

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS – 29 SEPTEMBER 2024

WELCOME! THE SERVICE ORDER OUTLINES OUR WORSHIP. HYMNS CAN BE FOUND IN THE BLUE HYMNAL.
FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF CATE WINDELBORN BY DR. JOSEPH D. DANIEL-HOSTE
READINGS: GENESIS 28:10-17; PSALM 103:19-22; REVELATION 12:7-12; JOHN 1:47-51

WE THANKS NOAH ZOGAS, VIOLINIST, FOR HIS MUSIC THIS MORNING.

OUR READERS: KATHIE GROSCHNER AND FRAN TWIDDY

The people stand at the entrance of the celebrant.

THE WORD OF GOD

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

Alleluia. Praise the Lord, all Angels and Archangels. **Praise God in the firmament of heaven. Alleluia.**

Blessed Michael, archangel, leader of righteous and faithful angels: Defend us in our times of conflict and tribulation. O Prince of the heavenly host, cast down all forces of evil that oppose God's loving power. Preserve our souls and be our safeguard against the snares of the devil, so that at the last day your holy angels may bring us safely to our eternal rest; through Jesus Christ, King and Shepherd of souls we pray. **Amen.**

V. Let us go forth in peace. R. **In the Name of Christ. Amen.**

Hymn 618, Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones, Bright Angels, Cherubim and Thrones

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

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals: Grant that as your holy angels stand before you in heaven, so at your command they may help and defend us here on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Jacob dreams of a heavenly ladder with angels travelling between heaven and earth. God appears and reminds him of the promises made to Abraham and his descendants.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103 praises the power of God working through the ministry of angels. The cantor sings the refrain, all repeat, and sing as indicated.



The Lord is full of com-pas-sion and mer-cy, __ slow to an-ger and of great kind-ness.

The Lord has set his throne in heaven, and his kingship has dominion over all. Bless the Lord, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding, and hearken to the voice of his word. **R.** Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, you ministers of his who do his will. Bless the Lord, all you works of his, in all places of his dominion; bless the Lord, O my soul. **R.**

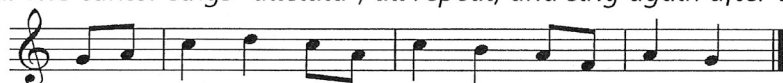
A Reading from the Book of Revelation

This reading is a metaphor for a renewed heaven in which evil, embodied as a dragon, can no longer abide. The story is a source for the existential concept of the devil as a fallen angel.

War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, 'Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony for they did not cling to life even in the face of death. Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!'

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

All stand. The cantor sings "alleluia"; all repeat, and sing again after the verse.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

V. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him, all you angels. **R. Alleluia (3x)**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

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

Hymn (insert): How Shall I Sing That Majesty Which Angels Do Admire?

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

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. *(continued)*

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

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to God, the maker of all things, seen and unseen.

Eternal light in heaven, by his blood your Christ has ransomed us to you, and has made us a kingdom of priests to serve you. As the angels minister to you in heaven, strengthen your Church to serve you here on earth.

Lord, hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

Eternal light in heaven, when the angels greeted the birth of your Son they sang for joy 'Glory to God and peace on earth'. Bless with Christ's peace the nations of the world. **R.**

Eternal light in heaven, your Son has promised to your children the care of the guardian angels who look upon your face. Protect, by your mercy, our neighbors, families and friends. **R.**

Eternal light in heaven, you give your angels charge over those who trust in you to guard them in all their ways.
Be with those in trouble; rescue them, and show them your salvation. **R.**

Eternal light in heaven, your angel declares 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord,' says the Spirit,
'For they rest from their labors.' Enfold in your love all who come in faith to your judgement seat in heaven. **R.**

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

Prayers are offered for those on the parish prayer list, for special concerns and for thanksgivings.

The people add their own petitions and thanksgivings.

God of heaven and earth, your Son has promised to all your children the care of the guardian angels who look upon your face. Protect by your mercy our neighbors, families and friends; and send your angels to be with all whom we have prayed for this day. This we ask through the mercy and compassion of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

HOLY COMMUNION

All are invited to receive Communion. The bread is placed in the palm of your right hand. You may dip the bread in the wine or sip the wine from the chalice. Instead of Communion and to receive a blessing, kindly keep your hands folded.

