share warm drinks alongside a long standing meal distribution. **Sunday afternoons 2:30-4:00.** Prep to take place before distribution.

We look forward to hearing from you: houseskyberry@gmail.com

TAG SALE NEWS The St. Michael's Tag Sale will be taking place this spring on Saturday, May 3. We will be raising money this year for Loaves and Fishes, as well as the Family Fund at Winston Prouty.

This time of year, many people are reorganizing their belongings and cleaning out items they no longer need. Please keep the Tag Sale in mind when you are doing this - we can take books (except textbooks), clothing, shoes and linens in good shape, housewares (except electronics like TVs and computers) and selective furniture in good condition. All these items can be gratefully re-used by someone else! Please save them to donate to the Tag Sale.

Donations for many items (except furniture) will begin on Sun., **Feb. 16!!** That's really soon! There will be more details coming up in the Thursday notes and Sunday bulletins, and the March "Guardian", so stay tuned and thank you for your support!

MARY IS ON SABBATICAL IN JANUARY: Mary concludes her sabbatical month soon and will be back in the office beginning February 4. We are so grateful for the fine leadership and pastoral care provided by adwoa and Lars, along with the pastoral care team and all of the many lay leaders.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION OFFICE CHANGES: Susie Webster-Toleno is now our parish administrator, and is attempting to fill Jeanie's shoes to the degree that that's possible. She will be in the office **Tuesday through Friday, 9-1**. If you drop in, be sure to introduce yourself (maybe more than once!) so she can begin to get a handle on who's who!

You can contact Susie at parishadmin@stmichaelsvermont.org. The land line in the office phone stays the same: 802-254-6048, ext 104.



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION

February 2, 2025

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

"Trio"

Josef Rheinberger

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

HYMN IN PROCESSION

The Hymnal, 436

Hymn printed on next page

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

The Hymnal 1982, #436

The musical score is presented in three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line, with line numbers 1 through 5 indicating different verses. The music is in a common time signature (C) and features a simple, hymn-like melody with block chords in the accompaniment.

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
5 So come, my Sov - ergign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

Words: Georg Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878). Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmody Evangelica*, Part II, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

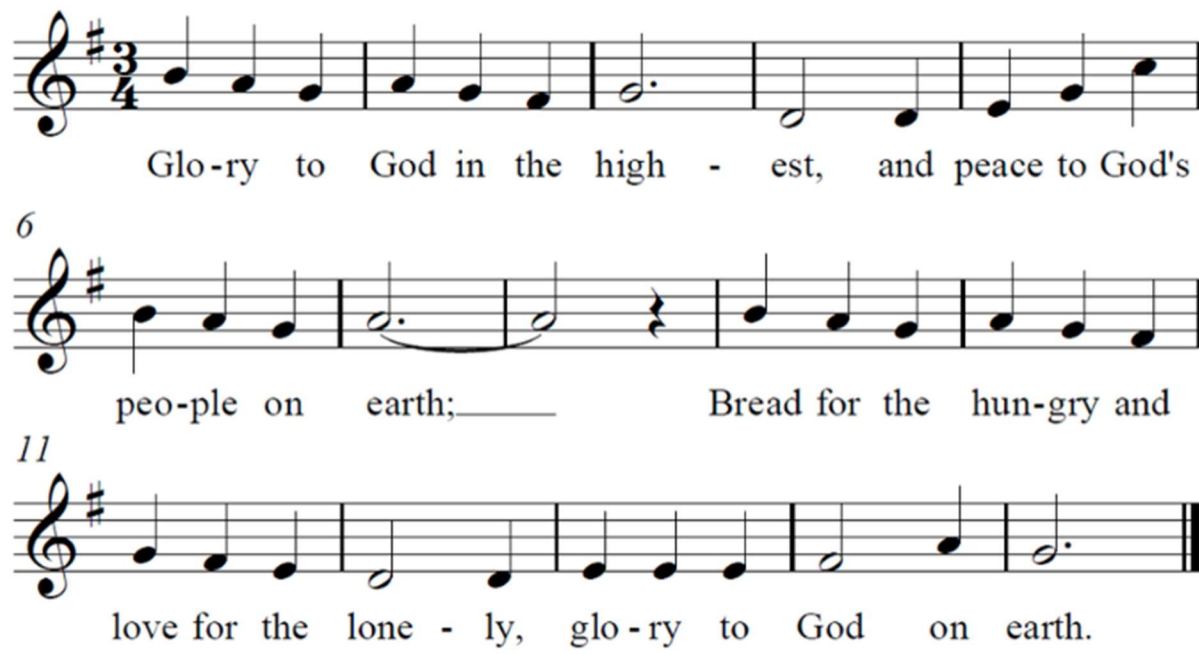
ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen

