

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 17, 2024

READINGS: JEREMIAH 31:31-34; PSALM 51:1-13; HEBREWS 5:5-10; JOHN 12:20-33

We are delighted that you have joined us in worship this morning.
The prayers and spoken responses are printed in this bulletin; hymns can be found in the blue hymnal.

Hymn 471, We Sing The Praise Of Him Who Died, Of Him Who Died Upon The Cross

Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins. God's mercy endures for ever.

As we prepare to worship, let us call to mind our sins against God and our neighbor. (*silence*)

Almighty God; Long-suffering and of great goodness: I confess to you, I confess with my whole heart, my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments, my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking; the hurts I have done to others, and the good I have left undone. O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you; and raise me to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Cantor or Choir *All*
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Cantor or Choir *All*
Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.
Cantor or Choir *All*
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

May God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, and bring you to everlasting life. Amen.

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

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

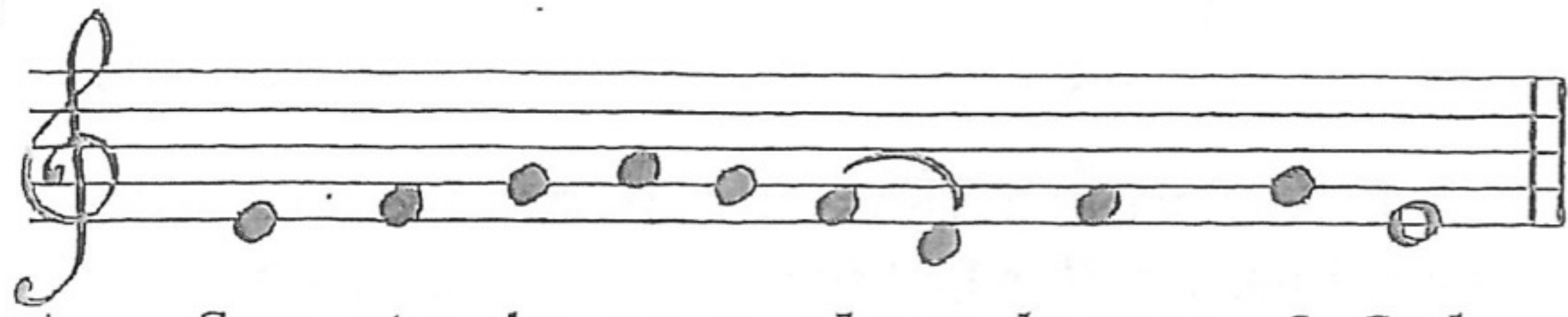
A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

In our opening reading, the prophet Jeremiah foresees a new covenant which God will make with the people, a covenant written not on tablets of stone but on human hearts.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51 is a confession of sin and guilt and a prayer for a clean heart. The cantor sings the refrain; all repeat, and sing as indicated by R.



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; in your great compassion blot out my offenses. Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin. R. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy Spirit from me. R. Give me the joy of your saving help again and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit. I shall teach your ways to the wicked, and sinners shall return to you. R. Deliver me from death, O God, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation. Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. R.

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

In this New Testament lesson, we hear how through his obedience and suffering Christ reached the perfection of his destiny and was designated by God to be the eternal high priest. He is the Son and has now been named high priest forever.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

all stand

Tract, Psalm 129, Tone II: "Greatly have they oppressed me since my youth", let Israel now say: "Greatly have they oppressed me since my youth, but they have not prevailed against me." The plowmen plowed upon my back and made their furrows long. The Lord, the Righteous One, has cut the cords of the wicked.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

Sermon -- The Rev. Michael L. Bradley, rector
What do we believe?

I believe In God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

We pray to the Lord for courage to give up other things and to give ourselves to him this Lent. Give your Church the courage to give up her preoccupation with herself and to give more time to your mission in the world. We pray for . . . May the death of Jesus on the cross bring forgiveness to your people and help us to face the cost of proclaiming salvation. Lord, meet us in the silence; **Give us strength and hear our prayer.**

Give your world the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and to seek peace. We pray for . . . May the shoulders of the risen Jesus, once scourged by soldiers, bear the burden of political and military conflict in our world. Lord, meet us in the silence; **Give us strength and hear our prayer.**

Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousy in our families, neighborhoods and communities. We pray for . . . May the presence of the risen Jesus, his body once broken and now made whole, bring peace and direction as we live with one another. Lord, meet us in the silence; **Give us strength and hear our prayer.**

Give us the courage to give up our selfishness as we live for others, and to give time, care and comfort to the sick. We pray for . . . May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his healing touch, and the light of his presence fill their rooms. Lord, meet us in the silence; **Give us strength and hear our prayer.**

Give us the courage to give up our fear of death and to rejoice with those who have died in faith. We hold these people in our minds . . . May the feet of the risen Lord Jesus, once nailed to the cross, walk alongside the dying and bereaved, and walk with us and all your Church through death to the gate of glory.

Lord, meet us in the silence; **Give us strength and hear our prayer.**

Our parish prayer list: Richard Simonds, Karen Schulze, Georgiana Solomon, Donald Burton, Lynn Kerber, Ed Haug, Jim Veit, Nina, Vicki, Bill, Rosa. For the continuing recovery of Gail McQueen, Lori Pranior.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Christ Church in Pleasant Lake; Church of the Resurrection in Ecorse. Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church in Wales

We pray for Muslims throughout the world who are observing the month of Ramadan; and for Jews who this Saturday begin their celebration of Purim.

God of compassion, you know our faults and yet you promised to forgive. Keep us in your presence and give us your wisdom. Open our hearts to gladness, call dry bones to dance, and restore to us the joy of your salvation. All this we pray this day. **Amen.**

Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. The bread is received in the palm of the right hand; the wine by either sipping from the chalice or dipping the bread in the wine. Kindly let the celebrant know if you would prefer a blessing instead of receiving Communion.

Hymn 335, I Am The Bread Of Life, They Who Come To Me Shall Not Hunger

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 our thanks and praise.
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks . . .
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, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

After the breaking of the bread: May God's peace be with you always. And also with you.
The people briefly greet those around them. Please refrain from shaking hands.

The celebrant says:

Behold, the Lamb of God. Behold Him who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are they who are called to his supper.

And the people respond:

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

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

Most merciful God; By the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you created humanity anew. May the power of his victorious cross transform those who turn in faith to him, that the whole world may praise your holy name. We thank you for these holy mysteries, food for our Lenten journey, and a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Bring us to share in the life that is to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us depart in peace. Thanks be to God.

Hymn 473, Lift High The Cross, The Love of Christ Proclaim

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 www.stmichaelsgpw.org