

Welcome to ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fifth Sunday of Easter | April 28, 2024

OPENING MUSIC & WELCOME

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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 Savior. **Amen.**

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Together, let us pray

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LESSONS & PSALM

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (8:26-40)

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:



“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.
In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

Please pray Psalm 22:24-30 responsively by half verse.

- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

MUSIC

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to John (15:1-8).
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide

in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

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

SILENT REFLECTION OF THE GOSPEL

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant Gracious God, we come in peace to pray for your Church, the world, this community, those in need, and for those who died. We also come to give thanks for the multitude of blessings you give to your people. Today, let us be aware of those in need, our own needs, and the grace that abounds through your love. And, let our gratitude to you be known for the St. Michael’s Episcopal Day School and our 60 years of shared ministry and shared core values. In courage and confidence we pray, God, **let us know and be your redeeming love.**

Leader God, give unity to the church; help us practice the principles that Jesus taught and always be guided by the Holy Spirit. Accept our thanks for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Megan our Bishop, Mary, Katie, Rod, Mike, Roy, and Jesse, our clergy, Mary, our head of school and the people here today. God, **let us know and be your redeeming love.**

God, give the leaders of the world courage and wisdom to lead with equity and mercy, make justice a reality for all humankind. Help your people put aside violence and embrace compassion to resolve conflict in the world. God, **let us know and be your redeeming love.**

God, we pray for all those who help in the education of our children, especially the faculty, staff, parents, and grandparents of the St. Michael’s Episcopal Day School. God, **let us know and be your redeeming love.**

God, we pray for those suffering in war-torn countries; especially those in Gaza, Ukraine, Haiti, and Mexico. We pray for those physically assaulted, emotionally battered, psychologically affected, and spiritually desperate. God, **let us know and be your redeeming love.**

God, help our community overcome fear; increase courage and love in your people so that we may come together to address issues of homelessness, mental illness, and insecurity of place, food, healthcare, and education. God, **let us know and be your redeeming love.**

God, help us support those who are struggling, in trouble, sick, or feel all alone. We pray your comfort will be known to **Jeri, Marguerite, Jackie, Thom, Annette, Michael, Carolyn, Eileen, Sarah, Tina, Jennifer, Robert, Jay, Cynthia, Kyle, Mark, Mary, Kay, Hunter, and Billie.** God, **let us know and be your redeeming love.**

God, welcome the souls of the departed into your blessed rest, especially Genie Sholl and Kathleen Ruby Davis; Give peace and comfort to their family and loved ones with the assurance of their resurrection to new life. God, **let us know and be your redeeming love.**

God, we give you thanks for the safety we enjoy, nourishing food, clean water, clothing that protects us, and meaningful work that keeps our hearts and souls strong. We rejoice in the love and forgiveness we receive from others and give thanks for our capacity to love and forgive others as Jesus does for us. God, **let us know and be your redeeming love.**

For whom else or what else shall we pray? (*Please add your prayers silently or aloud.*) God, **let us know and be your redeeming love.**

MUSIC & CANDLE LIGHTING

As music is played, you are invited to come forward to the altar rail and light a candle in thanksgiving or for intercessory prayers. After the candle lighting, the Celebrant will gather the prayers.

Celebrant Gracious God, accept these prayers; in your mercy, look with compassion upon all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give thanks and glory, Creator God, Forgiving Jesus, and Holy Wisdom, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant Let us with gladness present the offerings and gifts of our lives and labor to God.

Your offering may be placed in the basket on the table in the aisle. Please come forward to the altar as the table is being prepared. All are welcome to participate in communion.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer A from BCP*)

Celebrant God 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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Savior; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel or stand as you are able.

Holy and gracious God: 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 Creator 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:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, 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 God, now and for ever. **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 THE BREAD AND THE INVITATION

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

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.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand as you are able

Celebrant Together, let us pray.

Almighty God, giver of life, through the broken bread and shared cup, you fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Jesus' Body and Blood to fill our hearts with your love. Send us now into the world with compassion to make it a just and merciful place. Give us strength and courage to love and serve you, we pray this through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Life is short and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us, so be swift to love and make haste to be kind. And may the Divine Mystery—who is beyond our ability to know—the one who made you, the one who loves you, and the one who travels the way with you, The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you in peace. **Amen.**

Celebrant Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go into the world to love and serve Christ!

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

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & BLESSINGS

Announcements

Baptism

We are doing another set of baptisms on May 19th, Pentecost. That is a GREAT day to get baptized! If you are interested or know anyone who might be interested in getting baptized please connect with the office .

Upcoming Celebration of Life Services

There will be a Celebration of Life service for Genie Sholl here at St. Michael's on Saturday May 4, 2024 at 10am with a reception immediately following.

St. Michael's Learns & Connects

The Bishop is Coming to St. Michael's!

