

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 10,
10am

Livestream

We are delighted that you are here to worship God with us today! St. Michael's Episcopal Church, centered in Jesus Christ, is passionate about accepting the invitation to grow in God through love and acceptance. It is our desire to share God's love in action with works of grace and service. We are inclusive and welcoming of all God's people.

2140 Mission Ave.
Carmichael, California
916.488.3550

stmichaelscarmichael.org

We ask that you silence any electronics that might make noise during the service.



Welcome to ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PRELUDE Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (Now Comes the Gentiles' Savior) by Bach, arr. Busoni

PROCESSIONAL HYMN The Hymnal 1982—#65 Prepare the Way, O Zion (*All stand as able. Music can be found on page 7*)

Celebrant Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant Gracious God, pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendor of Christ. **Amen.**

Leader Today we add the second candle of Advent. We light the candle of peace to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of peace and that through him, peace is found.

The first two candles are lit.

Let us pray, Gracious God, grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Help us spread peace to those who are anxious and afraid. **Amen.**

GENERAL CONFSSION *Kneel or stand as you are able.*

Deacon Let us confess our sin to God and our neighbor.

People **Gracious God,
we praise you for accepting us as your children
and making us heirs of eternal life.
In your mercy you have washed us from our sins
and made us clean in your sight.
Yet we still fail to love you as we should
and serve you as we ought.
Forgive us our sins and renew us by your grace,
that we may continue to grow as members of Christ,
who is our savior and redeemer. 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE The Hymnal 1982—#60 Creator of the Stars of Night (*Music can be found on page 8.*)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Together, 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.

THE LESSONS & PSALM *Please be seated.*

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah (40:1-11)

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"
See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please pray Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 responsively by half verse.

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

A reading from the Second Letter of Peter (3:8-15a)

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN The Hymnal 1982—#56 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*All stand as able. Music can be found on page 8.*)

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL Mark (1:1-8)

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

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

SERMON The Rev. Mary Clausus

THE NICENE CREED *All stand as able.*

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

Deacon With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord.

Leader Let us pray for this gathering, for all worshipping communities throughout the world, for all who seek God and especially for those who don't know God yet. Pray for the Church. **Jesus, we wait in hope for your coming.**

Let us pray for hope; for things we yearn for but cannot name. **Jesus, we wait in hope for your coming.**

Let us pray for peace; for goodwill among all nations and wise actions by leaders. We pray for an end to violence and aggression, especially in those places where people are suffering from war, those in Gaza, Israel, Ukraine, and Russia. We pray for the wellbeing of all people. Pray for justice and mercy. **Jesus, we wait in hope for your coming.**

Let us pray for the good earth which God has given us. Pray for the wisdom and will to be good stewards. **Jesus, we wait in hope for your coming.**

Let us pray for all in any need or trouble. For: **Sarah, Tina, Jennifer, Connie, Robert, Jay, Cynthia, Kyle, Mark, Genie, Mary, Ruby, Kathy, Kay, Hunter, and Billie.** Pray for comfort and healing. **Jesus, we wait in hope for your coming.**

Let us pray for the departed, especially Bill Brown, and pray for peace and comfort for those who mourn.
Jesus, we wait in hope for your coming.

For whom else or what else shall we pray? *(Please add your prayers silently or aloud.)* And we pray, **Jesus, we wait in hope for your coming.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot, ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE AND OFFERTORY

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, BLESSINGS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant Trusting in the sure promises of Christ, and grateful for the Spirit's sustaining power, let us bring our offerings and selves to God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM A Light Will Shine by Larsen

PRESENTATION HYMN The Hymnal 1982—#408 Sing Praise to God *(All stand as able. Music can be found on page 9.)*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer C from the Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Living God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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

THE SANCTUS The Hymnal 1982—S#124 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord *(Music can be found on page 10.)*

Stand or kneel as you are able.

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

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, and Jacob and Rachel and Leah; 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.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF BREAD and THE INVITATION

The Hymnal 1982—S#161 The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God (*Music can be found on page 10.*)

Celebrant This is the table of the Lord. It is made ready for those who want to know and love Christ, all are invited to come and meet Jesus here. The Gifts of God for the people of God.

COMMUNION ANTHEM The Ballad of the Lion and the Lamb by Cohen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *Kneel or stand as you are able.*

Celebrant Together, let us pray.

