

The Christmas Pageant

Christmas Eve 2025 at 4:00 pm

Prelude "Noel" by George Whitefield Chadwick (arr. Keane Southard)

Welcome

All stand to sing

Hymn in Procession

O Come All Ye Faithful

Hymn 83

Verses 1, 2, 3 and 6 of this processional hymn

- 1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him,
born the King of angels;

*O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

- 2 God from God,
Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only-begotten
Son of God the Father;

Refrain

- 3 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God,
glory in the highest;

Refrain

- 6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

Opening Acclamation

All standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: God, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Collect of the Day

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen**

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT BASED ON LUKE 2:1-5

Congregation sits for the remainder of the pageant.

Introit

Adeste Fideles

Liturgy of the Word:

Luke 2: 1-5

Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem. The angels are heard

Hymn 96

Angels We Have Heard On High

1 Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their brave delight.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

The shepherds and farmers see the star.

Hymn 112, verses 1+ 4

In The Bleak Midwinter

Soloists sing verse one, and congregation joins them on this 4th verse

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him — give my heart.

The Baby Jesus is born and embraced.

LEVAS 27

Away In a Manger

The congregation sings vs. 1 & 2, the pageant sings vs 3

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

The Three Kings visit Jesus

Hymn 128

We Three Kings

- 1 We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

*O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading,
still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!*

- 5 Glorious now behold Him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia
Heaven to earth replies

Refrain

Song

Lord of the Dance

Congregation and Pageant join to sing together

I danced in the morning when the world was begun
I danced with the moon and the stars and the sun
I came down from heaven and I danced on earth
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Dance, dance, wherever you may be
I am the Lord of the dance, said he
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John
They came with me and the Dance went on.

Refrain

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me -
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Refrain

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offering

During the hymn, ushers pass the offering plates. This is a time when worshipers can make an offering to support St. Michael's ministry of sharing God's love and grace with the world. Representatives from the parish bring the people's offerings of 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.

Hymn 87

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem!

*Hark the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!*

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!

*Hark the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!*

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness! Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Hark the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!*

Hymn, 115

What Child is This

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

*This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.*

- 2 Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.

Refrain

- 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.

Refrain

The Great Thanksgiving:

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider recalls (and makes present for all) Jesus' life and last supper. Then the Presider asks the Holy Spirit to consecrate the bread and the wine to be God's holy food.

Lord's Prayer

**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. A period of silence is kept.

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.

After all have received communion, the acolytes will pass the candle light to the congregation. All remain seated to sing Silent Night.

Hymn 111

- 1 Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2 Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
- 3 Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Following the singing of Silent Night, we observe a few moments of silence. Then the congregation is invited to join in the following prayer.

Postcommunion Prayer

**Blessed are you, O God,
for you have visited and redeemed
your people, coming to us in Jesus.
With this meal and your love
you have set us free to live in the light of a manger.
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 savior. Amen.**

Blessing

May God, who sent God's child to take our nature, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness, and brighten your heart with light.

People **Amen**

May God, who sent angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy and make you heralds of the Gospel.

People **Amen**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you peace and favor.

People **Amen**

And the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen**

The candles are extinguished and all stand to sing

Hymn 100

Joy to the World

- 1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,

while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, and wonders of his love.

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Postlude

"Improvisation on 'Antioch'"

Keane Southard

Thank You to those who serve this evening

Betsy Bates, Ricky Davidson, and Gay Maxwell, *Ushers*

Craig Irvine, *Lay Assistant*

Abbie Haineswood and Leo Storm, *Acolytes*

Miranda Smith and Michael Hightower, *Chalicers*

Kiersten McKenney and Jane Sbardella, *Altar Guild*

Our Staff

The Reverend Mary D. Lindquist, *Rector*

The Reverend adwoa Wilson, *Assistant Priest*

The Reverend Lars Hunter, *Deacon*

Mr. Keane Southard, *Director of Music*

Ms. Susie Webster-Toleno, *Parish Administrator*

Ms. Casey Parris, *Financial Administrator*

Mr. John Laamanen, *Sexton*

PAGEANT COMPANY

Abigail Haineswood

Alden Webb

Araya Thessing

Asa Taggert

Bibi Johnson

Carter Lowe

Eden Leor

Elias Leor

Eliza Davenport

Elodie Leor

Emmie Haineswood

Gabriel Davenport

Hazael Lowe

Hugo Taggert

Josie Heim

Layla Thessing

Leo Storm

Madelyn Ely

Maisey Carlson

Mei Yi Osborne

Milo Hesselbach

Nico Thessing

Ocean Leitermann-Long

Olive Hightower

Penelope Davenport

Quinn Leitermann-Long

Riley Leitermann-Long

Theron Southard

Xiaoyi Osborne

Zhong Yi Osborne

Vocalists

Bibi Johnson, Hazael Lowe

Narrators

Asa Taggert, Bibi Johnson, Hazael Lowe, Leo Storm

Mary

Elodie Leor

Joseph

Mei Yi Osborne

Baby Jesus

Alden Webb

Innkeepers

Araya Thessing and Abbie Haineswood

Shepherds

Milo Hesselbach, Emmie Haineswood, Zhong Yi Osborne, Xiaoyi Osborne

Angels

Maisey Carlson, Riley Leitermann-Long, Eliza Davenport, Quinn Leitermann-Long, Gabriel Davenport, Olive Hightower, Eden Leor, Josie Heim

Wise People

Layla Thessing, Madelyn Ely, Elias Lohr

Starbearer

Gabriel Davenport

Animals

Penelope Davenport, Ocean Leitermann-Long, Nico Thessing, Theron Southerd

Lights

Hugo Taggert, Carter Lowe

TEAM PAGEANT

Miranda Smith, Lydia Taggert, Annie Landenberger, Bri Davenport, Belle Coles, Joslyn Haineswood

Advent Greens & Christmas Flowers are given

To the glory of God:

From *Chris Hart*

From *Belle Coles*

From *Jared Rediske*

In thanksgiving:

For the warm welcome of the people of St. Michael's, from *Susie Webster-Toleno*

In memory of:

Our parents, Richard and Grace Karstad, and Hannelore Polley from *Jenny Karstad and Iris Polley*

Daniel Dobson, from *Susan Gantt Kubert*

Bruce Hesselbach and Jennifer Hocursak, from *Carol Hesselbach*

Alfred A. Cramer, from *Janet Cramer*

Timothy Gallagher and Nancy & Halsey Hicks, from *Pam & Paul Gallagher*

Our grandparents Sandy and Mary Sistare, Hermann and Barbara Ziel, Donna and George Pesut, from *Erin Pesut & Gabriel Sistare*

Pete Davidson, from *Judy & Jack Davidson*

George Lewis, from *Laura Lewis and Louise Larsen*

Rich Blazej, Doris E. Spahr, Doris W & August Spahr, Jr., from *Lucy Spahr-Blazej*

Thomas C. Ely, from *Ann Ely*

My brother and sister, from *Judy Walker*

Family members, from *Doug and Ann Switzer*

The McGee family, the Swift Family, and Marge Turek, from *Judith McGee*

Judy Wagenbach and DG McBean, from *Karen Davis*

The Holvino family, from *Evangelina Holvino*

John Mamrych and Rev. Harland G. Lewis, from *Jeff Lewis and Suzann Jones*

My parents Edgar and Elizabeth Bittenheim Maxwell, from *Gay Maxwell*

Our brothers, Samuel and Michael, from *Nicholas and Dorothy Porter*

Ralph and Hope, from *Chris Chapman*

My mother, Phyllis Lindquist, from *Mary Lindquist*