

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH – NOVEMBER 20, 2022

THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT - THE REIGN OF CHRIST

*FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF ROBERT E. MILLER
AND IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE FRIENDS ON THE JOURNEY*

READINGS: JEREMIAH 23:1-6; PSALM 46; COLOSSIANS 1:11-20; LUKE 23:33-43

Organ: Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me - Joseph-Henri Altès

Hymn 494, verses 1, 3 and 5; Crown Him With Many Crowns

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.**

Alleluia! The kingdom of our God; **Has become the kingdom of his Christ. Alleluia!**
Let us praise the Lord. **The Lord's Name be praised.**

Glory to God in the Highest; music, Hymnal S-280

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

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

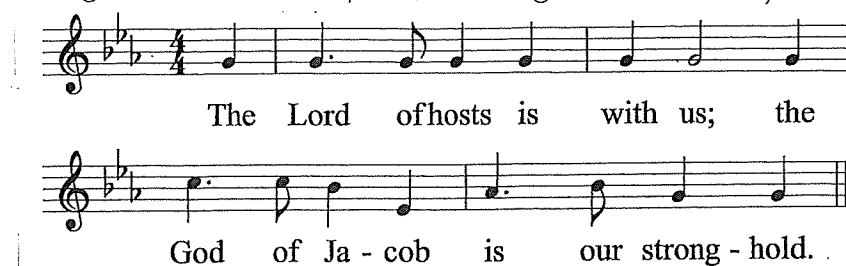
Almighty and everlasting God, your will is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of Lords. Grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gentle and loving rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

In our opening lesson the Lord denounces the rulers who have so poorly shepherded the people Israel. God will gather the flock together and give them new shepherds, especially a just ruler in the line of David.

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Psalm 46. The cantor sings the refrain; all repeat, and sing as indicated by R.



God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea; Though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult. **R.** There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; God shall help her at the break of day. The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away. **R.** The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, what awesome things he has done on earth. It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire. "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth." **R.**

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Colossians

In this reading, Paul prays that the Colossians may be strengthened to meet whatever is to come and he praises the Son as the visible likeness of the invisible God, through whom all things were created.

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

all stand

Ye watchers and ye holy ones, bright seraphs, cherubim and thrones, raise the glad strain, Alleluia!
Cry out, dominions, principedoms, powers, virtues, archangels, angels' choirs. Alleluia! (5x)

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

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

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

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

What do we believe?

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

Prayers of the People

Prayer will be offered for our church, our nation, our world; for all in need or want, and for those who have died. The people will be asked to add their own petitions and thanksgivings; the petitions are gathered together with:
Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

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.

The celebrant concludes with a collect, to which all respond: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Solo: Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Make a joyful noise, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness, and come before God's presence with a song! Know that the Lord is God, our Creator, to whom we belong; we are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture. Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, enter God's gates with thanksgiving, enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and into the courts with praise! Give thanks to God, and bless God's name! For the Lord is good, whose steadfast love is everlasting, endures from age to age, the Lord is good from age to age, from age to age. Make a joyful noise, etc. – Robert Hobby

All stand and sing:

Lord Christ, when first you came to earth, upon a cross they bound you,
and mocked your saving kingship's worth by thorns with which they crowned you:
And still our wrongs may fashion now new thorns to pierce that steady brow, and robe of sorrow round you.

O awesome Love, which found no room in life where sin denied you,
and, doomed to death, must bring to doom the powers which crucified you,
Till not a stone was left on stone, and all an empire's pride, o'er thrown, went down to dust beside you!

New advent of the love of Christ, shall we again refuse you,
till in the night of hate and war we perish as we lose you.
From old unfaith our souls release to seek the kingdom of your peace, by which alone we choose you.

O wounded hands of Jesus, build in us your new creation!
Our pride is dust, our vaunt is stilled, we wait your revelation:
O Love that triumphs over loss, we bring our hearts before your cross, to finish your salvation.

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.

Blessed are you, Lord God, for you have looked favorably . . . we sing the hymn of your unending praise:



Setting: Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

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.

Music During Communion:

Taste and see, taste and see, the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see, taste and see, the goodness of the Lord.

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

Almighty God; You have made us a royal priesthood in the kingdom of your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ. Make
know his victory through us, we pray, that all the world may see his light. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ
the Lord. Amen.

May our Lord Jesus Christ, whose second coming in power and great glory we await,
make us steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love; and the blessing, etc: **Amen.**

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

Hymn 290, Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Organ: Majesty - Setting by Mark Hayes

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

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