



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025
THE SEASON OF CREATION

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

"Devotional Pieces No. 13 + 14"

Dom Paul Benoit

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept.

HYMN

The Hymnal, 390

Descant

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

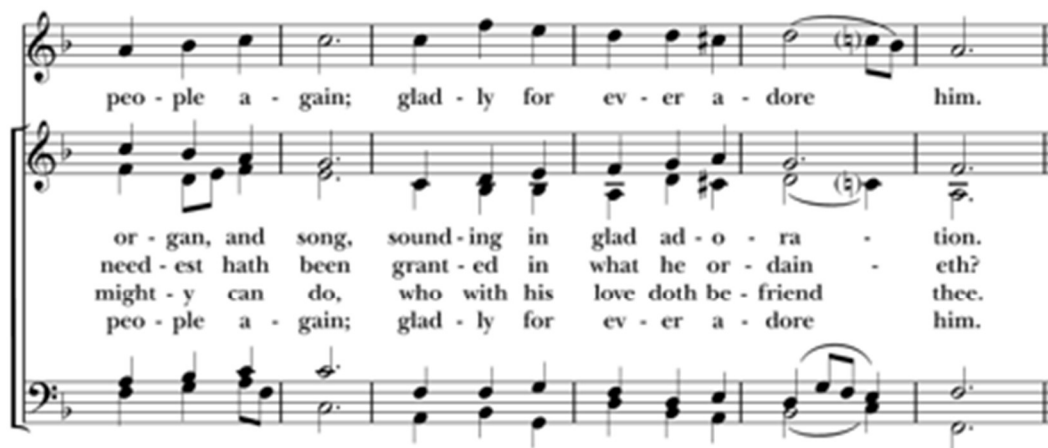
1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his



Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuerter Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971). Descant, Copyright © 1953, Novello and Company Limited. Used by permission.

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.**

V: O mountains and hills, and all that grows upon the earth,

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

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

1 Timothy 2: 1-7

Following the lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 113

1 Hallelujah!

**Give praise, you servants of the LORD; *
praise the Name of the LORD.**

**2 Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.**

**3 From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the LORD be praised.**

**4 The LORD is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.**

**5 Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high *
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?**

**6 He takes up the weak out of the dust *
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.**

**7 He sets them with the princes, *
with the princes of his people.**

**8 He makes the woman of a childless house *
to be a joyful mother of children.**

THE SECOND READING

St. Isaac the Syrian

HYMN

The Hymnal, 538

1 God of mer - cy, God of grace, show the bright - ness of thy
2 Let thy peo - ple praise thee, Lord; be by all that live a -

face. Shine up - on us, Sa - vior, shine, fill thy
dored. Let the na - tions shout and sing glo - ry

Church with light di - vine, and thy sav - ing health ex -
to their Sa - vior King; let all be, be - low, a -

tend bove, un - to earth's re - mot - est end.
one in joy, and light, and love.

Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847), alt. Music: *Lucerna Laudoniae*, David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Preceding the Gospel...

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

THE GOSPEL

Luke 16: 1-13

Following the Gospel...

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

SERMON

The Reverend adwoa Wilson

After the sermon a period of silence is kept

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.**

**We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the 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

ANTHEM

"Earth Song"

Frank Ticheli

OFFERTORY HYMN

The Hymnal, 416 (vs. 1-4)

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu-man love, bro-ther, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For the Church which ev - er - more lift - eth ho - ly hands a - bove,

1 for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,
2 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
3 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight,
4 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,
5 of - fering up on ev - ery shore thy pure sac - ri - fice of love,

Refrain
Christ our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

6 For each perfect gift of thine
to the world so freely given,
faith and hope and love divine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven,

Refrain

Words: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917), alt. Music: *Lucerna Laudoniae*, David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

