

December 17, 2023 • 10 am

*Third Sunday of Advent*



*“A Voice Crying Out”*



**St. Michael's**

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

[www.stmichaelschurch.org](http://www.stmichaelschurch.org)

## **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](http://www.stmichaelschurch.org/give). While there, you can arrange recurring payments for weekly, monthly, or yearly giving.

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



# Ministry of the Word

## Prelude / Candle Lighting

Processional

“Blessed Jesus”

Hymnal #440

## Opening Acclamation & Collect for Purity

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

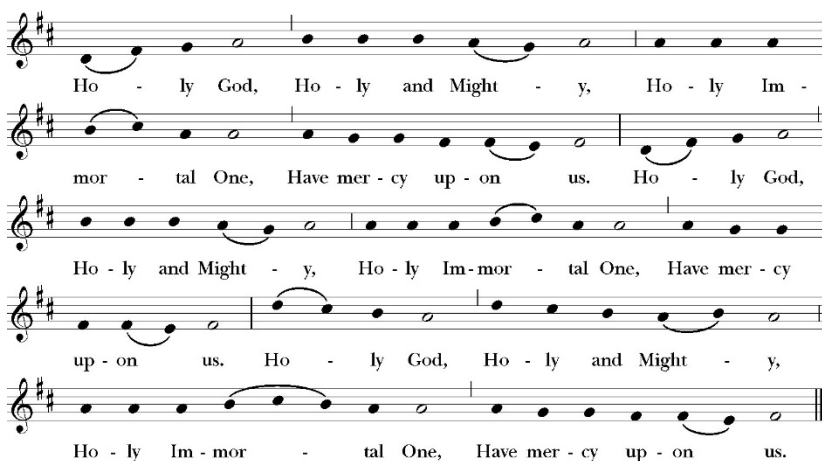
**People And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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.*

## Song of Praise

“Trisagion”

Hymn #S-100



Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -  
mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,  
Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy  
up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

David Hurd, Setting from *New Plainsong*

Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL Reprinted under license no. 603831 All rights reserved

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you**

Celebrant Let us pray.

## Collect of the Day

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Year B

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## Old Testament

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

**The spirit of the LORD God is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me;**

**he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted,**

**to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;**

to proclaim the year of the LORD 's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes,

the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations;

they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing;

I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples;

all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

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 will cause righteousness and praise to spring up  
before all the nations.

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

## **Canticle 15**

## **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* (Luke 1:46-55)**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Epistle**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the  
Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold  
fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

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  
Copyright ©1986 by Word Music, All rights reserved. Used by permission

CCLI# 478600

**The Gospel**

John 1:6-8, 19-28

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

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.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the

prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

“A Voice Crying Out”

The Rev. Ryan Wiksell



## Nicene Creed

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

Intercessor: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. (pause) For all people in their daily life and work;

**All: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For the city of Independence and Greater Kansas City, for the state of Missouri, for the United States and for 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 all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the truth.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Diane our Bishop Provisional, for Ryan our Priest, for Larry our Deacon Emeritus, and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God and the Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, spoken aloud or in the silence of our hearts; (pause) Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, spoken aloud or in the silence of our hearts. (pause) We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. (pause) Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

Intercessor: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.



**All: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

### **The Peace**

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

### **Welcome & Announcements**

*See Back Page*



# The Holy Communion

## Offertory Sentence

**Offertory**                    “Prepare the Way, O Zion”                    Hymnal #65

**The Presentation**                    “Doxology”                    Hymnal #43 v.4

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise Him all crea-tures here be-low. Praise Him a-bove ye heav'n-ly hosts. Praise Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost.

