

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – OCTOBER 9, 2022

READINGS: 2 KINGS 5:1-15A, 19; PSALM 111:1-4, 7-8; 2 TIMOTHY 2:8-15; LUKE 17:11-19

Organ: Now We Pray to the Holy Spirit. (BuxWV 208) - Dietrich Buxtehude

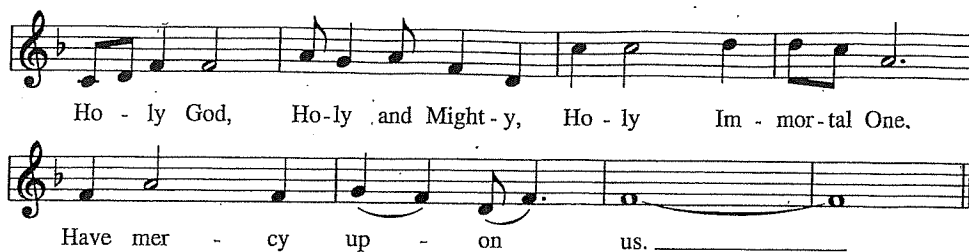
Hymn 390, Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation

THE WORD OF GOD

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Trisagion. The cantor sings once through, then all sing twice.



The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, your Son Jesus Christ healed the sick and restored them to fullness of life. Look with compassion on the suffering throughout the world, and by your power make whole all peoples and nations; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Second Book of Kings

Our first reading is the story of the cure of Naaman from his leprosy. Naaman, commander of the army of Syria, first refuses to trust what Elisha tells him to do, but then he is healed and accepts the power of God to save.

Naaman, commander of the king of Aram's army, was a great man and highly esteemed by his master. He was a mighty warrior, but he suffered from leprosy. Now Naaman's wife was served by a young girl from Israel, who had been taken captive by the Arameans, and who knew of the healing power of Elisha the prophet. The girl said to her mistress, "If only my master could meet the prophet who lives in Samaria, he would cure him of the leprosy." Hearing this from his wife, Naaman went and asked the king for leave to visit Israel. The king granted his request and sent him off with this message: 'King of Israel, I have sent to you my servant Naaman, and I beg you to cure him of his leprosy.'

So Naaman set off, taking with him horses, chariots filled with gold and silver, and ten changes of clothing. The king of Israel read the letter and was suspicious that this was a trap. 'My enemy sends this fellow to me to be cured of his disease? They are trying to pick a quarrel with me.' But when Elisha heard of Naaman and the request to heal him, he said, "Let the man come to me, and he will soon know that there is truly a prophet in Israel."

Naaman, with his horses, and chariots filled with gold and silver, and ten changes of clothing, arrived at Elisha's house; but the prophet didn't come out. He sent a note to Naaman, which read, 'If you go and wash seven times in the River Jordan, your flesh will be restored and you will be clean.'

Naaman was furious and sputtered, "He could have at least come out, invoked his God by name, waved his hand, and cured me right away. And I could have stayed home and washed myself in the Damascus River, if that's all it takes." He stormed off in a rage. One of his servants confronted him. "If Elisha had told you to do something difficult, would you have said no? If you wash, you will be clean. Why not try what he tells you to do?"

Reluctantly, Naaman went and washed in the Jordan seven times, as he had been told. His flesh was restored like a little child's, and he was clean. He went back to Elisha, the man of God, and confessed, "Now I know that there is no god anywhere in the world except in Israel. In thanks and gratitude, I want to pay you for healing me". Elisha replied, "The Lord lives, and because I serve God, I need no payment. Return to your country, and go in peace."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 111 is an outpouring of praise for the majesty and graciousness of the Lord. The cantor sings the refrain, and then all sing as indicated.



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Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the Lord! They are studied by all who delight in them. **R.**

His work is full of majesty and splendor, and his righteousness endures for ever.

He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and full of compassion. **R.**

The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity. **R.**

A Reading from the Second Letter to Timothy

In this reading, Paul bids Timothy to be a faithful worker, reminding himself and others of Jesus' resurrection and the new life that is to be known with him.

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David-- that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful-- for he cannot deny himself. Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Through north and south and east and west, may God's immortal name be blessed: Alleluia, alleluia!

Till ev'rywhere beneath the sun, God's reign begins, God's will is done; Alleluia! (5x)

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

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him.

And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

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

Sermon -- The Rev. Michael L. Bradley, rector

The Iona Affirmation of Faith

What do we believe?

We believe in God: Whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives,
whose love was made human in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by evil that can entrap us.