Almighty God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we wait the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us separated from you but engaged with you in your service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God's blessing be with you in the darkness and in the light, while you are awake and while you are sleeping, in your joys and in your sorrows—In the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN The Hymnal 1982—#66 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (*All stand as able. Music can be found on page 11.*)

Deacon Alleluia, Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve Christ.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE Prelude in d minor, BWV 539 by Bach

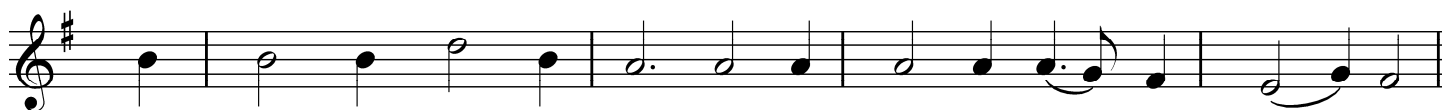
PROCESSIONAL HYMN The Hymnal 1982—#65 Prepare the Way, O Zion



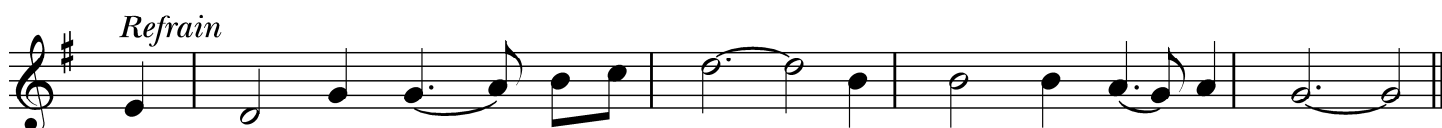
1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (1920-1999). Copyright © 1982, Charles P. Price. Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; harm. *Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt.

Serving Today

Pastor Katie Holeman Celebrant

The Rev. Mary Claugus Preaching

The Rev. Rodney Davis Deacon

Sue Corbin, Sr. Tina Francesca Ferriot, Harriet Wharton Altar Guild

Connie Weichert & Virginia Henry Flowers

Sr. Tina Francesca Ferriot & Logan Holeman Acolytes

Sue Davis & Lee Raney Readers

Mary Ellen Ferguson, Jan Bowdler & Renée Pierce Eucharistic Ministers

Jim Dodds, Terry Bridges, Barbara McIntyre & Hunter McIntyre Ushers

Lee Raney Greeter

St. Michael's Chancel Choir

John Cozza Music Director

Renée Pierce & Dorothy Eddings Coffee Hour Hosts

The flowers are given in loving memory of **Jim Eddings** by Dorothy Eddings.

HYMN OF PRAISE The Hymnal 1982—#60 Creator of the Stars of Night (Verses 1-3)

1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse night,
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,

1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,

1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free child,
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child

1 we pray you hear us when we call.
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

GRADUAL HYMN The Hymnal 1982—#56 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Verses 3-4)

3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from

3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to

3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

PRESENTATION HYMN The Hymnal 1982—#408 Sing Praise to God (Verses 1 & 3)



1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -

3 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly Name give God all praise and

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of

glo - ry; let all who know his power pro - claim a - loud the

our sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and

won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, the

ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stills: to God all praise and glo - ry.

Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

Words: Johann Jakob Schütz (1640-1690); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897), alt. Music: *Mit Freuden zart*, melody from “Une pastourelle gentille,” 1529; adapt. *Pseaumes cinquante de David*, 1547, and *Kirchengeseng darinnen die Heubtartickel des Christlichen Glaubens gefasset*, 1566; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), after Heinrich Reimann (19th cent.).

SANCTUS The Hymnal 1982—S#124 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

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.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

FRACTION ANTHEM S#161 The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

CLOSING HYMN The Hymnal 1982—#66 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The melody is in the Soprano part. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and single notes in the left hand. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.



A service of

Lessons & Carols

presented by
the St. Michael's Chancel Choir

Sunday, December 17
5:00pm

**Sunday Morning Worship: 10am In person & Livestreamed
with Children's Sunday School**

Sunday Contemplative Service: 5pm In person & Zoom



Christmas Services

December 17th – **Lessons & Carols** at 5pm

December 24th – **Christmas Eve Family Service** at 5pm

Christmas Eve Service at 9pm

December 25th – **Christmas Morning Service** at 10am

**Please check our website for additional offerings and services.*

ST. MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2140 Mission Avenue, Carmichael
StMichaelsCarmichael.org
916.488.3550

Announcements

Worship

Christmas Music & Flowers

You can remember your loved ones and celebrate important moments in your life with the gift of flowers to the church. Share with us the person or event you would like to give flowers in gratitude or memory of via our online form, or email the office. Please add "Christmas Flowers & Music" to the memo line of checks and mail or drop them off to the office. You can also pay online using the drop down menu by selecting Flowers & Music in Thanksgiving and Remembering. Please submit your messages for the bulletins by **Tuesday, December 19th**.

Friday Morning Contemplative Eucharist, 8:30am

Given school is in session, you are asked to enter through the side door of the parking lot. The door will open at 8:25am and be closed and locked by 8:35am, to keep the security efforts of the school intact. If you are interested in attending please contact Fr. Rod.