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.**

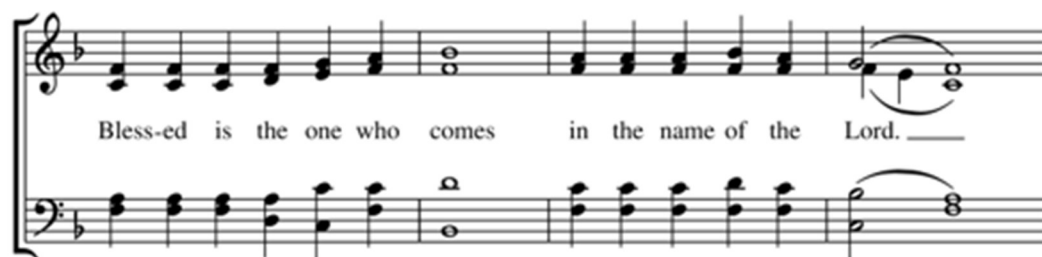
Lift up your hearts.

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:



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.

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993) © GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com].
 All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Holy Manna*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835.

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, 408

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
 2 What God's al-might - y power hath made, his gra - cious mer - cy
 3 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly Name give God all praise and

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
 keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his watch - ful
 glo - ry; let all who know his power pro - claim a - loud the

our sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and
 eye ne'er sleep - eth. With - in the king - dom of his might, lo!
 won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, the

ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stills: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 All is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

Words: Johann Jakob Schütz (1640-1690); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897), alt. Music: *Mit Freuden zart*, melody from "Une pastourelle gentille," 1529; adapt. *Pseaumes cinquante de David*, 1547, and *Kirchengeseng darinnen die Heubtartikel des Christlichen Glaubens gefasset*, 1566; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), after Heinrich Reimann (19th cent.).

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

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

"Offertoire" from *Ecole d'Orgue*

Jacques-Nicholas Lemmens

PARTICIPANTS

10:15 The Reverend adwoa Wilson, preacher; **The Reverend Mary Lindquist**, celebrant; **Annie Landenberger**, lay assistant; **Susan Daigneault** and **Jenny Karsted**, readers and element bearers; **Brian Morgan**, intercessor; **Annamarie Pluhar** and **Ricky Davidson**, chalicers; **Brian Morgan**, ushers; **Margit Lilly**, healing minister; **Craig Newbert** and **Rebecca Olmstead**, Altar Guild; **Annie Landenberger**, coffee hour host.



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 *Anne Montgomery*, *Alix Fedoruk*, and *Susie Webster-Toleno*, Monday;
Scott McElhinney, Thursday; *Steve Guerriero* and *Keane Southard*, Friday.



SEASON OF CREATION READING: WEEK 4

“What is a charitable heart? It is a heart burning with love for the whole of creation, for humans, for the birds, for the beasts, for the demons—for all creatures. One who has such a heart cannot see or call to mind a creature without having eyes being filled with tears by reason of the immense compassion which seizes the heart; a heart which is softened and can no longer bear to see or learn from others of any suffering, even the smallest pain, being inflicted on any creature. That is why such a person never ceases to pray also for the animals, that they may be preserved and purified. This person will even pray for the reptiles, moved by the infinite pity which reigns in the hearts of those who are becoming united with God”. (*St. Isaac the Syrian, 7th-century Syriac Christian bishop and theologian best remembered for his written works on Christian asceticism.*)

UPCOMING EVENTS AT OR NEAR SAINT MICHAEL'S

TODAY: Deerfield Valley Pilgrimage Walk

Sept. 27: Catechumenate class begins

Sept. 30: Presentation by ACLU Sr Staff Attorney Hillary Rich:

“What to Do If ICE Comes to Your Church” (6:30-8:30 PM)

Oct. 4 & 5: Feast Day of St. Francis activities

Oct. 5: Memorial gathering honoring David Hayden

ADULT FORUM

We meet each week from 9-10 AM in the Meeting Room.

- **Today: Summer is for Entertainment!** Did you read a book this summer? Watch movies? Go to concerts? Come share what you experienced and learn what your fellow church friends loved and liked. Led by Annamarie Pluhar.

RESPONDING IN FAITH meets today at Noon in the Meeting Room.

