



# ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

**OCTOBER 5, 2025**

**THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS**

**WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST**

PRELUDE

"Devotional Pieces No. 16 + 17"

*Dom Paul Benoit*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept.*

HYMN

*The Hymnal, 400, v. 1-4, 7*



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us  
 \*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -  
 \*3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to  
 4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our  
 5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your  
 \*6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal  
 7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing  
 2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing  
 3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -  
 4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and  
 5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that  
 6 breath, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back  
 7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,  
 2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,  
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,  
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:  
 5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:  
 6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:  
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.*

Words: St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 123; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

*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.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may, for love of you, delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; 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

*Lamentations 1:1-16*

*Following the lesson...*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

**Thanks be to God.**

## CANTICLE OF THE SUN

*St. Francis of Assisi (see insert)*

## THE SECOND READING

*by Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM*

## HYMN

*The Hymnal, 427*

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru - ler of all na - ture, O thou of  
 2 Fair are the mea - dows, fair - er still the wood - lands, robed in the  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light, and all the

God and man the Son; thee will I cher - ish,  
 bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,  
 twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.  
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
 Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.

Words: German composite; tr. pub. New York, 1850, alt. Music: St. Elizabeth, melody from *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842; harm. Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953).

*Preceding the Gospel...*

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

THE GOSPEL

*Luke 17:5-10*

*Following the Gospel...*

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

SERMON

*Br. John Michael Longworth, OEF*

*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

"Agnus Dei (Lambs of God)" from *Requiem for Animals*

Keane Southard

OFFERTORY HYMN

*The Hymnal, 405*

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a 'Descant' section consisting of four measures. This is followed by a 'Refrain' section, which is repeated twice. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some lines numbered 1 through 4. The score concludes with a 'Repeat Refrain' section.

*Descant*

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

*Refrain*

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.

all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,  
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,  
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,  
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

*Repeat Refrain*

he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.  
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky,  
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.  
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895). Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958), desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Used by arrangement with G. Schirmer, Inc. Descant, Copyright © 1979, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

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.**

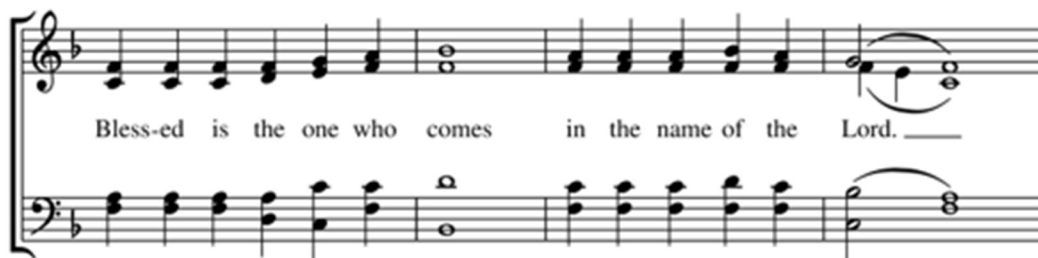
*The Celebrant praises God for God's creation and love. Then all sing the Sanctus together:*



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.

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, 427*

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart, a - wak - ing, cries,  
 2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:  
 3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heaven is known  
 4 Ye na - tions of man - kind, in this your con - cord find:  
 5 Sing, suns and stars of space, sing, ye that see his face,

1 may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning sha - dows fall,  
 2 may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer  
 3 than, Je - sus Christ be praised! There to the e - ter - nal Word  
 4 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round  
 5 sing, Je - sus Christ be praised! God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,

1 this rings my cur - few call, may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 2 hath none that can com - pare with: Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 3 the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 4 ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 5 both now and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

Words: German, ca. 1800; tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), alt. Music: *Laudes Domini*, Joseph Barnby (1838-1896).

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

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

"All Glory Be to God on High"

*Michael Praetorius*

## PARTICIPANTS

**10:15 Br. John Michael Longworth, OEF**, guest preacher; **The Reverend Mary Lindquist**, celebrant; **The Reverend Lars Hunter**, Deacon; **Ricky Davidson**, lay assistant; Paul Gallagher and **Craig Irvine**, readers and element bearers; **Margery McCrum**, intercessor; **Annie Landenberger** and

*Alex O'Pray*, chalicers; *Judith and Alan McBean*, *Kachina Autenrieth-Lee*, and *Ron Autenrieth*, ushers; *MJ Woodburn*, healing minister; *John Byrnes* and *Kiersten McKenney*, Altar Guild; *The Aging Groups*, 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, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> 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 *Valerie Abrahamsen*, today; *Ori Johnson*, Monday; *Judith Reichsman* and *Keira Caponcelli*, Thursday; *Janet Cramer*, Friday; *Brendan McElhinney*, Saturday.