Sunday, May 5th, 2024—10am

The Rt. Rev. Megan Traquair will be preaching and presiding at our 10am service. Bishop Megan will confirm, receive, and reaffirm at this service as well. She will also join us for coffee hour. Please mark your calendars!

St. Michael's Episcopal Church Scholarships

St. Michael's Episcopal Church Scholarship offers partial financial assistance, to assist with tuition, enrollment fees, books, and/or supplies. Applications can be found at stmichaelscarmichael.org/scholarships/ and should be submitted by **May 31st**.

Centering Prayer—Returning in person, May 1st

Please join us the first and third Wednesday of every month, at 6:45 pm. After our 20 minutes of silent prayer, we will review and reflect on the Divine Dance by Richard Rohr. Zoom will still be available.

Contact the office if you have questions.

St. Michael's Continuing Studies

- **Sacred Circle** Meets the last Wednesday of every month at 6pm via zoom.
- **Thursday Open Bible Study** meets every Thursday in the Friendship Center at 10am

St. Michael's Children & Youth Connection

St. Michael's Theater Camp 2024

July 8—19, Monday through Friday, 9am—3pm

Presenting Finding Nemo Kids! Theatre Camp is open to students entering 2nd—8th grade. Lunch and snacks are provided. Cost for two weeks is \$300.

Capital Deanery Vacation Bible School

June 24 - 28th | 9 am - 1 pm

Churches are welcome to participate in our Capital Deanery Vacation Bible School (VBS) Day-Camp this summer at St. Michael's in Carmichael. This day camp will be a place of celebration and fun for kids 4 years old - entering 5th Grade. Entering 6th graders and up are welcome to attend as helpers for free! Cost is \$50 for each child, cap of \$90 for every family.

Diocesan News

I Will With God's Help: Journey Toward Racial Healing and Justice

Saturday, May 11, 2024 | 9:30am – 4:30pm

Hosted by St. Michael's Episcopal Church

This workshop is rooted in our baptismal identity and the promises we make in baptism. It focuses on how we can more fully live into our promise to be loving toward our neighbors, to address racism in our communities and build the Beloved Community.

St. Michael's Serves

I will ... with God's Help

Check out volunteer opportunities in worship

This summer is a great opportunity for you to serve in a new - to you - lay ministry. We need volunteers in the following ministries: **Greeters** (contact Mary Ellen Ferguson), **Ushers** (contact Jay Bowdler), and **Altar Guild** (contact Laura Quene).

Spring in Paris Sign up Party Opportunities

- Painting in the Garden - Saturday, June 1st - 6:30pm—\$55 each
- Zephyr Train Trip & Palisades Lodge Dinner - Friday, July 19th—\$150 each
- End of Summer BBQ - Saturday, September 14th - 5:30 pm—\$100 each
- Autumn Arrangement Workshop - Saturday, October 26th - 10am—\$40 each

For more details and availability please connect with the office at stmichaels@stmichaelscarmichael.org.

Additional details on the announcements can be found in this week's Messenger and on our website stmichaelscarmichael.org

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday April 28—The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist 10am with Choir & Livestream
Coffee Hour 11:15am Parish Hall- Celebrating St.
Michael's Day School's 60th Anniversary
Confirmation Class 12pm Friendship Center
Contemplative Prayer Eucharist with Zoom 5pm

Monday April 29

Morning Prayer 9am Zoom

Tuesday April 30

Morning Prayer 9am Zoom
Staff Meeting 9:30am Friendship Center
Daughters of the King 1pm
EfM 6:30pm

Wednesday May 1

Morning Prayer 9am Zoom
Centering Prayer 7pm

Thursday May 2

Morning Prayer 9am Zoom
Open Bible Study 10am Friendship Center
Noonday Prayer 12pm
Youth Confirmation Class 3:30pm
Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm

Friday May 3

Morning Eucharist 8:30am

Saturday May 4

Celebration of Life of Genie Sholl 10am
Reception immediately following

Sunday May 5—The Sixth Sunday of Easter + Bishop

Megan's Visit

Holy Eucharist 10am with Choir & Livestream
Coffee Hour 11:15am Parish Hall
Contemplative Prayer Eucharist with Zoom 5pm

2140 Mission Ave.

Carmichael, CA. 95608

916.488.3550

Stmichaelscarmichael.org

St.michaels@stmichaelscarmichael.org

SAVE THE DATE

June 2 St. Michael's Day School Baccalaureate

CLERGY, STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

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

VESTRY

Rick Larkey Senior Warden
Tammy Murray Junior Warden
Chris Chamness Clerk
Sue Davis Member
Doug Davy Member
Greg Dewey Member
Mary Ellen Ferguson Member
Mary Kessler Member
Kate Muris Member
Suzanne Phinney Member
Renée Pierce Member
Jane Samuelson Member
John Quené Treasurer
Constance Weichert Music Director Emeritus