NEW FOYER GROUPS FOR THE FALL! SIGN UP BY SEPTEMBER 26

We shared about Foyer Groups in recent eNews blasts. If you'd like to join a group, please email John Spooner by **September 26**. jspooner52@gmail.com Please include the following information: • Your name, email, phone • Names of any additional family members who wish to participate • Additionally, you may if you choose indicate any particular topical interests if you wish to be assigned a group based on that.

CATECHUMENATE, CONFIRMATION AND RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS – This year, St. Michael's has four adult and teen candidates for baptism. Training and instruction leading up to the sacrament of baptism for adults is called the *catechumenate*. The catechumens will be meeting on the **second and fourth Saturdays of the month at 4pm** to begin a process of training and instruction in Christian understandings about God, human relationships and life in Christ that will culminate, if desired, in baptism at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4, 2026 at the Great Vigil of Easter.

This class is also open to people who would like renew their baptismal vows, be confirmed or received when the Bishop of Vermont will visit St. Michael's on Sunday, April 26, 2026. This class is not a prerequisite for Confirmation or baptismal renewal, but is offered for those who desire to be part of this deep time of preparation and reflection over the next seven months. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please contact Mary Lindquist at mary@stmichaelsvermont.org Our first class will be on **Saturday, September 27 at 4pm**.

ST. MICHAEL'S FEAST DAY, NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28: We will be celebrating St. Michael, the Archangel's, Feast Day next Sunday! September 29 is the actual day appointed for this feast, which falls also in the Season of Creation. We will have incense at the 10:15 am service.

ACLU FORUM: "WHAT TO DO IF ICE COMES TO CHURCH"

As many parishioners know, the Diocese of Vermont in April announced that it is committed to creating a sanctuary diocese that will welcome and protect the rights of all regardless of a person's immigration status. As part of this directive, we are sponsoring an event by the ACLU on **September 30 from 6:30-8:30 pm** on "What to do if ICE comes to our Church" and inviting other faith communities to join us in learning more. We are also supporting refugees and immigrants by handing out business cards created by Indivisible that allow people to report an ICE event that they see by scanning a QR code or using a URL on the card. This takes you to a page in which you can report all the information you see. The trained local Rapid Response team reviews these submissions and

investigates and, if there is an ICE presence and someone is detained, they will report it to Migrant Justice for legal help. These cards are on a table in the Community Room. Please feel to take one for yourself and/or for others who might be interested.

Any questions: contact Judy Davidson (802-380-3501 or judydavidson3d@gmail.com)

ST. FRANCIS' FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS, OCTOBER 4 & OCTOBER 5: We will celebrate St. Francis' feast day with an animal blessing on Saturday, October 4 at 4 on the Rectory Yard and on Sunday, October 5, with special preacher and faithful member of the Church in the Cloud, Brother John Michael Longworth, a member of the Ecumenical Order of Franciscans.

A QUAKER-STYLE MEMORIAL SERVICE for David Hayden will be held on **Sunday, October 5 at 2:30pm** in the Undercroft. David was a person who participated in many faith communities, including St. Michael's. We are honored to host his service at St. Michael's.

LOAVES AND FISHES UPDATE: Gratitude and opportunity

Are you a bag lady (or gent)? Thanks to Betsy Bates and Judy Walker who have been the bag ladies at Loaves for 4 years. Every week on Tuesday they create 200 small snack bags which are given out with a hot lunch. BUT they are retiring. If you are interested in helping Loaves in creating the snack bags, talk to Betsy or Judy (or Ruth Tilghman!).

GROUNDWORKS SHELTER MEALS MINISTRY

This year we will be providing a full dinner to the Shelter for **55 people** (which is an increase from 35 last year), on the **1st Thursday of each month**, from October through April. Details on what's needed are on the sign-up sheet in the Common Room. Questions: please contact Christopher Wesolowski at 802-380-1474 or cmwvt65@gmail.com or Liz Vick at ebethvick@gmail.com.

PRISON MINISTRY REQUEST

The Prison Ministry team seeks a volunteer typist to help produce a special hymnal for the services at the SSCF. See the eNews for details.

VERMONT INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT FORUM POSTPONED (More info will be forthcoming!)