Therefore, though we sometimes are fearful and doubting, we trust in God,
and in the Name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves:

To serve others, to seek justice, and to live in peace;

To care for the earth, and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness;

To live in the freedom of forgiveness, in the power of Love's spirit,

and in the company of the faithful, to be the Church, for the glory of God. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Merciful God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; **Let us all be one.**

Grant that all members of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; **Let your Name be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; **Let them be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and lead the nations of the world; **Let there be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; **Let our works find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; **Let them be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest; **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; **Let us also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The people add their own petitions and thanksgivings.

We pray also for the forgiveness of our sins. *Silence is kept, then all pray together:*

Have mercy upon us; **Most merciful God; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

O God of compassion, through the witness of a maidservant and the ministry of Elijah you healed Naaman.

Through the power given to Jesus you healed the lepers. Heal us who pray to you today for the forgiveness of our sins. Heal those whom we have prayed for, so that all may follow Christ with joy, giving thanks with all our being. This we pray. **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

Anthem: The Journey of Faith - Joseph Martin

We walk by faith. We live by hope. With every step we take, we trust in God alone. We hold to Christ. He leads us on. He is our Shepherd, ever faithful, ever strong. His heart will find us; His grace will lead us home. Across the mountains high or through the valleys deep. He leads us onward. His love is all we need. Till we reach the promised land, we will trust His guided hand. We'll live in hope and walk by faith. The road is rising up before us. We all are part of God's glorious plan. His grace has given us a future. Now we are bound for the promised land. And though the road ahead is long and winding, the cross goes on before us as our guide. We know the journey is not over, for there are mountains left to climb. For there are mountains left to climb.

We walk by faith. We live in hope. With every step we take, we trust in God alone. We hold to Christ. He leads us on. He leads us onward. His love is all we need! Till we reach the promised land, we will trust His guiding hand. We live in hope, etc

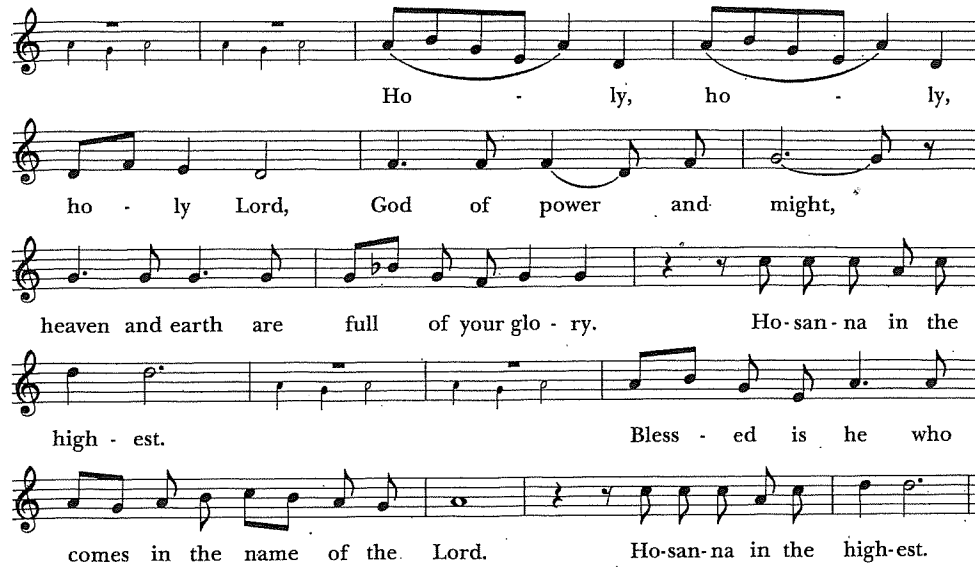
Hymn 304, I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you have given us Jesus Christ, your Son, as our Lord and Redeemer. He always showed compassion for children and for the poor, for the sick and for sinners, for the oppressed and the afflicted. By word and deed he announced to the world that you are our Father and that you care for all your sons and daughters. Therefore we join with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven in singing this hymn to your unending hymn of praise:



Setting: William Mathias (b. 1934)

The celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration, Memorial Acclamation, and Great Amen.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**
The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

After all have received Communion, please stand and pray together:

Faithful God; In baptism and eucharist we are made one with you. May we who have shared in holy things be strengthened to heal and make whole all those around us; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

May God bless us and keep us; May God smile on us with favor and grace;
May God look upon us, face to face, and give us fullness of life. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 561, Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

Organ: Allegro - Janet Linker

Our Mission: We share the light of Christ by loving and serving our neighbors in the world.
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