



# ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

**FEBRUARY 8, 2026  
THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

## **WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST**

PRELUDE

"Diapason Movement"

*George Green*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept. Please stand when you hear the music for the first hymn.*

### HYMN

*The Hymnal, 372*

1 Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name  
2 Form - less, all love - ly forms de - clare his love - li - ness;  
3 His Spi - rit flow - eth free, high surg - ing where it will:  
4 E - ter - nal life hath he im - plant - ed in the soul;

who was, and is, and is to be for ay the same.  
ho - ly, no ho - li - ness of earth can his ex - press.  
in pro - phet's word he spoke of old; he speak - eth still.  
his love shall be our strength and stay while a - ges roll.

The one e - ter - nal God ere aught that now ap - pears:  
Lo, he is Lord of all. Cre - a - tion speaks his praise,  
Es - tab - lished is his law, and change - less it shall stand,  
Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name

the first, the last, be - yond all thought his time - less years!  
 and ev - ery-where a - bove, be - low, his will o - beys.  
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart, on sea, on land.  
 who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.

Words: Medieval Jewish liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845-1928) and Newton M. Mann (1836-1926). Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1985, alt.

## ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant*      Blessed be God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.  
*People*      **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry be to God on high!  
*Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria*      *en las al - tur - as a Dios!*

And on earth be peace to the peo-ple in whom God is well pleased.  
*En la tie - rra paz pa-ra-a-que-llos ... que a - ma el Se - ñor.*

Setting: Pablo Sosa, Argentina © 1989 Pablo Sosa, admin. OCP Publications.  
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## COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST READING

*Isaiah 58: 1-12*

*Following the lesson...*

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

**Thanks be to God**

## 1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
and have great delight in his commandments!

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the Lord.

8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

9 They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

10 The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \*  
the desires of the wicked will perish.

## THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2: 1-12

## HYMN

*The Hymnal, 601*

1 O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty and in power, come  
2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid, the  
3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure, and  
4 Bring to our world of strife thy sov - ereign word of peace, that  
5 O day of God, draw nigh as at cre - a - tion's birth, let



1 with thy time - less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.  
2 qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.  
3 fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.  
4 war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.  
5 there be light a - gain, and set thy judg - ments in the earth.



*Preceding the Gospel...*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

THE GOSPEL

*Matthew 5: 13-20*

*Following the Gospel...*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

*The Reverend Mary Lindquist*

*After the sermon a period of silence is kept*

THE 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.

Intercessor:

Lord, in your mercy.

People:

**Hear our prayer.**

## THE CONFESSION

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Most merciful God,**

We confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of our Lord 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

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**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

### THE ANTHEM

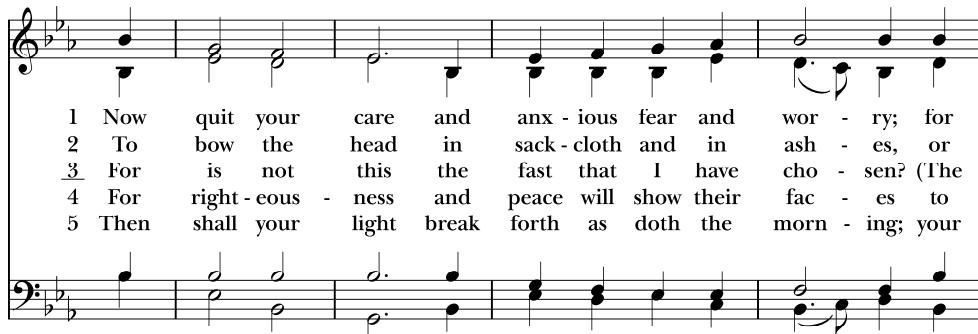
“Ave Verum Corpus”

*Edward Elgar*

*All stand to sing*

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*The Hymnal, 145 (vs 3-5)*



1. Now quit your care and anxious fear and worry; for  
2. To bow the head in sack-cloth and in ash- es, or  
3. For is not this the fast that I have chosen? (The  
4. For right-eous- ness and peace will show their faces to  
5. Then shall your light break forth as doth the morn- ing; your



1 schemes are vain and fret - ting brings no gain. Lent calls to  
 2 rend the soul, such grief is not Lent's goal; but to be  
 3 pro - phet spoke) To shat - ter ev - ery yoke, of wick - ed -  
 4 those who feed the hun - gry in their need, and wrongs re -  
 5 health shall spring, the friends you make shall bring God's glo - ry