5pm Contemplative Prayer Eucharist with Zoom

We are bringing the 5pm back to in-person worship with a Eucharist and we will have the zoom open and in the service so anyone needing to participate at home, is encouraged to join. If you would like the consecrated hosts, please let the office know.

Godly Play & Nursery!

Godly Play is available on Sundays at 10am during worship, children ages 3-grade 4 are welcome to join us. Nursery is also open for children 0-3. Check your children in at the table in Parish Hall marked Godly Play. Please contact Pastor Katie with any questions.

Advent Events & Services

The Life Profession of Sr. Tina Francesca Ferriot December 16, 11am

You are invited to a service where Sr. Tina Francesca Ferriot will make her Life Profession Vows as a Solitary Franciscan Nun to the Rt. Rev. Megan Traquair on behalf of the Episcopal Church. There will be a reception immediately following the service in Parish and Johnstone Hall. Please RSVP to Sr. Tina at etferriot@gmail.com by **December 8**.

Winterdance—17th Annual Celtic Christmas Celebration

Tuesday, December 19 at 7pm

Many make this their holiday tradition to come and hear the music and watch the dancers of the Celtic tradition. We invite you to join us! Tickets range from \$20 – \$35 and can be purchased in advance on the bands [website mollysrevenge.com](http://website.mollysrevenge.com).

St. Michael's Children & Youth Connection

A Very Mixed-up Christmas Pageant

Calling all children and adult actors! This Christmas Eve we will be putting on A Very Mixed-Up Christmas Pageant during the 5pm Family worship. Rehearsals will be **December 3, 10, and 17 after the 10am worship**. All are invited to join us for this very fun and lighthearted Christmas experience. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Katie. Pastorkatie@stmichaelscarmichael.org.

ADVENT CALENDAR OFFERING

In anticipation for the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas, Rev. Mary is offering an Advent Calendar practice to prepare your hearts and homes for the new birth of Christ this year. For the first week of Advent, you are invited to take **inventory of your stuff**. For the second week, you are invited to take **inventory of your time**. For the third week of Advent you are invited to **take inventory of your relationships**. The last blog will be posted on Christmas Eve, **Christmas 2023, Space for Jesus**. More details and information can be found on this past weeks Messenger and on our Blog of the Website—<https://stmichaelscarmichael.org/connect/blog/>.

Learn & Connect

Living Compass Advent

The Living Compass theme for the Advent season is Practicing Wonder with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength and Mind. The Living Compass Advent booklets are available in the church. There are multiple ways you can engage with this material through <https://www.livingcompass.org/advent>. A weekly discussion group facilitated by Lisa and Jim Sargent will be offered on Sunday evenings, **December 10 & 17** from 6:30-7:30 on Zoom. Please contact Lisa by e-mail at lisa@2sargents.com to sign up.

A Radiant Birth: Advent Reflections

This Advent season Marilyn McEntyre will be leading reflections on a new collection of Advent daily readings by contemporary Christian writers, A Radiant Birth. Participants are encouraged, though not required, to follow the daily readings during the week and come to the Sunday gathering after coffee hour for one hour of reflection. Discounted copies of the book are available from Christian Book Distributors.

Announcements

Serving in the Community

Our 2023 Mercy & Social Justice Grants!

Congratulations to the nominators and recipients.

1. Women's Empowerment
2. The Center at St. Matthew's
3. St. John's Real Change
4. International Rescue Committee
5. Golden Valley Quilt
6. Sac Blankets / Sac Kids
7. Mission at St. Matthews
8. Carmichael HART Winter Services "Winter Respite Days"
9. River City Food Bank
10. PANC Exhibitor
11. PANC Respite Care
12. American River Parkway Education
13. Loaves & Fishes
14. Blessings in a Backpack

More information about the above awarded grants can be found on last week's Messenger and the Serve page of our website. stmichaelscarmichael.org/serve/

Volunteers needed: Winter Respite 2024 Mornings Wednesdays, 1/10/2024, 1/31/2024 & 2/7/2024

Christ Community Church, 5025 Manzanita Ave,
Carmichael, CA 95608

St Michaels will again be joining with other faith communities in Carmichael to provide meals and a warm place to relax for a few hours during the coldest days of the year for our unhoused neighbors. We will need volunteers to prepare and serve breakfast and a sack lunch or snack each day, plus volunteers to greet and host guests. Please contact me with questions, suggestions and to volunteer, Cindy Dewey 909-921-8855, cmdewey84@gmail.com

Habitat for Humanity: Build for Unity

Build for Unity is a program where multi-faith communities come to build houses together. St. Michael's was one of the original faith groups that started this amazing program (in 2016). Our three scheduled work days are:

- **Saturday, February 3,**
- **Friday, February 9,**
- **Saturday, February 10**

Mark your calendars if you are interested in participating. We have 10 spots open each day. Please feel free to invite your friends and family to join us in this wonderful program. If you have questions, please connect with Terry Bridges.