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711)  
Music: *The Eighth Tune*, Thomas Tallis (1505? - 1585)

## The Great Thanksgiving

**Celebrant**    The Lord be with you.                    Hymnal #S-120

**People**        **And also with you.**

**Celebrant**    Lift up your hearts.

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

**Celebrant**    Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

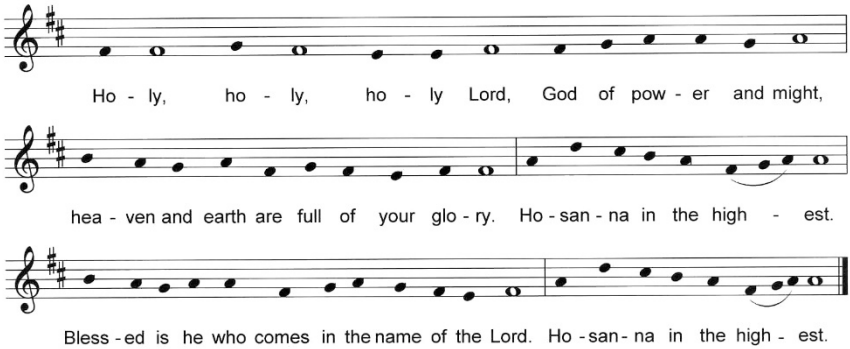
**Celebrant:** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*The Celebrant recites a proper preface.*]

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

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Hymnal #S-124



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.

David Hurd, Setting from *New Plainsong*  
Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL. Reprinted under license no. 603831 All rights reserved

## Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: 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**

Celebrant: 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People** **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant 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 Heavenly Word, Eternal Light"*

Hymnal #64

Celebrant: 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

“On Jordan’s Bank”

Coffin/Chandler/Mills



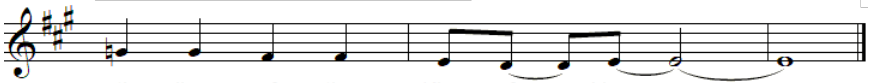
1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin: \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. To heal the sick, stretch out thine hand, \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee \_\_\_\_\_



An - noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; \_\_\_\_\_ A -  
 Make straight the way for God with - in, \_\_\_\_\_ and  
 Our re - fuge, and our great re - ward; \_\_\_\_\_ With -  
 And bid the fall - en sin - er stand; \_\_\_\_\_ Shine  
 Whose ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; \_\_\_\_\_ Whom



wake and hark - en, for he brings \_\_\_\_\_ Glad  
 let each heart pre - pare a home \_\_\_\_\_ Where  
 out thy grace we waste a - way \_\_\_\_\_ Like  
 forth, and let thy light re - store \_\_\_\_\_ Earth's  
 with the Fa - ther we a - dore \_\_\_\_\_ And



ti - dings of the King of \_\_\_\_\_ king. \_\_\_\_\_  
 such a might - y guest may \_\_\_\_\_ come. \_\_\_\_\_  
 flowers that with - er and de - cay. \_\_\_\_\_  
 own true love - li - ness once \_\_\_\_\_ more. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more. \_\_\_\_\_

Words: Charles Coffin; tr. John Chandler. Public Domain

Music: Gary Mills; ©1974, 1975 Celebration. Reprinted under CCLI license 478600

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

## **Serving Today**

Celebrant	The Rev. Ryan Wiksell
Acolyte	Susan Rodriguez
Cantor	Aaron Crossley
Pianist	Rachel Swaney
Lectors	Aaron Crossley, The Rev. Larry Allen, Kris Wrenn
Intercessor	Mindy Swayne
Altar Guild	Charlotte Edwards, Genie Kuske
Usher/Greeter	Mindy Swayne
Livestream	Corban Crossley

## **St. Michael's Leadership**

The Rev. Ryan Wiksell, priest  
The Rev. Larry Allen, deacon emeritus  
Mindy Swayne, senior warden  
Kelly Johnson, junior warden  
Mary Johnson, treasurer  
HazelAnn Barkie-Cox, secretary  
Susan Rodriguez, vestry member  
Jolene Cerveney, vestry member

## **Contact Us**

816-373-5333

rector@stmichaelschurch.org

[www.stmichaelschurch.org](http://www.stmichaelschurch.org)

# Announcements

## December Birthdays

Heather Rhoads – Dec 14

Jerry Woodburn – Dec 22

Rachel Swaney – Dec 22

Any others?

## Advent & Christmas Eve

Advent 4 Service, Dec 24

10 am – Advent Lessons & Carols, Eucharist

Christmas Eve Service, Dec 24

5 pm – Christmas Pageant, Eucharist

*Christmas Morning, Dec 25*

*10 am – Christmas at Trinity Episcopal, Independence*

## Social Events

Play at the Sermon Center in January

## Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 21, during Coffee Hour