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



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's

6
peo-ple on earth; Bread for the hun-gry and

11
love for the lone - ly, glo - ry to God on earth.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WE PROCLAIM AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Malachi 3: 1-4

Following the Lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 84

1

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *

**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

2

The sparrow has found her a house

**and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.**

3

- 4 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
 they will always be praising you.
- 5 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
 whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 6 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
 for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 7 They will climb from height to height, *
 and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 8 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
 hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 9 Behold our defender, O God; *
 and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 10 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
 and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
 than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 11 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
 he will give grace and glory;
- 12 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
 from those who walk with integrity.
- O LORD of hosts, *
 happy are they who put their trust in you!

A READING FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

Hebrews 2: 14-18

Following the Lesson...

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

HYMN

The Hymnal, 499

Hymn printed on next page.

Lord God, you now have set your servant free

The Hymnal 1982, #499

Unison or harmony

The musical score is written for unison or harmony in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The lyrics are: 'Lord God, you now have set your ser - vant free to go in peace as prom-ised in your word; my eyes have seen the Sa - vior, Christ the Lord, pre-pared by you for all the world to see, to shine on na - tions trapped in dark - est night, the glo - ry of your peo - ple, and their light.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fifth system.

Lord God, you now have set your ser - vant free to go in
peace as prom-ised in your word; my eyes have seen the
Sa - vior, Christ the Lord, pre-pared by you for all the
world to see, to shine on na - tions trapped in dark - est night,
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, and their light.

Words: Rae E. Whitney (b. 1927); para. of *The Song of Simeon*. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Song 1*, melody and bass Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

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 Right Rev. Thomas Ely

After the sermon a period of silence is kept

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.*

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

THE CONFESSION

Silence may be kept.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

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 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

"Spaseniye Sodelal" ("Salvation is Created")

*Pavel Chesnokov
(arr. Keane Southard)*

All stand to sing

OFFERTORY HYMN

The Hymnal, 259

Hymn is printed on next page.

Hail to the Lord who comes

The Hymnal 1982, #259

1 Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his tem - ple gate;
2 but, borne up - on the throne of Ma - ry's gen - tle breast,
3 There Jo - seph at her side in rev - erent won - der stands;
4 O Light of all the earth, thy chil - dren wait for thee!

not with his an - gel host, not in his king - ly state;
watched by her du - teous love, in her fond arms at rest,
and, filled with ho - ly joy, old Si - meon in his hands
Come to thy tem - ples here, that we, from sin set free,

no shouts pro - claim him nigh, no crowds his com - ing wait;
thus to his Fa - ther's house he comes, the heaven - ly guest.
takes up the prom - ised child, the glo - ry of all lands.
be - fore thy Fa - ther's face may all pre - sent - ed be!

Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893), alt. Music: *Old 120th*, melody from *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1570; harm. Thomas Ravenscroft (1592?-1635?), after Richard Allison (16th cent.); adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

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 people remain standing. The Celebrant says

	May God be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,
<i>People</i>	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe,
you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you forever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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

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

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and give it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.

Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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, and all sing



Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

Celebrant: Behold what we are.

People: **May we become what we receive.**

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.

WE ARE SENT AND GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD

Let us pray.