St. Michael's has a Green Team? Really?

In 2022, the National Church adopted a resolution at the General Convention to commit to goal of Net Carbon Neutrality in operations by 2030. The Diocese of Northern California, at the November 2022 convention, called upon parishes and schools to determine how to become carbon neutral by 2030. So, the Vestry here at St. Michael's has formed a Green Team committee (Rick Larkey, Pat Cole, and Sue Gaston) to investigate how we as a church, and as individuals, can become carbon neutral. This means having a balance between the carbon emitted by a facility and the amount of carbon that is absorbed or removed from the atmosphere. We can achieve this by reducing carbon emissions and providing offsets (trees, solar energy, purchase of offsets) to achieve a balance. The Green Team is already working with SMUD, the Day School, and the Diocese to assess our current status, and evaluate what changes we could make to move to carbon neutral by 2030. Check out last weeks Messenger for the full article. Updates will be appearing in upcoming Messengers.

Annual Meeting

St. Michael's annual meeting will be **Sunday January 28, 2024** immediately following the 10am service with a lunch. During the meeting we will be

- Voting for Vestry Members and Diocesan Delegates,
- Voting to amend our current bylaws, and
- Take a look at 2023 and look to the future.

More information will follow. If you are interested in the governance of the church, please pray about running for vestry. If you are interested in the governance of the diocese, please pray about running as a diocesan delegate. Applications are on our website and available in the office. The same application is used for either position.

Copies of both our current Bylaws and the proposed Amended Bylaws can be found here on our website.

Name Tags Available at Sunday morning check in's. Please grab your name tag before the service. If you are in need of a name tag please let the office know.

Sunday December 10—The Second Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist 10am Eucharist & Live stream
Coffee Hour 11:30am Parish Hall
A Radiant Birth Book Study 11:45am Friendship Center
Celebration of Life Service for Penny Howard 2pm
(Parishioner of St. Clements)
Contemplative Prayer Eucharist with Zoom 5pm
Living Compass in Advent 6:30pm Zoom

Monday December 11

Morning Prayer 9am Zoom

Tuesday December 12

Morning Prayer 9am Zoom
Staff Meeting 9:30am
EfM 6:30pm

Wednesday December 13

Morning Prayer 9am Zoom

Thursday December 14

Morning Prayer 9am Zoom
Open Bible Study 10am Friendship Center
Noon Day Prayer 11:45am Zoom
Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm

Friday December 15

Friday Morning Eucharist 8:30am

Saturday December 16

Life Profession of Sr. Tina 11am
Reception immediately following

Sunday December 17—The Third Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist 10am Eucharist & Live stream
Coffee Hour 11:30am Parish Hall
A Radiant Birth Book Study 11:45am Friendship Center
Lessons & Carols 5pm
Reception immediately following Parish Hall
Living Compass in Advent 6:30pm Zoom

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2140 Mission Ave.
Carmichael, CA. 95608
916.488.3550

Stmichaelscarmichael.org
St.michaels@stmichaelscarmichael.org

SAVE THE DATE

December 19 **Winterdance** 7pm

December 24 **Christmas Eve Family Service** 5pm
Christmas Eve Service 9pm with
Festival of Christmas Carols at 8:30pm

December 25 **Christmas Morning Service** 10am

January 28 **Annual Meeting**

CLERGY, STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

The Rt. Rev. Megan Traquair Bishop,
Episcopal Diocese of Northern California
The Rev. Mary Clausus Rector
Pastor Katie Holeman Assisting Priest
The Rev. Rodney Davis Associate Priest
The Rev. Roy Whitten Associate Priest
The Rev. Jesse Vaughan Associate Priest
Andy Chamness Sexton
John Cozza Music Director
Michelle Falcy Parish Administrator
Jack Cozza Videographer
John Quené Treasurer
Kate Muris Bookkeeper
Diane Gilmore, Diane Rehrer-Salisbury, Sr. Tina
Francesca Ferriot, Eileen Thomas, Sue Corbin,
Karen Christie, Mary Ellen Ferguson Office
Volunteers

VESTRY

Tammy Murray Senior Warden
Doug Davy Junior Warden
Chris Chamness Clerk
Andrea LaMattina Member
Pamela Lueders Member
Janet West Member
Rick Larkey Member
Jane Samuelson Member
Mary Kessler Member
Renée Pierce Member

John Quené Treasurer
Constance Weichert Music Director Emeritus