



# ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

**FEBRUARY 22, 2026**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**

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

PRELUDE

“Womb of Darkness”

*Keane Southard*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept. Please remain standing for the procession.*

SILENT PROCESSION

Blessed be the God of our salvation:

**Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

*The Celebrant reads a short verse of scripture.*

LENTEN CHANT

*Attende Domine*



At-ten-de, Do-mi-ne, et mi - se - re - re, qui - a pec - ca - vi - mus Ti - bi.

**We confess to you and to one another,  
and to the whole communion of saints  
in heaven and on earth,  
that we have sinned by our own fault  
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, and mind, and strength. We have not  
loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.**

*Celebrant:* Have mercy on us, Lord.

**We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to  
the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.**

*Celebrant:* Have mercy on us, Lord.

**We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,**

*Celebrant:* We confess to you, Lord.

**Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,**

*Celebrant:* We confess to you, Lord.

**Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of others' good fortunes,**

*Celebrant:* We confess to you, Lord.

**Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,**

*Celebrant:* We confess to you, Lord.

**Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,**

*Celebrant:* We confess to you, Lord.

**Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,**

*Celebrant:* Accept our repentance, Lord.

**For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,**

*Celebrant:* Accept our repentance, Lord.

**For our waste, over-consumption and exploitation of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,**

*Celebrant:* Accept our repentance, Lord.

**Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,**

*Celebrant:* That we may show forth your glory in the world.

**By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,**

*Celebrant:* Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

ABSOLUTION

May the God of all mercy forgive you, draw you forth into life and peace, make real the hope that we, and all creation be released from bondage and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

*Softly and Tenderly*

LEVAS 101

*Every Sunday of Lent, we will sing two verses, which can be found in the service insert.*

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling  
Calling for you and for me  
See on the portals, He's waiting and watching  
Watching for you and for me

Refrain

***Come home, come home  
Ye who are weary, come home  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling  
Calling, oh, sinner, come home***

2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,  
mercies for you and for me? [Refrain]

COLLECT OF DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **WE PROCLAIM AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

THE FIRST READING

*Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7*

*Following the lesson...*

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

PSALM 32



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*  
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, \*  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*  
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \*  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*  
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." \*  
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place;  
you preserve me from trouble; \*  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \*  
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \*  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,  
or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; \*  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

THE SECOND READING

*Romans 5: 12-19*

*Following the lesson...*

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

## Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL HYMN

*The Hymnal, 150*

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;  
2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,  
3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!  
4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;  
5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;

1 for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.  
2 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?  
3 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!  
4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.  
5 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Words: George Hunt Smyttan (1822-1870), alt. Music: *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, melody att. Martin Herbst (1654-1681), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

*Preceding the Gospel...*

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

THE GOSPEL

*Matthew 4: 1-11*

*Following the Gospel...*

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

THE SERMON

*The Reverend Mary Lindquist*

*Silence is kept following the sermon.*

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 prayers, for those who rejoice in life events and for those who have died.*

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

**WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION TOGETHER**

THE ANTHEM

“Lead Me, Lord”

*S.S. Wesley*

*All stand to sing*

THE OFFERING HYMN

*LEVAS, 188*

1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my  
 2. Though sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should  
 3. My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous  
 4. And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be

1. way, When sor - rows like sea - bil - lows roll;  
 2. come, Let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol;  
 3. thought— My sin— not in part, but the whole—  
 4. sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,

1. What - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to  
 2. That Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -  
 3. Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no  
 4. The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de -

1. say, It is well, it is well with my soul.  
 2. tate, And has shed His own blood for my soul.  
 3. more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
 4. scend, "E - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul,  
 It is well with my

— It is well, it is well with my soul.  
 soul,

## THE 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.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The people remain standing. The Presider says*

The Lord be with you.

**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 our thanks and praise.**

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

*(8am)* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of  
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -  
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth -  
- in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

*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.*

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

### BREAD IS BROKEN

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -  
 way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. O Lamb of God, that  
 ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have  
 mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of  
 God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the  
 world, grant us thy peace.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

*The Celebrant says the following invitation:*

*Celebrant:* Behold the Lamb of God; behold the One who takes away the sins of the world.

*People:* **Happy are they called to the supper of the lamb.**

## **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. If you wish to come to the Altar for a blessing only, please fold your arms over your chest.*

### ***Invitation to Receive Healing Prayer***

*8 am prayers for healing are following the service and at 10:15 prayers are available after you receive Communion in the Chapel. 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; all prayers are confidential. Please ask ushers for assistance if you have questions.*

## **POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER**

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
in these holy mysteries,  
with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of our Savior Jesus Christ;  
incorporate in the mystical body of Christ,  
and are heirs, through hope, of your everlasting kingdom.  
Assist us with your grace,  
that we may continue in that holy fellowship,  
and do all such good works  
as you have prepared for us to walk in;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the  
Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory,  
world without end. Amen.**

## **WE ARE SENT AND GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD**

## **LENTEN PRAYER**

HYMN

*The Hymnal, 448 (vs. 1-3, 6)*



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing  
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his  
 4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in  
 5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he  
 6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so

1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
 2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions  
 3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and  
 4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful  
 5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his  
 6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom

1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.  
 2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.  
 3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.  
 4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.  
 5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.  
 6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.; harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949).

DISMISSAL

*People:* Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

“How Fair and How Pleasant Thou Art”

*Marcel Dupre*

PARTICIPANTS

*10: 15 The Rev. Mary Lindquist*, preacher; *The Rev. adwoa Wilson*, celebrant; *The Rev. Lars Hunter*, Deacon; *Craig Irvine*, lay assistant; *Candice Taylor-Diallo* and *Paul Gallagher*, readers and element bearers; *Dyana Lee*, intercessor; *Annamarie Pluhar* and *Annie Landenberger*, chalicers; *Ricky Davidson*, *Ron Autenrieth* and *Kachina Autenrieth-Lee*, ushers; *Megan Buchanan*, healing minister; *Rosie Wojcik*, coffee hour host; *Rebecca Olmstead*, Altar Guild.