**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.**

THE BLESSING

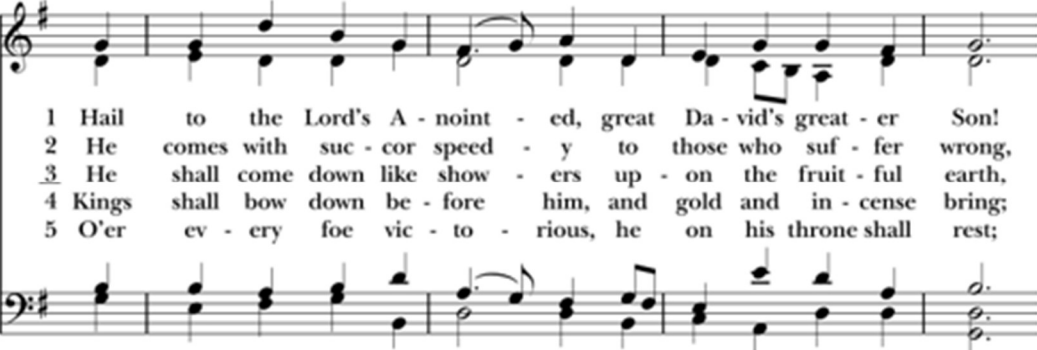
HYMN

The Hymnal, 616

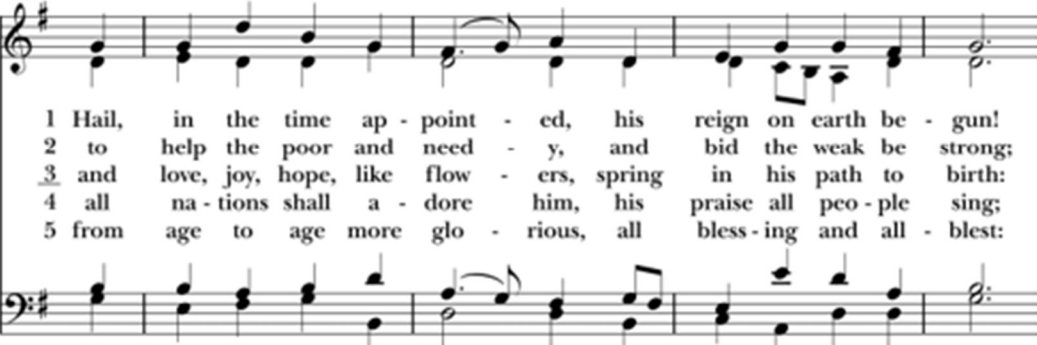
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Hail to the Lord's Anointed

The Hymnal 1982, #616



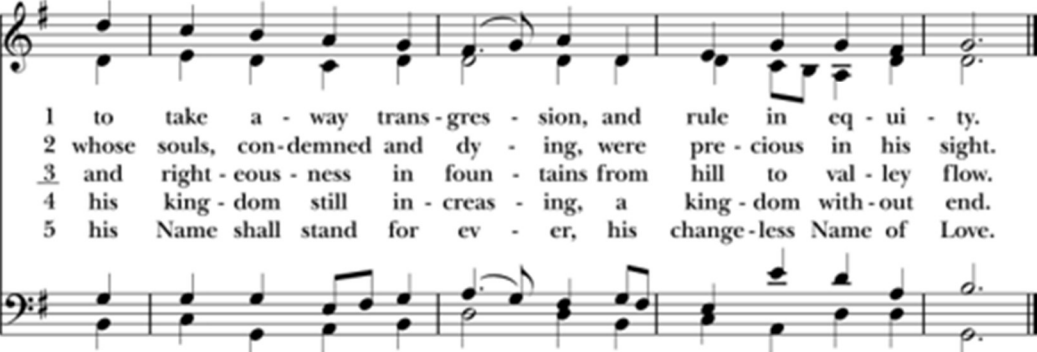
1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2 He comes with suc - cor speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth,
4 Kings shall bow down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;
5 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest;



1 Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
2 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
3 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth;
4 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing;
5 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest:



1 He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;
2 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
3 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
4 to him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows a - scend;
5 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;



1 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
2 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
3 and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
4 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
5 his Name shall stand for ev - er, his change - less 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).