### **SEASON OF CREATION READING: WEEK 6**

Franciscan spirituality emphasizes a real equivalence and mutuality between the one who sees and what can be seen. There is a symbiosis between the mind and heart of the seer—and to what they will then pay attention. Francis had a unique ability to call others—animals, planets and elements—“brother” and “sister” because he himself was a little brother. He granted other beings and things mutuality, subjectivity, “personhood,” and dignity because he first honored his own dignity as a son of God.

(Although it could be the other way around too!) The world of things was a transparent two-way mirror for him, which some of us would call a fully “sacramental” universe.

All being can correctly and rightly be spoken of with “one voice” (univocity), as John Duns Scotus will later put it (see chapter thirteen). What I am you also are, and so is the world. Creation is one giant symphony of mutual sympathy.

Or, as Augustine loved to say, “In the end there will only be Christ loving himself.”

*from Eager to Love, by Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM*

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AT OR NEAR SAINT MICHAEL’S**

TODAY: St. Francis Feast Day celebration with guest preacher Br. John Michael Longworth

Memorial gathering honoring David Hayden (2:30, Undercroft)

Oct. 19: Stewardship Season begins

## **ADULT FORUM**

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

- **October 5: What is Franciscan Discernment?, with John Michael Longworth.**

Discernment is the art of contemplative listening that helps us to know which way to go. It's more than thinking, choosing, or deciding a preference, but rather involves careful attention to how the wisdom of God is arising within, around, and between us.

Many Christian communities have tools and methods that they use for this work. Today we'll look at two related methods from the Franciscan tradition that help members of that spiritual community answer the question that Francis gave us during his passing from life into life eternal, "What is mine to do?"

Contemplation, or what Richard Rohr, OFM calls "the long, loving look at the real" is a deeply embodied and incarnate form of abiding with God and with the rest of creation. It stands at the heart of our movement into the world.

We'll explore the cycle of Contemplation, Loving Action, Practice Reflection as well as a version of this process that comes from St. Clare of Assisi in her poem "Mirror of Eternity."

- **October 12: Stories from the Field: St. Michael's work with refugee students in 2025.** When World Learning welcomed 85 refugee students who had received scholarships to American colleges and universities, many St. Michael's parishioners volunteered to be local sponsors for the young people acclimating to life in the USA. During this forum we will share stories and reflect on these profound experiences of friendship and love across cultures.

## **GUEST PREACHER / PRESENTER FOR ST. FRANCIS' FEAST DAY**

In celebration of St. Francis Day and the end of the Season of Creation, we welcome Brother John Michael Longworth a resident of Rutland and a member of St. Michael's Church in the Cloud, as our preacher and Adult Forum presenter this morning.

Br. John Michael Longworth, OEF is a life professed member of the Order of Ecumenical Franciscans. He entered formation for community life in 2010 and made vows of life profession in 2014, celebrating 10 years of vowed life this June. John Michael has served as a community interviewer, compiling the first volume of OEF local ministries in 2013, as well as the Scribe for 3 years, and the Formation Coordinator for 6 years.

Franciscan spirituality is a rhythm of going from Gospel to Life and Life to Gospel, which Br. John Michael does through service to the unhoused community in Chittenden County Vermont, and as a Spiritual Director and Formation Companion. This work is sustained by a personal and corporate contemplative prayer practice that is always growing and evolving.

**A QUAKER-STYLE MEMORIAL SERVICE** for David Hayden will be held **today 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.

### **COUNTLESS GIFTS OF LOVE: STEWARDSHIP SEASON 2026**

On Sunday, **October 19**, we will kick-off our Season of Stewardship, which will end with Commitment Sunday on November 9. Our theme this year *is Countless Gifts of Love*. This is a sacred time for us to reflect on the countless gifts of love that we receive from God and from the Body of Christ called St. Michael's! Our stewardship speakers will be Elizabeth Freese (Oct. 19), Michael Hightower (Oct. 26) and Jane Sbardella (Nov. 9). You should receive your stewardship brochure and mailing prior to October 19. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to be, please send your address to Susie at [parishadmin@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:parishadmin@stmichaelsvermont.org)

### **OFFICE HOURS IN EARLY OCTOBER**

Susie will be on vacation from Oct. 4-18. Rosie Wojcik will cover essential admin needs during those two weeks, but there may be times when the office is unstaffed during regular office hours. Thank you for your understanding.