



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

AUGUST 31, 2025

THE SEASON OF CREATION

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

"Offertorium"

Gordon Young

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept.

HYMN

The Hymnal 376

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, bloom-ing mea-dow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro-ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933). Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

Presider: Blessed be the One who creates all things.

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

SONG OF PRAISE

The presider and congregation say one of the following acclamations

V: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord.

R: **Praise and magnify God for ever.**

V: O ye angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord,

R: **Praise and magnify God for ever.**

V: O let the earth bless the Lord;

R: **O ye mountains and hills, bless ye the Lord;**

V: O all ye green things upon the earth, bless ye the Lord;

R: **Praise and magnify God for ever.**

Portion of Canticle 1, BCP

Or

V: Holy One, to you belong praise, glory, honor, and blessing.

R: **Praise and magnify God for ever.**

V: O nights and days, O shining light and enfolding dark,

R: **Praise and magnify God for ever.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord of all service and inclusion, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of the lowly and lost in Creation; increase in us true service; nourish us with all humility; and bring forth in us the fruit of good giving; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16

Following the lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 81:1, 10-16

1 Sing with joy to God our strength *

and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

10 I am the LORD your God,

who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, *

"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."

11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, *

and Israel would not obey me.

12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, *

to follow their own devices.

- 13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! *
that Israel would walk in my ways!
- 14 I should soon subdue their enemies *
and turn my hand against their foes.
- 15 Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him, *
and their punishment would last for ever.
- 16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat *
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

THE SECOND READING *from* The Hour of Land: A Personal Topography of America's
National Parks and Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place,
both by Terry Tempest Williams

HYMN

The Hymnal 424

*For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For his gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.*

*In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.
In the worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.*

*For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that stound us, for the truths that still confound us,
Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.*

Preceding the Gospel...

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

THE GOSPEL

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Following the Gospel...

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

SERMON

After the sermon a period of silence is kept

The Reverend Mary Lindquist

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 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

Presider: The God of heaven has made a home on earth.

People: **Christ dwells among us and is one with us.**

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **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

OFFERTORY HYMN

The Hymnal 321

1 My God, thy ta - ble now is spread, thy cup with
 2 O let thy ta - ble hon - ored be, and fur - nished
 3 Drawn by thy quick - ening grace, O Lord, in coun - tless
 4 Nor let thy spread - ing Gos - pel rest till through the

love doth o - ver - flow; be all thy chil - dren
 well with joy - ful guests; and may each soul sal -
 num - bers let them come and gath - er from their
 world thy truth has run, till with this Bread shall

thith - er led, and let them thy sweet mer - cies know.
 va - tion see, that here its sa - cred pledg - es tastes.
 Fa - ther's board the Bread that lives be - yond the tomb.
 all be blessed who see the light or feel the sun.

Words: Sts. 1-3, Philip Doddridge (1702-1751), alt.; st. 4, Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Rockingham*, melody from *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, ca. 1780; adapt. Edward Miller (1731-1807); harm. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816).

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. To give online, text the message "GiveStMichaels" to the number 73256.

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.

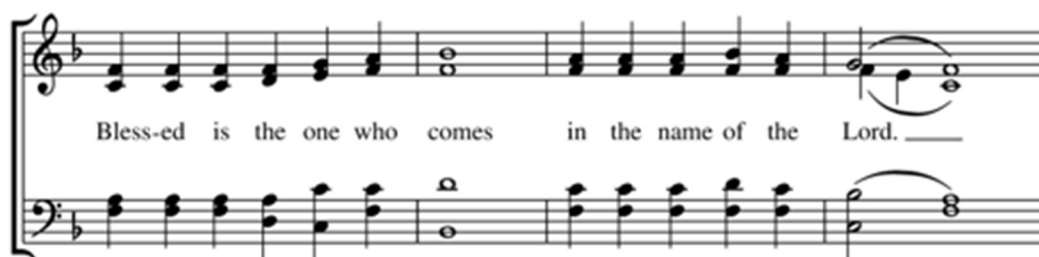
The Celebrant praises God for God's creation and love. Then all sing the Sanctus together:



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, —



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.



Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. —



Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

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

The Presider asks the Holy Spirit to consecrate the bread and the wine to be God's holy food.

People and Celebrant

Let us pray:

People and Celebrant

Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be your name,
 Your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
 Now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Aug. 31- verse 1; Sept. 7 – verse 2; Sept. 14 – verse 3; Sept. 21- verse 1; Sept. 28 – verse 2; Oct. 5 – verse 3

All who hun - ger, gath - er, glad - ly; ho - ly man - na
 All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers, seek - er, be a
 All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is

is our bread. Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring.
 wel - come guest. Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing.
 liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing.

Here in truth we will be fed. You that yearn for
 Here, in joy we keep the feast. We that once were
 Here, in peace we have been fed. Blest are those who

days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
 lost and scat - tered in com - mun - ion's love have stood.
 from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.

Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.

Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see that God is good.

