



ST. MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

May 11, 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN IN PROCESSION

The Hymnal, 625

Descant

4 My soul, bear thou thy part, tri - umph in God a - bove: and

1 Ye ho - ly an - gels bright, who wait at God's right hand, or
 2 Ye bless - ed souls at rest, who ran this earth - ly race and
 3 Ye saints, who toil be - low, a - dore your heaven - ly King, and
 4 My soul, bear thou thy part, tri - umph in God a - bove: and

with a well - tuned heart sing thou the songs of love! Let all thy

through the realms of light fly at your Lord's com - mand, as - sist our
 now, from sin re - leased, be - hold the Sa - vior's face, God's prais - es
 on - ward as ye go some joy - ful an - them sing; take what he
 with a well - tuned heart sing thou the songs of love! Let all thy

days till life shall end, what - e'er he send, be filled with praise.

song, for else the theme too high doth seem for mor - tal tongue.
 sound, as in his sight with sweet de - light ye do a - bound.
 gives and praise him still, through good or ill, who ev - er lives!
 days till life shall end, what - e'er he send, be filled with praise.

Words: Richard Baxter (1615-1691); rev. John Hampden Gurney (1802-1862). Music: *Darwall's 148th*, melody and bass John Darwall (1731-1789); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.; desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947).

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires are 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



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COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

WE PROCLAIM AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING

Acts 9: 36-43

Following the Lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

Silence is kept for a few moments after the reading.

THE PSALM

Psalms 23

1

The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

2

He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

3

He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I shall fear no evil; *
 for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble
 me; *
 you have anointed my head with oil,
 and my cup is running over.

6

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my
 life, *
 and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

THE SECOND READING

Revelation 7: 9-17

Following the Lesson...

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

THE GRADUAL HYMN

The Hymnal, 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.
 love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

Words: Ray Palmer (1808-1887). Music: *Oliver*, Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

Preceding the Gospel...

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

THE GOSPEL

John 10: 22-30

Following the Gospel...

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Mary D. Lindquist

Silence is kept following the sermon.

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.

Intersessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION TOGETHER

ANTHEM

All stand to sing

OFFERTORY HYMN

The Hymnal, 664

1 My Shep - herd will sup - ply my need, Je - ho - vah
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, thy pres - ence
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me

is his Name; _____ in pas - tures fresh he
 is my stay; _____ one word of thy sup -
 all my days; _____ oh, may thy house be

makes me feed be - side the liv - ing stream.____
 port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.____
 mine a - bode and all my work be praise.____

He brings my wan - dering spi - rit back when I for -
 Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my
 There would I find a sett - led rest, while o - thers

sake his ways, _____ and leads me, for his
 ta - ble spread; _____ my cup with bless - ings
 go and come; _____ no more a stran - ger

mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.____
 o - ver - flows, thy oil a - noints my head.____
 or a guest, but like a child at home.____

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); para. of Psalm 23. Music: *Resignation*, American folk melody, acc. David Hurd (b. 1950).

OFFERING

During the hymn, ushers pass the offering plates. Representatives from the parish bring the people's offerings of food for the hungry, 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," or by text (see announcement at end of bulletin). Our ministry at St. Michael's depends on your generosity. Please consider making a donation or a pledge.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread and all sing or say the Fraction Anthem.

This setting is not used in Lent.



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

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Invitation to Receive 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.

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

THE BLESSING

HYMN

The Hymnal, 708

1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
 2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
 learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,

for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
 with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
 Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Words: *Hymns for the Young*, ca. 1830, alt. Music: *Sicilian Mariners*, Sicilian melody, from *The European Magazine and London Review*, 1792.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPANTS TODAY

10: 15 *The Reverend Mary Lindquist*, preacher; *The Reverend Lars Hunter*, Deacon; *Ricky Davidson*, lay assistant; *Elizabeth Freese* and *Chris Chapman*, readers and element bearers; *Imogene Drakes*, intercessor; *Miranda Smith* and *Alex O'Pray*, chalice carriers; *Chris Dubis*, and *Jeremy Geragotelis*, ushers; *Margit Lilly*, healing

minister; *Judy Walker, Carol Hesselbach,* and *Lindsey Boss*, Altar Guild; *Chris Meyer, Janice Paran,* and *Dan LaPenta* coffee hour hosts.

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

Centering Prayer, 4-5 pm, 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 *Brian Morgan, Diana Bingham,* and *Julian Siegel,* today.

TODAY'S MUSICIAN Thank you to Patty Meyer for sharing her musical gifts in support of worship during Keane's vacation!

