

December 8, 2024 • 10 am • Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
*Second Sunday of Advent*



*Guest Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Vicky Anderson*



**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 seems 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

If you wish make a one-time or recurring donation to St. Michael's, scan the QR code, or visit [stmichaelschurch.org/give](http://stmichaelschurch.org/give). Thank you for your generosity!

### Service Notes

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

"Hymnal" refers to the blue Hymnal 1982 located throughout the Nave.

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

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# The Word of God

## Prelude & Lighting of the Advent Candle

\* **Processional Song**                      “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”                      Hymnal 76

\* **A Penitential Order for Advent**                      Book of Common Prayer p. 351

Celebrant        Bless the LORD who forgives all our sins.

**People**        **His mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant        Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is the only LORD. Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

\* Song of Praise

“Holy God”

David Hurd

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.

\* Collect of the Day

Advent 2

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## First Lesson

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

## Canticle 16

The Song of Zechariah

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel; \*

he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*

born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, \*

holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the LORD to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
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.

## Second Lesson

Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

\* **Sequence**

*"Prepare the Way, O Zion"*

Hymnal # 65

## \* Holy Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

Celebrant      The Holy Gospel of our LORD Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

**People            Glory to you, LORD Christ.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

Celebrant      The Gospel of the Lord.

**People            Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Vicky Anderson

## \* The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

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 V, BCP p. 389

Intercessor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Diane our Bishop Provisional, for Amy our Bishop-Elect, for Ryan our Priest, for Larry our Deacon Emeritus, for all ministers, and for all the people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**



For those in positions of public trust, especially Aaron, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who live and work in the city of Independence, and in greater Kansas City, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the congregation of St. Michael's, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For any who may oppose us or wish us harm; and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the archangel Saint Michael and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

**To you, O Lord our God.**

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, “Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you.” Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, now and for ever. Amen.

### \* **The Peace**

Celebrant     The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People       And also with you.**

### **Welcome & Announcements**

- Church Center App
- Sun, Dec 15 – Advent Lessons & Carols w/ guest musicians *Sacred & Secular*
- Tue, Dec 24, 6 pm – Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

# The Holy Communion

Offertory

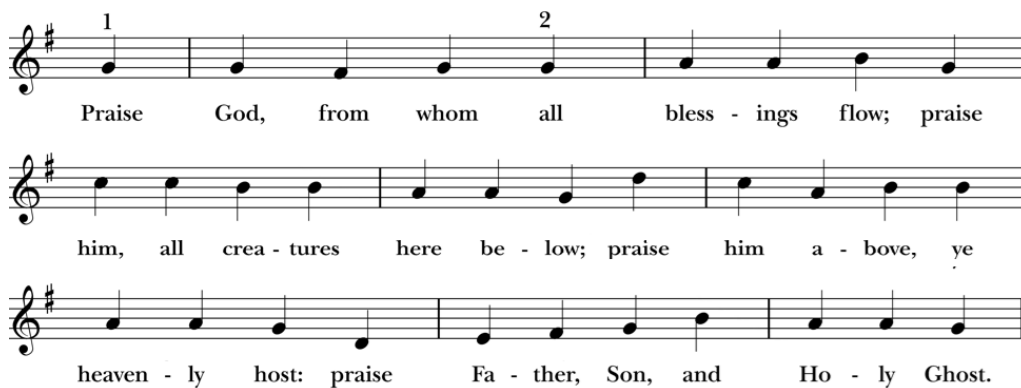
*“Comfort, Comfort, O My People”*

Hymnal # 67

\* **The Presentation**

*“Doxology”*

Hymnal # 43 v.4



1 2

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

\* **The Great Thanksgiving**

**Eucharistic Prayer C**

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

*“Sursum Corda”* 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* *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
*Celebrant* *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
*Celebrant* *People*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: [Preface for Advent] 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.

Celebrant: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**People: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

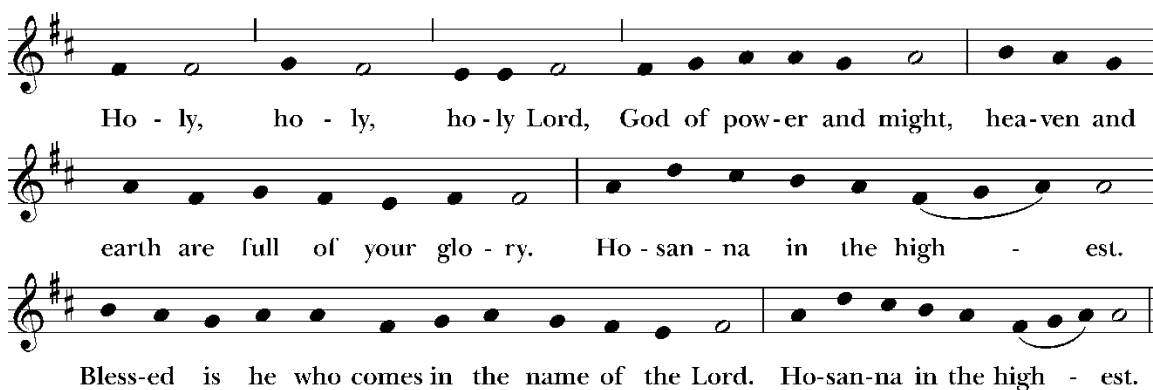
**By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

\* Sanctus

“Holy Holy Holy Lord”

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.

Celebrant: And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**All: We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for

pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**All: Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the bread.**

*[From Eucharistic Prayer A]* 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**

BCP p. 364

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**All** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

BCP p. 364

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the people of God.



**Communion Notes:** 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, and all are welcome to come forward to receive Communion or a blessing.

\* **Postcommunion Prayer & Blessing**

BCP p. 365

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.

\* **Closing Song**

*"Love Divine, all Loves Excelling"*

Hymnal # 657

\* **Dismissal**

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