Anthem: *Creator of Beauty and Giver of Light* – text, Beverly Easterling; music - Mark Schweizer 1956-2019

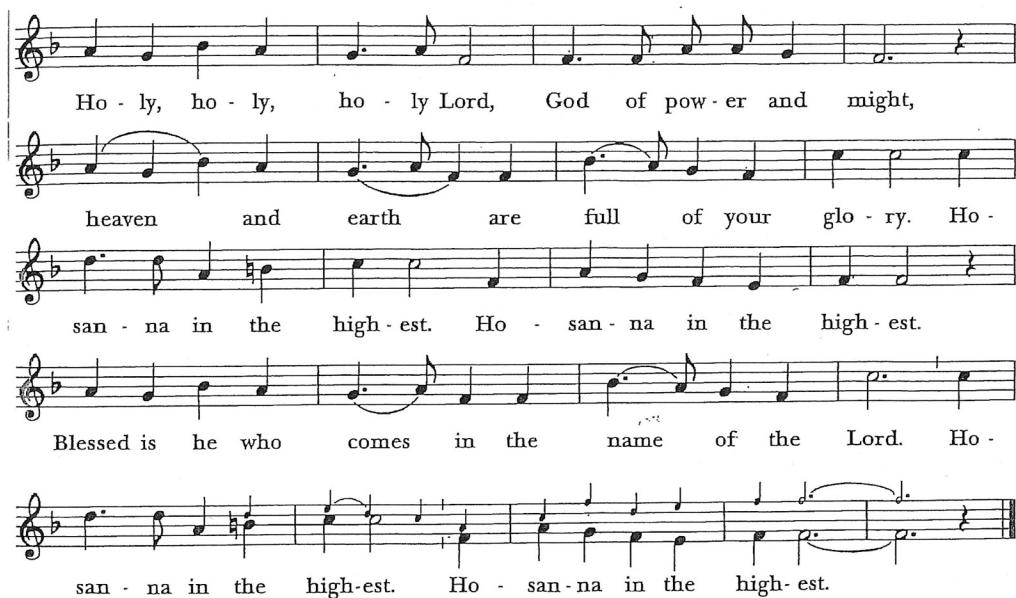
Creator of beauty and giver of light, who set the stars shining in dark sacred night; we offer our music with hearts full of praise, with joyful thanksgiving for all of our days. In pastures of heaven, where green valleys sing, and high mountains echo, each prayer to our King; may this song, a gift forever be found, now offered with grace, and eternity bound. The journey of each soul remains in your care, your guidance and faithfulness, always you share; your spirit, within us, each strength that you send, returned to your glory, a world without end.

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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

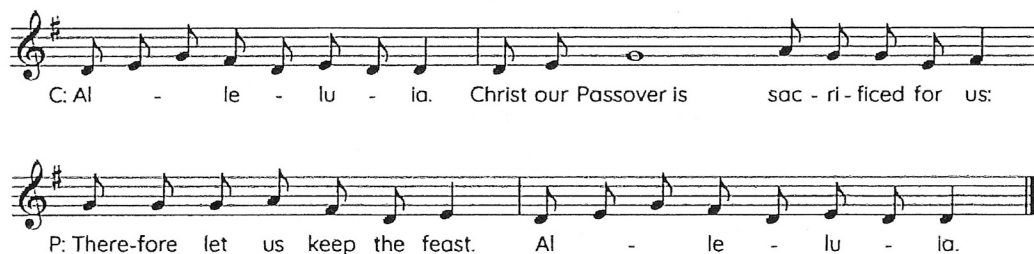
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks . . . we acclaim you, and glorify your Name as we sing:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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



C: Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Passover is sac - ri - ficed for us:
P: There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Communion Hymn 282, vs. 1, 2, 5, 6: Christ, The Fair Glory, Of The Holy Angels

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

Lord of heaven; In this eucharist you have brought us near to a multitude of angels and to the spirits of the saints made perfect. Grant that, as we have shared in this food of our earthly pilgrimage, so may we come to share their joy in heaven. Now send out to do your work on earth, that we may be ministers of grace to all your people. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God keep you in the fellowship of his saints; Christ protect you by the ministry of the angels; the Spirit make you holy in God's service; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Hymn 625, Ye Holy Angels Bright, Who Wait At God's Right Hand

Organ: Finale from Symphony No. 4 – Charles Marie Widor - 1844-1937

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

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