ADULT FORUM TODAY

The Forum meets on Sunday morning from 9-10 in the Meeting Room. All are welcome to join in the learning opportunity. For the first three weeks of May, our Forums are brought to you by Saint Michael's Path for Creation Just Team, each focused on one aspect of creation care and creation justice.

- **MAY 11: GREEN/SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING: FROM STOCKS TO PERSONAL CHOICES** Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." How do the financial choices you are making align with the values of your heart? In this forum, we will

view a portion of a recent webinar sponsored by Vermont Interfaith Power and Light on green/socially responsible investing. Following that, parishioner Chris Chapman will lead a conversation based on his own years of experience in this field and invite your stories and reflections on the subject. We will explore options for investing and personal choices you can make to reduce your carbon footprint. So, bring your own best practices and your questions.

- **MAY 18: GREEN/NATURAL BURIAL: AN ALTERNATIVE OPTION** What will happen to your body after you die? Will it be a conventional burial, cremation, will you donate your body to science? This Forum will explore the option of natural, or green burial. We will begin with a video on this subject titled "From Earth to Earth." Following that, we will welcome Penfield Chester, a local Hospice (now Center For Solace) volunteer with personal experience around this topic, including the story of her father's green burial. Penfield will help us explore current and emerging options for green/natural burial in our area. Bring your questions and your own stories (if you have some) on this topic.

PLEASE SIGN UP TO HOST COFFEE HOUR!

We have many open slots for Coffee Hour hosts throughout the summer. The sign-up sheet is in the Common Room. If you've never done it before, we can help orient you or find someone to assist you. Please contact Rosie with any questions at rosie@wojnet.org.

MARY'S SABBATICAL BEGINS ON MAY 12

Dear St. Michael's, I will be starting the second leg of my sabbatical on May 12. May 11 will be my final Sunday until returning on August 6. The Reverend Thad Bennett will be St. Michael's sabbatical priest and he will be present at church on Thursdays and Sundays and available by email. Thad will also be working with the Vestry and the staff to help everything to work smoothly during my absence. I have the utmost confidence that you all will thrive during these three months! Please keep me in your prayers and I look forward to seeing you upon my return. Yours in Christ, Mary

***REQUIEM FOR ANIMALS*, BY KEANE SOUTHARD MAY 17 & 18**

All are invited to the world premiere of Music Director Keane Southard's stunning piece, *Requiem for Animals*, sung by the Brattleboro Concert Choir and accompanied by a professional string orchestra. A number of St. Michael's choir members are singing with the Concert Choir. The commissioned work challenges us to reconsider our relationship with other animals and brilliantly and brutally confronts us with the profound question of our responsibility to speak for the voiceless. We have a choice: we can opt for caring and benevolence instead of dominance and exploitation; if we choose the former, a better world is in our grasp. Rehearsing this masterpiece has been an incredibly moving experience for the choir, and we hope you can join and be part of the first audience in the world to hear it! Tickets are now available at <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=bmcv> for two performances: 7:00 pm on Saturday, May 17, and 4:00 pm on Sunday, May 18 at Persons Auditorium, Marlboro. You will be challenged and deeply moved!

BELOVED COMMUNITY YOUTH CHOIR

We are relaunching the choir with a 6-week session and hoping this time to build a core group of consistent participants to help this choir grow and continue into the future. Rehearsals will be in the choir room on **Tuesdays 3:45-4:45pm** (with arrival/snack starting at 3:30pm) **starting May 20** and **ending late June** for summer break (then planning to restart when school starts again in the fall). It's open **for**

free to all children in grades 2-6 in the Brattleboro area, so feel free to share the word with any friends who have children in these grades--no affiliation with St. Michael's required! Talk with Keane Southard, keane@stmichaelsvermont.org, for more information or any questions.

EXPLORING THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH with Thad Bennett Summer Session begins June 5, Thursdays 4:15PM TO 5:30PM in the Meeting Room. ***Exploring the Episcopal Church*** is a great class for those who are new to St. Michael's, new to church or not new, but want to brush up on the basics of theology, church history, scripture, prayer and worship in the Anglican tradition. Also, why do we do some of the things we do? Should I stand or kneel? What's a fraction? Summer is a great time to study for those who have a lighter work schedule during this season (educators, for example). We will meet in person on Thursdays (June 5, 12, 19, 26, July 3 and 10). If you cannot attend in person, but would like to participate via Zoom, this might be possible. **Please let the office know if you would like to participate at parishadmin@stmichaelsvermont.org**

TEXT TO GIVE

St. Michael's now has a Text to Give option for donations and pledges. Simply key in **73256** and text **GiveStMichaels\$100** (or whatever dollar amount you are donating). You will then receive an acknowledgement of your donation. Easy!