

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY
WELCOME! THE SERVICE ORDER OUTLINES OUR WORSHIP. HYMNS CAN BE FOUND IN THE BLUE HYMNAL.

READINGS: Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 147:13-21; Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7; John 1:1-18

OUR READERS: JIM ZINK AND JEANNE POLESKI

Organ: Prelude on "Forest Green" – Dale Wood 1934-2003

Hymn 99, Go Tell It On The Mountain, Over The Hills And Everywhere

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. Unto us a child is born. O Come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

**Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.**

Gloria in excelsis Deo. (2x)

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear? R.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. R.**

**See him in a manger laid, whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. R.**

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

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

A Reading From The Prophet Isaiah

In the Hebrew Bible reading, the prophet joyfully responds to the Lord's promises for a redeemed Jerusalem.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

*Psalm 147 is a hymn of praise to the Lord, who rules over nature.
The cantor sings the refrain; all repeat, and sing as indicated by R.*



The Word was made flesh and dwelt a - mong us.

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion; For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; he has blessed your children within you. He has established peace on your borders; he satisfies you with the finest wheat. He sends out his command to the earth, and his word runs very swiftly. **R.** He gives snow like wool; he scatters hoarfrost like ashes. He scatters his hail like breadcrumbs; who can stand against his cold? He sends forth his word and melts them; he blows with his wind, and the waters flow. He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and his judgments to Israel. He has not done so to any other nation; to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah! **R.**

A Reading From Paul's Letter To The Galatians

In this epistle lesson, Paul explains what the role of the law has been and how, in our new relationship of faith, we have become heirs of the Father.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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. We have seen his glory; glory that is his as the Father's only Son. **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.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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: *(all bow)* by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. *(all rise)* 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

In peace, we pray to you, gracious God.

For all people in their daily life and work: **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For the people of Lebanon, Israel, Gaza, Syria, Russia, Ukraine, Haiti, Sudan; for this community, the nation, and all the nations of the world: **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation: **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For those in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble: **For those who care for the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. For those on our parish prayer list: Karen, Nina, Raymond, Donald, Lynn, Tom, Lori, Ed, Christopher. *The people may add their petitions.* Hear us, Lord: **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We remember all those in whose memory or thanks the Christmas flowers have been given. In our diocese, we pray for the clergy and people of Church of the Incarnation, Ann Arbor; In the Anglican Communion: The Episcopal Church of the United States. *The people may add their thanks.*

Thank you, Lord: **For your goodness surrounds us.**

We pray for all who have died. *The people may speak the names of their loved ones departed.*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them: **Who put their trust in you.**

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of Mary, his mother: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

May the peace of Christ be with you this Christmastide. **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.

Hymn 78, O Little Town Of Bethlehem, How Still We See Thee Lie!

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 . . . who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

The Celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration, Memorial Acclamation, Great Amen, and Lord's Prayer.

After the Breaking of the Bread:

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

This setting may be sung full by all, or by the choir, or as a versicle and response.

Setting: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (b. 1933)

God of light; In the birth of your Son we see glimpses of your glory, May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love and always follow in the way of your Son. 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.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you grace and peace, and the blessing, etc.

Let us go forth, rejoicing the birth of our Savior. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 100, Joy To The World! The Lord Is Come: Let Earth Receive Her King

Organ: Festival Postlude on "Antioch" – James Marriott (contemporary)

+

+

+

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

20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

313-884-4820

office@stmichaelsgpw.org

www.stmichaelsgpw.org