

January 5, 2025 · 10 am  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Second Sunday of  
Christmas



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 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.

# The Word of God

## \* Processional

*Once in Royal David's City*

Hymnal # 102

## \* Opening Acclamation and Prayer

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 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.**

## \* Song of Praise

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Hymnal # 96

## \* Collect of the Day

1st Sunday of Christmas

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel."  
See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame, those with child and  
those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.  
With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back,  
I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.  
Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, "he who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."  
For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.  
They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,  
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,  
over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.  
Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.  
I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them,  
and give them gladness for sorrow.  
I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

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

## Psalm 84

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! \*  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; \*  
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold \*  
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, \*  
happy are they who put their trust in you!

## Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

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

### \* **Sequence**

*Love Came Down at Christmas*

Hymnal # 84

### \* **Holy Gospel**

Matthew 2:1-12

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

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Celebrant      The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

*“The Magus of Judah”*

The Rev. Ryan Wiksell

**\* 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.

## **The Peace**

Celebrant      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People      And also with you.**

## **Welcome & Announcements**

- January Birthdays: “O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”
- New Online Recurring Gifts
- Sun, Jan 26, 11:30 am – Annual Meeting & Potluck
- Poll: New 5 pm Wednesday Eucharist?





# The Holy Communion

Offertory

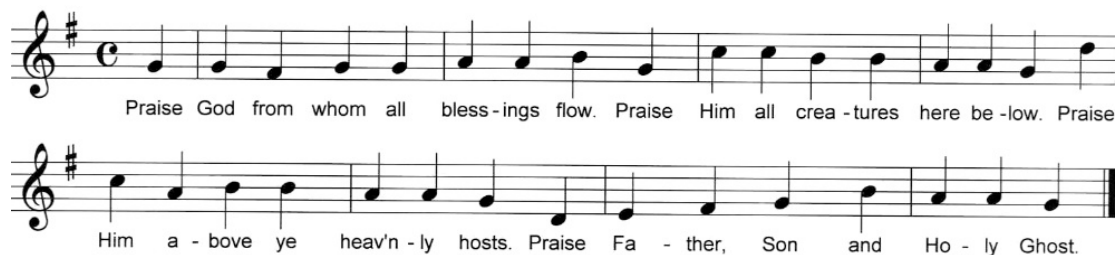
*God Rest You Merry Gentlemen*

Hymnal # 105

\* **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.

\* **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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:

# Sanctus

*"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

Hymnal # S-130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
power and might, hea - ven and earth are full,  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## \* Eucharistic Prayer D

Celebrant: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**All: We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Celebrant: Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name. Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

\* **The Intercessions**

Form VI, BCP p. 392

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

**People: 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 Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Diane our Bishop Provisional, for Amy our Bishop-Elect, 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.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

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

We pray for all who have died, especially Nathaniel and Elsa, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

Celebrant: And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, matriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, St. Michael the Archangel, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and 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. 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.

**\* Post-Communion Prayer & Blessing**

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 Hymn**



**\* Dismissal**

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

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