DISMISSAL

Response: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

"Fugue"

Anonymous

PARTICIPANTS TODAY

The Right Rev. Thomas Ely, celebrant and preacher; *The Rev. Lars Hunter*, deacon; *Miranda Smith*, lay assistant; *Candice Taylor* and *Craig Irvine*, readers and element bearers; *Paul Gallagher*, intercessor; *Ricky Davidson* chalice; *Elizabeth Freese* and *David Baxendale*, ushers; *John Daly*, healing minister; *Youth Group*, coffee hour host; *John Byrnes*, *Kiersten McKenny* and *Sue Dyer*, 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-Thursday in-person the Chapel

Bible Study, 8:30-10 am, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays 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 *Olive Hightower*, today; *Chris Landin*, Friday; *Emma Allen and Susan Marshall*, Saturday

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

Today February 2: In lieu of the Adult Forum, please consider attending the Budget Review session in the Meeting Room.

BUDGET REVIEW MEETING TODAY AT 9 AM

St. Michael's draft budget for 2025 will be available by late January for your review. Please take the opportunity to meet with our treasurer Gwen Mousin, hear an overview, and ask questions prior to the Annual Meeting. The meeting will take place at 9 AM in the Meeting Room.

COFFEE HOUR TODAY: A YOUTH GROUP WAFFLE BAR FUNDRAISER

The St. Michael's Youth Group will be making waffles with a variety of toppings Coffee Hour this morning. (There will be a gluten-free waffle option, and other food will be available at coffee hour as well). Donations for the waffles will be used by the Youth Group to purchase much-needed supplies for the Windham County Humane Society (animal shelter), so please bring cash for donations.

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING: FEBRUARY 9 FOLLOWING THE 10:15 SERVICE

SKYBERRY HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY UPCOMING EVENTS

Food and Thought, Fridays 12-1 Join us in our learning as a community while breaking bread together. These intimate gatherings are open to the greater community. If you or a friend is curious about being a *skyberry Host*, this is a great way to begin a relationship with our work and volunteers. We will explore a variety of themes including hospitality, culture care, peace, prayer, and local action with the unhoused community facilitated by a different thought-filled leader each week. A simple lunch will be provided.

Feb. 7th- Peace Pilgrim

Feb. 14th- History of Hospitality

RSVP houseskyberry@gmail.com by the Thursday before the Friday you are interested in joining us for Food and Thought.

Cocoa and Tea: Sunday's at the Brattleboro Transit Center with our unhoused neighbors. Volunteer with us to make and share warm drinks alongside a long standing meal distribution. **Sunday afternoons 2:30-4:00.** Prep to take place before distribution.

We look forward to hearing from you: houseskyberry@gmail.com

TAG SALE NEWS The St. Michael's Tag Sale will be taking place this spring on Saturday, May 3. We will be raising money this year for Loaves and Fishes, as well as the Family Fund at Winston Prouty.

This time of year, many people are reorganizing their belongings and cleaning out items they no longer need. Please keep the Tag Sale in mind when you are doing this - we can take books (except textbooks), clothing, shoes and linens in good shape, housewares (except electronics like TVs and computers) and selective furniture in good condition. All these items can be gratefully re-used by someone else! Please save them to donate to the Tag Sale.

Donations for many items (except furniture) will begin on Sun., **Feb. 16!!** That's really soon! There will be more details coming up in the Thursday notes and Sunday bulletins, and the March "Guardian", so stay tuned and thank you for your support!

MARY IS ON SABBATICAL IN JANUARY: Mary concludes her sabbatical month soon and will be back in the office beginning February 4. We are so grateful for the fine leadership and pastoral care provided by adwoa and Lars, along with the pastoral care team and all of the many lay leaders.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION OFFICE CHANGES: Susie Webster-Toleno is now our parish administrator, and is attempting to fill Jeanie's shoes to the degree that that's possible. She will be in the office **Tuesday through Friday, 9-1**. If you drop in, be sure to introduce yourself (maybe more than once!) so she can begin to get a handle on who's who!

You can contact Susie at parishadmin@stmichaelsvermont.org. The land line in the office phone stays the same: 802-254-6048, ext 104.