

March 10, 2024 · 10 am · Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Fourth Sunday in Lent



“Snake on a Stick”



St. Michael's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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 sign the Guest Book. 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, scan the QR code, or visit stmichaelschurch.org/give. While there, you can arrange recurring payments for automated giving.



Service Notes

* Denotes moments when the congregation is invited to stand (as able)

"Hymnal" refers to the blue Hymnal 1982 located throughout the Nave. Copyright information for songs from all other sources is printed in this bulletin.

Scriptures are quoted from the NRSV Bible, unless otherwise indicated.

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A Note About our Liturgy During Lent

Welcome to all those worshipping with us, for the first time or for the thousand-and-first time. Regardless of your background, or your experience in the Episcopal Church or St. Michael's, you may find you have questions about the choice of words in the following pages.

During most seasons of the year, St. Michael's uses the "Rite II" version of the Eucharistic Liturgy, in the Book of Common Prayer. This language was developed specifically for the 1979 version, but language from previous versions was retained, and labeled "Rite I".

Some parishes continue to use Rite I exclusively, due to its elegance, reverence and sense of permanence. Other parishes only use Rite II, citing its ease of recitation and understanding, and its improved relevance for modern worshippers. In-between these two camps are parishes like St. Michael's, which primarily use Rite II, but like to keep the older language alive nevertheless.

The penitential season of Lent is often considered the ideal time for this. It is a season of self-reflection, of discipline, and of denying oneself certain conveniences. In that spirit, we believe it is good to remind ourselves where we have come from, within the Anglican tradition, and to make the extra effort to recall together these ancient words of Faith.

If you find them difficult to recite, or understand, please know that you are in excellent company. Feel free to ask me, or another parishioner, to help you. After all, the best lessons we learn in life come through struggle, and this can be true in our liturgical worship as well.

I want to thank Rachel Swaney for facilitating this adjustment, and for keeping another important part of our past alive: namely, the beautiful original service music written by her late husband, and St. Michael's music minister, Jim Swaney.

My prayer is that we enter this season in repentance and humility, but also with a sure and certain hope in the God who forgives us even before we ask, and day by day shapes us into the stature of Christ our Savior.

The Rev. Ryan Wiksell

Ministry of the Word

* Salutation

Book of Common Prayer, p. 323

Celebrant

Bless the Lord who for - giv - eth al our sins.

People

His mer - cy en - dur - eth for ev - er.

Celebrant: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

* Confession & Absolution

BCP p. 330

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Celebrant: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy,
mer - cy, mer - cy. mer - cy, mer - cy. **Fine**

* Collect of the Day

First Sunday in Lent

Celebrant **People**
The Lord be with you. And with thy spir - it.

Celebrant **All**
Let us pray. (Collect) A - men.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. [All sing] *Amen.*

First Lesson

Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.

20 He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.

21 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.

22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

Second Lesson

Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

* Sequence

"In Darkness"

Swaney

Musical score for "In Darkness" in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "In dark-nes Thy Word is a lamp to our feet, a light on the path of our choice. Ac-cept as a tri - bute the words we re - peat, and teach us in Thee to re - joice."

* Holy Gospel

John 3:14-21

Musical score for "Holy Gospel" in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score is divided into two parts: "Celebrant" and "People". The lyrics are: "The Ho - ly Gos - pel of our Lord Je - sus Christ ac - cord-ing to John Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord. (Gospel)"

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not

condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Celebrant **People**

The Gos-pel of the Lord. Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The musical notation consists of a single staff in G minor (one flat). It features a treble clef and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics 'The Gos-pel of the Lord. Praise be to Thee, O Christ.' are written below the staff. The melody for the first part, 'The Gos-pel of the Lord.', is played by the Celebrant and the second part, 'Praise be to Thee, O Christ.', is played by the People. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Sermon

“Snake on a Stick”

The Rev. Ryan Wiksell

*** Nicene Creed**

BCP p. 326

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**

Form I, BCP p. 383

Intercessor: With all our hearts and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.” For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city, Independence, for the Kansas City metro, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air or through outer space, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our own needs and those of others, spoken aloud or in the silence of our hearts.
[The people may add their petitions] Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed (especially Barbara, Madeline and Sue), let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of St. Mary, St. Michael the Archangel and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

* **The Peace**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**



Welcome & Announcements

Celebration of Life for Madeline Monat: Monday, March 18, 12 pm

Holy Week Worship Schedule

- Palm Sunday: March 24, 10 am
- Maundy Thursday: March 28, 6 pm
 Guest Preacher Deacon Larry Allen
- Good Friday: March 29, 6 pm
- Easter Vigil: Saturday, March 30, 6 pm
 Guest Musicians Aaron Mayfield (Piano) & Jimmie Bratcher (Vocals)
- Easter Sunday: March 31, 10 am
 Guest Musician Rachel Rilinger (Harp)

The Holy Communion

Offertory

“The Great Creator of the Worlds”

Hymnal #489

* **The Presentation**

“Doxology”

Hymnal #43, v.4

* **The Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer II

The musical notation is presented in three systems, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 3/4. The first system is for the Celebrant and People, with the lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And with thy spir - it." The second system is also for the Celebrant and People, with the lyrics: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord." The third system is for the Celebrant and People, with the lyrics: "us give thanks un-to our Lord God. It is meet and right so to do."

Celebrant: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and singing,

Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Swaney

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts:
Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry.
Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.



The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

Communion Hymn *“Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed”* Hymnal #323

*** Post-Communion Prayer & Blessing** BCP p. 366

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom.

And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

*** Dismissal**

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.