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 423

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt. Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

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

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

"Trumpet Voluntary"

Gordon Young

PARTICIPANTS TODAY

10:15 The Reverend Mary Lindquist, preacher; *The Reverend adwoa Wilson*, celebrant; *The Reverend Lars Hunter*, Deacon *Miranda Smith*, lay assistant; *Maida McKenna* and *William Stearns* readers and element bearers; *Margery McCrum*, intercessor; *Craig Irvine* and *Ricky Davidson*, chalice bearers; *Joyce Vining Morgan* and *Brian Morgan*, ushers; *Carolyn Taylor-Olson*, healing minister; *Jane Sbardella* and *Sherry Stimmel*, Altar Guild; *TBA*, coffee hour host.

Altar flowers are given by Mary Abell and Don Erwin “in remembrance of the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, and in gratitude for the role that St. Michael’s played in opening their doors to us and helping with relief efforts in New Orleans.”



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 *Nan Tierra, Monday; Thad Bennett, Wednesday; Jacki Capponcelli, Thursday; Ricky Davidson, Saturday.*



UPCOMING EVENTS AT SAINT MICHAEL'S

Mark these dates on your calendars!

Aug. 31 - Oct. 5: The liturgical Season of Creation

Sept. 6: Service of Thanksgiving for Ed McCatty (11 AM)

Sept. 7: 9:30-10: Sunday School Kick-off Celebration

:9:30 AM: Choir informational gathering (choir room)

Sept. 13: Choir Retreat and Healing Team Retreat

Sept. 14: Adult Forum Begins (9 AM)

Celebration of Phillip and Susan Wilson's ministry here
(during Coffee Hour)

Sept. 30: Presentation by ACLU Senior Staff Attorney Hillary Rich on the topic "What To Do If ICE Comes to Your Church" (6:30-8:30)



COFFEE HOUR HONORING CHARLOTTE VELTKAMP

Three cheers for Charlotte, who is graduating with her Associates Degree in Liberal Arts! We'll celebrate that achievement with a special cake at coffee hour today. Do come!

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The St. Michael's parishioners studying, working, and praying about the rise of White Christian Nationalism will meet again this Sunday. Newcomers are always welcome; be in touch with Jeff Lewis if you have questions. jeffrey.m.lewis@comcast.net.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR ED MCCATTY, SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6

On **September 6**, we'll gather at 11 AM to honor, remember, and celebrate the life of our Brother-in-Christ Ed McCatty. All are invited to attend in person or virtually (<https://vimeo.com/event/5312470>). There will be a time of fellowship and refreshments in the Undercroft after the service.

THE SEASON OF CREATION BEGINS TODAY

From August 31-October 5, St. Michael's will join with millions of Christians around the world to celebrate the Season of Creation. During this time, our liturgy will reflect a focus on our gratefulness and concern for God's 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, to be celebrated on Sunday, October 5 at St. Michael's. You are invited to contribute to the Eucharistic Prayer during the Season of Creation by listing plants and animals who live in our region of the world. There is a sign up in the Common Room or you may email Mary at mary@stmichaelsvermont.org with your ideas!

SEASON OF CREATION READINGS: WEEK 1

By Terry Tempest Williams

“These are difficult times, transformative times- times of extreme actions especially within our national parks. Extreme drought. Extreme fires. Extreme development with extreme policy shifts needed in the name of global warming. The world is changing dramatically, both ecologically as well as politically. But I believe our greatest transformation as a species will be spiritual. The word "we" must include all species.”

—from, [The Hour of Land: A Personal Topography of America's National Parks](#)

“I pray to the birds because they remind me of what I love rather than what I fear. And at the end of my prayers, they teach me how to listen.”

— from, [Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place](#)

KIDS & YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION KICK-OFF SEPTEMBER 7, 9:30–10 AM, THE RECTORY YARD

Back to school means back to formation programs for children and youth at St. Michael's. Our hope is that every child experience God's love and know how precious they are to God and to us in the church! On **Sunday, September 7**, please come at 9:30 for games and food, to register for Sunday School, and to get inspired for this new year in the life of our church. At 10 am, kids will be invited to the church to begin their new classes. Information about different classes will be available in the eNews.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ST. MICHAEL'S CHOIR! SEPTEMBER 7, 9:30 AM

Interested in singing at St. Michael's, but aren't sure? Come find out more! Meet with Keane Southard, St. Michael's Choir director, and a couple of choir members in the Choir Room to share about how the choir works and answer your questions. This is an information session open to all who might be curious about this important ministry.

GIVING THANKS FOR PHILLIP & SUSAN WILSON'S MINISTRY AT ST. MICHAEL'S, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14: It is time to say a huge THANK YOU to our beloved priest associate, the Reverend Phillip Wilson and his amazing wife, Susan. Phillip and Susan are moving to Burlington to be closer to family. We want a chance to tell them just how much their ministry has meant to us all. We will share food, memories and words of gratitude for Phillip at a special coffee hour following the 10:15 am service.



NEED MORE PLAYTIME IN YOUR LIFE?

Volunteer to help with Godly Play! Godly Play is a Montessori-based Christian formation offering for young children, full of beautiful stories and many wondering questions. We would love to have some new people involved in story-telling or helping as a doorkeeper. The time commitment is up to you, as you can sign up for the weeks you would like to participate. Please contact Susan Heimer (heimer.susan@gmail.com) or Mary Lindquist (mary@stmichaelsvermont.org) for more information!