1 prayer, to trust and ded - i - ca - tion; God brings new beau - ty  
 2 led to where God's glo - ry flash - es, his beau - ty to come  
 3 ness the griev - ous bands to loos - en, op - pres - sion put to  
 4 dress, who build the old waste plac - es, and in the dark - ness  
 5 bright, your way through life a - don - ing; and love shall be the



*Unison*

*Harmony*



1 nigh; re - ply, re - ply, re - ply with love to love most high;  
 2 near. Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light ap - pear;  
 3 flight, to fight, to fight to fight till ev - ery wrong's set right.  
 4 shine. Di - vine, di - vine, di - vine it is when all com - bine!  
 5 prize. A - rise, a - rise, a - rise! and make a par - a - dise!



*Unison*

*Harmony*



1 re - ply, re - ply, re - ply with love to love most high.  
 2 Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light ap - pear.  
 3 to fight, to fight to fight till ev - ery wrong's set right.  
 4 Di - vine, di - vine, di - vine it is when all com - bine!  
 5 A - rise, a - rise, a - rise! and make a par - a - dise!



Words: Percy Dearmer (1867-1936), alt. Music: *Quittez, Pasteurs*, French carol; harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958).

## OFFERING

*During the hymn, ushers pass the offering plates. 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.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The people remain standing. The Presider says*

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 him thanks and praise.*

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

**SANCTUS**

*LEVAS, 255*

*Holy, holy, holy, holy,  
Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

*The Celebrant recalls (and makes present for all) Jesus' life and last supper.*

*Presider and People*

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

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

And now, as our Savior

Christ has taught us,

we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**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,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **BREAD IS BROKEN**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*Antiphon*  
*Cantor, then all*

*Fine Verses*

— of the bread.

1. The bread which we break, Al - le - lu -  
 2. One bo - dy are we, Al - le - lu -

ia, ia, is the com - mun - ion of the Bod - y of Christ.  
 for though ma - ny we share one bread.

*All repeat Antiphon*

Music: Jack Warren Burnam (b. 1946). Copyright © 1986 Jack Warren Burnam.

*Celebrant:* The Body of Christ given for the life of the world.

## 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. ‘*

## WE ARE SENT AND GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD

*Following Communion, the congregation stands to say the final prayer:*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,**  
You have graciously accepted us as living members  
Of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
And you have fed us with spiritual food  
In the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
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 Lord. Amen

BLESSING

Words: Albert F. Bayly (1901-1984), alt. Copyright © 1961, Albert Bayly. Used by permission of Oxford University Press.  
Music: *Blaenafren*, Welsh melody.

*Children are invited to process out with the liturgical party and say the dismissal.*

DISMISSAL

## PARTICIPANTS

**10:15:** *The Reverend Mary Lindquist*, preacher and celebrant; *The Reverend Lars Hunter*, Deacon; *Ricky Davidson*, lay assistant; *Elizabeth Fisher* and *David Treadwell*, readers and element bearers; *Carol Hesselbach*, intercessor; *Brian Morgan* and *William Stearns*, ushers; *Alex O’Pray* and *Miranda Smith*, chalices; *Anne Black*, healing minister; *Judy Walker, Carol Hesselbach*, and *Lindsey Boss*, Altar Guild; *The Youth Group*, 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.**

- **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.
- **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.
- **CARE IS AVAILABLE** for children during the service. Please ask the ushers for directions.

### ST. MICHAEL'S WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Morning Prayer, 8-8:30 am, Monday-Friday, on Zoom and in-person Tues-Thursday in the Chapel  
 Breakfast with the Psalms, 8:30 – 10 am, 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 *Emma Allen* and *Susan Marshall*, today; *Susan Wilson*, Monday; *Alan McBean* and *Jayne Fritz*, Wednesday; *Craig Irvine*, Thursday; *Cliff Wood*, Friday.



### UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. MICHAEL’S

- **Today, Coffee Hour:** Waffle Bar Youth Group Fundraiser
- **February 12, 7:30 PM:** Compline Service
- **February 15, Coffee Hour:** Mardi Gras Mask Making
- **February 17, 5-6:30 PM:** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- **February 18, Noon and 5:30:** Ash Wednesday Services
- **February 22 and beyond:** March Madness with the Mystics & Adult Forum Lenten Series