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, Mon-Fri, on Zoom and in-person Tues-Thurs in the Chapel  
 Breakfast with The Bible, 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 *Theron Southard*, today; *Judy Davidson*, Monday; *Charlene Kemp*, Thursday; *Leigh Marthe*, Saturday; *Asa Taggart*, Leap Day!



### UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. MICHAEL'S

- **Today 12-2:** March Madness with the Mystics begins: Discussion and light lunch.
- **February 28, 9-3:** St. Michael's Annual Women's Retreat
- **March 4, 11, 18, 25, 4:30-6:** March Madness with the Mystics continues.
- **March 15, NOON:** First Annual 1853 Circle Luncheon

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

- **February 22 AND March 1: For Such A Time As This:** This Lent as we reflect upon the life and Passion of Jesus Christ, we will explore through prayer, interactive conversation, and shared reflection the new reality of an emerging world order that literally threatens the very ground we walk on, and how we as people of faith can respond boldly, humanely, faithfully and with love in our daily lives. Craig Hammond will lead these first two forums, both exploring the world of feelings; what we mean by them, how in these times we are often overwhelmed by the flood of disinformation and dishonesty around us, and where we find strength in our faith.

### MARCH MADNESS WITH THE MYSTICS: HOW CAN WE LISTEN MORE INTENTLY TO GOD'S CALL?

**Today** we begin a Lenten study of the history of Christian mysticism using Jennifer Hornyak Wojciechowski's book, *Tending the Garden, a History of Christian Mysticism*, as our guide. Feel free to attend today's first class, even if you don't have the book yet. We will meet from 12-2pm in the Choir Room with a simple lunch. Following this introduction, we will SKIP a week and begin meeting every WEDNESDAY from 4:30–6:00 pm in MARCH, thus the title, March Madness with the Mystics!

Our Wednesday gatherings will be in the Chapel. This book study is led by Laura Frey, Karin Bleeker and Mary Lindquist.

### **BIBLE STUDY: WEDNESDAYS THROUGHOUT LENT**

Our Coop Bible Study will pivot next week to a Lenten study of the Sermon on the Mount. From Ash Wednesday through Easter Week we will meet **every Wednesday morning**, from 8:30 to 10:00. All are welcome. In addition to the Sermon on the Mount - found in Matthew 5-7 - we will be drawing on the reflections in the Lenten devotional created by the Communities for Spiritual Vitality. Digital copies can be accessed for free at the link in the eNews.

### **PETER SMITHS' FUNERAL SERVICE INFORMATION**

As many of you know, Peter Smith, beloved husband of the Reverend Jean Smith, died last Friday. You may read Peter's obituary via the link in this week's eNews. There will be a funeral for Peter at St. James' Episcopal Church in West Hartford, CT, on Saturday, March 7 at 11am. Peter's ashes will be interred in St. Michael's Memorial Garden sometime this Spring. Condolence cards may be sent to Jean Smith, 400 Seabury Drive, Apt. 2133, Bloomfield, CT, 06002.

### **THANK YOU, SUPPORTERS OF ST. MICHAEL'S!**

Thank you to all who pledged to St. Michael's for 2026! We received 145 pledges for a total of \$318,144. In addition, 58% of you increased your pledge. We are so grateful for your generosity and we recognize and honor all the ways you participate and give yourselves to our many ministries. These gifts of time, attention, love and treasure, with the grace of God, allow us to be the Body of Christ called St. Michael's. A listing of those who gave is in this week's eNews.

### **LENTEN FOOD & CLOTHING DRIVE**

As we move through this Lenten season, we will practice offering alms to all in need in our community. To that end, we are asking you to bring food and clothing during the six Sundays of Lent which will be distributed to our neighbors.

- Lent I (February 22) Dried, canned beans, rice, oats
- Lent II (March 1) Canned meat - Tuna, Chicken, etc.
- Lent III (March 8) Pasta, sauces, pre-made meals
- Lent IV (March 15) cereal PB and Jelly,
- Lent V (March 22) Tylenol, cold meds, women's sanitary products, toothpaste and brushes,
- Palm Sunday (March 29) diapers and wipes, socks

### **EXPLORE PLANNED GIVING: MARCH 15 AT NOON**

#### **First Annual St. Michael's 1853 Circle Luncheon**

*Imagine giving a gift to St. Michael's that lasts not for a day, or a season, or a year, but for hundreds of years.* St. Michael's has established the 1853 Circle to recognize and celebrate those who remember St. Michael's in their estate plan or will. The name 1853 Circle honors the legacy of those who founded St. Michael's in 1853 and the worshippers across generations who have faithfully sustained the church and its ministries. 1853 Circle members help ensure that, through God's grace and their generosity, St. Michael's will continue to do God's work for generations to come.

St. Michael's is hosting our first annual 1853 Circle reception for all who want to learn about estate planning, wills and making a planned charitable gift to St. Michael's. We'll gather in the choir room at noon. Please join this festive parish gathering for fellowship, helpful information about legacy charitable gifts and delicious food. We look forward to seeing you. (If you have already named St. Michael's in

your will or estate plan, please come to the reception and let a Committee member know, so we can welcome you as a charter member of the 1853 Circle!)

*St. Michael's Planned Giving Committee: Chris Chapman, John Lent, Mary Lindquist, Margery McCrum, Alex O'Pray*