

ADVENT



December 3, 2023 • 10 am • First Sunday of Advent

Bishop's Visitation, Baptism, Confirmation & Reception



St. Michael's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Welcome to St. Michael's Episcopal Church!

We are an open, affirming and inclusive parish, worshipping in the Episcopal tradition. No matter where you're from, or what you believe, you are welcome to gather with us, sing with us, pray with us, learn with us, and receive communion with us. We do our best to make our customs accessible to all people, but if anything feels confusing to you, feel free to ask someone for help, or simply sit and observe.

Welcome, Visitors! Tell us about yourself.



If you are visiting today, we invite you to fill out a Visitor's Card, or scan this QR code to fill it out online. We would love to get to know each other! And if you're seeking baptism, confirmation, or simply a community of healing and hope to belong to, we would be delighted to join you on your journey.

Online Giving now available.

If you wish to donate to St. Michael's, either to the church or the Necessity Pantry, simply scan the QR code, or visit www.stmichaelschurch.org/give. While there, you can arrange recurring payments for weekly, monthly, or yearly giving. ***Today's undesignated offerings will go to the Bishop's discretionary fund.***

Note: The church pays a 2.5% transaction fee with the receipt of each online gift. This is standard for digital transactions.



Serving Today: The Rt. Rev. Bishop Diane Jardine Bruce (Bishop); The Ven. Bruce Bower (Archdeacon); The Rev. Ryan Wiksell (Assisting Priest); Susan Rodriguez (Acolyte); Mark Rodriguez (Acolyte & Bishop's Chaplain); Aaron Crossley (Cantor); Rachel Swaney (pianist); Mary Johnson, The Rev. Larry Allen, Kris Wrenn (Lectors); Kris Wrenn, Mindy Swayne (greeters); Genie Kuske, Charlotte Edwards (altar guild).

Ministry of the Word

Prelude / Candle Lighting “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Processional “Lo! He Comes” Hymn #58

Bishop Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Bishop There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God’s call to us;**

Bishop One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God and Father of all.**

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

Bishop Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that
 the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
 so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
 you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,
 who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
 those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
 because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
 and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
 and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
 or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
 and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our
 potter; we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember
 iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

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

Psalm 80:1-7,16-18

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
 shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
 stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
 how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
 you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
 and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
 the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
 give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

New Testament

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Sequence “While We Are Waiting, Come”

Cloninger/Cason



1. While we are wait - ing, come; While we are wait - ing, come.
 2. With pow'r and glo - ry, come; With pow'r and glo - ry, come.
 3. Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come; Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.



Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el, While we are wait - ing, come.

Text: Clair Cloninger; Music: Don Cason
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CCL# 478600

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

Sermon**The Rt. Rev. Diane Jardine Bruce**

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

Bishop The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Presenters *I present Elijah to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.*

Bishop Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Presenters *I will, with God's help.*

Bishop Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Presenters *I will, with God's help.*

Bishop Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Presenters *I renounce them.*

Bishop Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Presenters *I renounce them.*

Bishop Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Presenters *I renounce them.*

Bishop Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Presenters *I do.*

Bishop Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Presenters *I do.*

Bishop Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Presenters *I do.*

Bishop The other Candidates will now be presented.

Presenters *I present these persons for Confirmation*

or I present these persons to be received into this Communion

or I present these persons to reaffirm their baptismal vows

Bishop Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate *I do.*

Bishop Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate *I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.*

Bishop Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People *We will.*

Bishop Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Baptismal Covenant

Bishop Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Bishop Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **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.**

Bishop Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

Bishop Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth and for those who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach them to love others the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory,

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Bishop Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving over the Water

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Bishop: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may be affirmed and strengthened in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. *Amen.*

The Baptism

Priest: Elijah, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying:

Elijah, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. *Amen.*

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

At Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation

Bishop: Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our

Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

For Confirmation

Bishop: Strengthen, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your Holy Spirit; empower *him/her* for your service; and sustain *him/her* all the days of *his/her* life. *Amen.*

For Reception

Bishop: *N.*, we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. *Amen.*

For Reaffirmation

Bishop: *N.*, may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. *Amen.*

Concluding Prayer

Bishop: Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

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

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Offertory *“Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Calling”* Hymnal #59

The Presentation *“Doxology”* Hymnal #380, v.3

The Great Thanksgiving

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Bishop: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus *Hymnal #S-124*

Eucharistic Prayer A

Bishop: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms

upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ taught us, we are bold to say,

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we
forgive those who trespass against us, And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and
the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Bishop breaks the consecrated Bread.

Bishop Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Bishop 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.

Communion Notes: *All are welcome to come forward and receive
communion or a blessing.*

*Communion is offered in two kinds: bread and wine. One may receive
the bread alone, dip it into the wine, or drink from the chalice after
consuming the bread. Sealed, pre-packaged containers of bread and
wine are available. Gluten-free bread may be requested by crossing
one's hands palms-down. All manners of reception are valid. A
blessing may be requested by crossing one's hands over the chest.*

Anointing for Healing: *After communion is received, those in need of
prayer for healing of body, mind or spirit, may join the priest at the
kneeler along the wall. Feel free to kneel, or stand, to receive an
anointing of oil. Prayer requests may be spoken or unspoken.*

Communion "O Jesus I Have Promised" Hymnal #655

Bishop Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. 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.

Blessing +

Closing Hymn

“*Stay Awake, Be Ready*”

Walker



1. Stay a - wake be — read - y You
 2. Change your lives, he's — com - ing. The
 3. Go — back, tell — John —
 4. By the pow'r of the Spi - rit



do not know the hour when the Lord is com - ing. Stay a -
 one who is the light of the world is com - ing. Change your
 all that you have heard and have seen me do - ing. Go —
 Mar - y will give birth to a son called Je - sus. By the



wake be — read - y. The Lord is com - ing soon! Al - le -
 lives, he's — com - ing. The reign of God is near! Al - le -
 back, tell — John — the won - ders that you sec. Al - le -
 pow'r of the Spi - rit Em - man - u - el is near. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! The Lord is com - ing soon!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! The reign of God is near!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! The won - ders that you sec.
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Em - man - u - el is near.

Christopher Walker
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Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we welcome our Bishop Provisional, the Rt. Rev. Diane Jardine Bruce! Bishop Diane began her ministry here in the Diocese of West Missouri exactly 2 years ago, and has already (as of today) visited St. Michael's twice.

Our next bishop's visit may very well be from a new Bishop Diocesan, and Bishop Diane has shepherded us well through this transition. Please take the time to welcome her personally today, and thank her for her blessing, her encouragement, and her ministry in our Diocese.

Congratulations to the newly baptized: Elijah Rhoads, and his family!

Congratulations to our confirmands: Corban Crossley, Isabelle Crossley, Heather Rhoads and Billie Ray Preston!

Congratulations to those received into the Episcopal Church today: Jerry Baxter and Mary Beth Swayne!

Congratulations to all those reaffirming their faith today!

Advent & Christmas Worship Calendar

Welcome to Year B! With Advent we have begun a new liturgical year. Incidentally, 2023 has brought us the shortest Advent possible, as the fourth and final Sunday of the season occurs on Christmas Eve. Thus, that day will pull double-duty.

Sunday, December 24, 10 am: Advent 4 – Eucharist, Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 24, 5 pm: Christmas Eve – Eucharist & Pageant

Monday, December 25, 10 am: *We are invited to join Trinity Episcopal Church in Independence for a Christmas morning sung Eucharist.*