- **February 28, 9-3:** St. Michael's Annual Women's Retreat

## **ADULT FORUM** Weekly from 9-10 AM in the Meeting Room. .

- **February 8: Restorative Reentry: Neighbors returning to our community from incarceration face innumerable challenges rebuilding their lives.** Come learn about the restorative circle practices that help break the isolation and negative patterns that impede a successful reentry. We'll talk about Circles of Support and Accountability (COSAs) in which community members circle around formerly incarcerated individuals during the first year of their reentry, and the Peer COSA, through which graduates of the COSA program continue to support each other through circle practice and building beloved community. Led by Marie-Pierre Py of Interaction's Restorative Justice Programs along with formerly incarcerated graduates of the COSA program. For those interested in learning more, the compelling documentary [Coming Home](#) is available for free viewing; see eNews for link & password.
- **February 15: Elders Ministry: Managing Crises of Aging** In this Forum, we will explore Gate 3 in the Map for Navigating the Journey to the End - The Crises. After a brief introduction on what characterizes this gate, we will explore our own experiences or our witnessing of others in crisis. In small and large groups, we will discuss what was most challenging and what was most helpful in getting us through Gate 3. We will end by summarizing some of the experts' recommendations for managing some typical crises of aging.

## **WAFFLE BAR: A YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISER, TODAY**

This morning, the coffee hour will be a made-to-order waffle bar hosted by the St. Michael's Youth Group. This coffee hour will be a fundraiser, with all proceeds supporting the Windham County Humane Society. Your cash donations will help the Youth Group tend to God's creation with the help of the Humane Society!

## **NEXT COMPLINE SERVICE: THIS THURSDAY AT 7:30 PM**

Our first Compline service, led by music director Keane Southard and the choir, was a meaningful and moving way to bring the day to a close. In these challenging days, who doesn't need a moment of peace and sacred presence? Around 30 people from St. Michael's and the wider community were there to experience the quiet, candlelight, and beautiful music of this old, old service in January. Compline is scheduled for the second Thursday of each month through the late Spring, so plan to come to the next one on **February 12!** You'll be glad you did.

## **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER: FEB 17, 5-6:30 PM**

St. Michael's has enjoyed many Shrove Tuesday Pancake Suppers in the past. Who doesn't love breakfast for dinner, Mardi Gras beads and masks and time to get to know one another? Please come: **February 17** beginning at 5 PM. If you are willing to help, please sign up in the Common Room or let Susie know at the church office, [parishadmin@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:parishadmin@stmichaelsvermont.org) Thanks!

## **ASH WEDNESDAY OBSERVANCES: FEBRUARY 18:**

### **SERVICES AT 12 NOON AND 5:30 PM**

Ash Wednesday, a reminder of human mortality and the need for reconciliation with God, marks the beginning of the penitential Lenten season and is commonly observed with ashes and fasting. The forty-day season of Lent represents Christ's time of temptation in the wilderness. The Ash Wednesday liturgy includes the imposition of ashes and Holy Eucharist, and its penitential tone invites worshipers to enter this significant season in church life in a spirit of reflection graced by awareness of God's tender, forgiving spirit. All are welcome at the Noon and 5:30 services.

## **THE SEASON OF LENT AT ST. MICHAEL'S**

**March Madness with the Mystics:** Feb. 22 at Noon, then every Weds. in March (4:30-6PM). Laura Frey, Karin Bleeker, and Mary Lindquist will guide us in listening intently to God's call

through the mystics' spiritual practices and examples. Based on the book *Tending the Garden: a History of Christian Mysticism*.

**For Such a Time as This:** Adult Forums in Lent beginning **Feb 22**. Craig Hammond will lead us to consider these questions: *In such a time as this', how have we been here before, how have we never been here before?"* Based on the book *For Such a Time as This: An Emergency Devotional*.

More information about these series & how to access the books can be found in the most recent Guardian, or contact the group leaders listed above.

## **ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS**

Watch your email or mail box for your 2025 statements, sent out on Thursday. Ask Susie or Gwen Mousin if you have difficulty finding them!

**KUDOS FOR THE AGING GROUPS / ELDERS MINISTRY!** Windham Aging is excited to announce the first annual *Elizabeth Rowell Thompson Leadership Awards in Healthy Aging*, recognizing **outstanding leaders** who have made a meaningful contribution supporting older adults in Windham County. The awards were presented by Susan Monahan, a Thompson Trust trustee and David Neumeister, co-founder of the Windham Aging Collaborative. Both **Jeff Lewis and Evangelina Holvino** were recognized at our conference held Friday, January 30th at the Retreat Barn.

Congratulations to both of them and to St Michael's for opening a platform for discovery and awareness of aging with wisdom and grace. **Congratulations Jeff and Vangie!**