

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - ASCENSIONTIDE – MAY 12, 2024

Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by Ray & Jan Rhein in memory of Joseph & Dorothy Rhein and Truman & Marjorie Strong; and in celebration of our 60th wedding anniversary

Readers: Stacey Fisher-Lewis and Kathie Groschner

Hymn 483, The Head That Once Was Crowned With Thorns, Is Crowned With Glory Now

THE WORD OF GOD

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! **The Lord is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!**

God has gone up with a shout. Alleluia! **The Lord with the sound of the trumpet. Alleluia!**

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.**

Hymnal S-280: Glory to God in the Highest

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.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

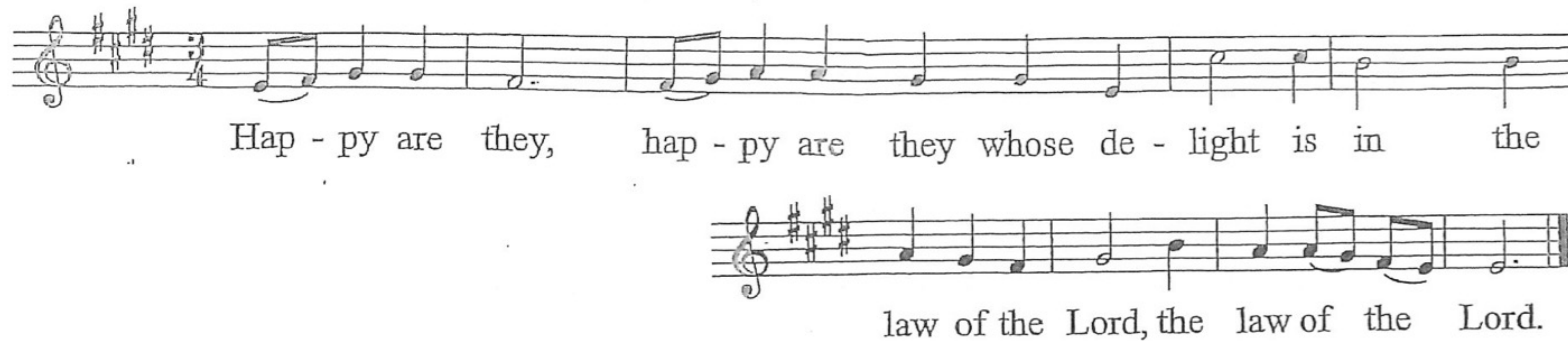
A Reading from the Book of Acts

In this lesson we hear of the selection of Mathias to take Judas's place as one of the twelve apostles. Mathias is chosen, by lot, one of the companions of Jesus who is able to witness to the resurrection.

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus-- for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us-- one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

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

In Psalm 1. The Lord makes fruitful those who choose the way of righteousness. The cantor sings the refrain; all repeat, and sing as indicated by R.



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Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful! Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on his law day and night. R. They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper. It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away. R. Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous. For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is doomed. R.

A Reading from the First Letter of John

In this reading, disciples are urged to believe and have confidence that their prayers are heard and that in the Son they have eternal life.

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

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

all stand – Hymn 178, vs. 1

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his Name.
Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. Alleluia, alleluia, etc.

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

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

Jesus prayed for his disciples, "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

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

Sermon -- The Rev. Michael Bradley, Rector

Our Affirmation of Faith - 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

Let us join our prayers with those of our Savior Christ, seeking the Father's blessing and the gifts of the Spirit.

Jesus Christ, great high priest, living for ever to intercede for us, pray for the Church, your broken body in the world.
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness, enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high, pray for the world,
and make it subject to your gentle rule. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Son of Man, drawing humanity into the life of God, pray for your brothers and sisters in need,
distress or sorrow. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation, surround with your saints and angels those who have died
trusting your promises. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things, ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe,
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us for work in your service. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Prayers are offered on behalf of the world and our nation; the Church and its members; our family, friends and loved ones; for those in need, trouble, want or sickness; and for the departed.

In our Diocese: Trinity Church, St. Clair Shores; Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Burundi

For those on our prayer list: Vicki, Christopher, Nina, Matthew, Bill Steiner, Karen Schulze, Richard Simonds, Jim Veit, Donald Burton, Ed Haug, Lynn Kerber.

The people are invited to offer the names of those they wish to pray for.

Jesus Christ, keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at your feet; for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

May God's peace be with you always. **And also with you.**
The people may greet each other briefly.

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn 494, Crown Him With Many Crowns, The Lamb Upon His Throne

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.

Glorious God, in Moses, the prophets, and the psalms . . . joining with them in their unending hymn of praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord; God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

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

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

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you.
Feed on him in your hearts by faith, and be filled with thanks.

After all have received, please stand.

Eternal God; We thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples. Grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings, we may set our hearts on high where he dwells with you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May God, who has given to his Son the name that is above every name, strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord; and the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you this day and forever. Amen.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Hymn 214: Hail! The Day That Sees Him Rise, Alleluia!

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