

— ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

WEEK OF THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE MUSIC & WELCOME

Officiant Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

People **Glory to God forever and ever.**

Officiant 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 Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR RECTOR SEARCH

O shepherding God, guide the hearts and minds of our Search Committee as we seek to discern the role of Rector for St. Michael's Church. By your light, draw to us those with vision and passion for St. Michael's future. Guide them as they discern your call. Raise up for us a faithful pastor, a dynamic preacher of your Gospel, to shepherd us as your flock, strengthen our ministries, and work with us in building up your kingdom. **Amen.**

THE LESSON & PSALM

Reader A reading from the book of Isaiah (35:4-7a)

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

‘Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.’

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God

Officiant Please pray Psalm 146 responsively by half verse.

1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul! *

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.

3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.

7 The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; *

he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 The Lord shall reign for ever, *

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Officiant A reading from the Gospel of Mark (7:24-37)

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

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking

up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

Officiant The Word of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

CANDLE LIGHTING AND SILENT PRAYER

You are invited to light a candle and observe a period of silent personal prayer time.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Officiant God calls us today to be open to the word and to one another. Let us open ourselves to all the world in prayer saying, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader For the whole church we pray especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Sean, our Presiding Bishop-elect, Megan our Bishop, Katie, Mike, Rod, and Jesse our clergy and the people here today. That we may bring God’s word of life to all who are in silence, darkness, or despair. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the world we pray. That nations will come to cooperate for the health and well-being of all, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our congregation we pray. That we may grow into the mystery of God's life among and in us, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our community we pray. That it might be a place of health, well-being, and personal dignity, we especially pray for Mary, our head of school, for all the staff, teachers and students at St. Michael's Day School and Starr King K-8. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those suffering in any way we pray, especially for all who have asked for our prayers that they may know the healing power of God's love. For Barbara, Bobbi, Mike, Sandy, Jane, Robert, Sherry, Michael, Eileen, Sarah, Tina, Jennifer, Jay, Mark, Mary, Kay, Hunter, and Billie. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all those who suffer from violence in homes and on the street we pray, especially those who were affected by mass shootings: for those who were hurt and for the family and loved ones of those who died. We pray for gun safety in this country. We pray that the will of your people will come together to protect each other rather than hurt each other. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all mourners we pray. That all who grieve the coming of death may come to know life in the mercy of God. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For what else and whom else shall we pray? (*A time of silence is kept.*) Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Officiant Into your mercy, O God, we commend all the needy world, trusting in your almighty power, through your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GENERAL CONFESSION

Officiant Let us confess our sins to God.

People **Almighty God, our heavenly Father:
We have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,
forgive us all our offenses;
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Officiant 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.**

THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant For those who cannot be here physically to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ let us invite the Lord Jesus through this prayer for spiritual communion:

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

Julian of Norwich liturgy

Officiant Together, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

**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.**

Officiant Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 – bless you and keep you in peace. **Amen.**

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

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

CONCLUDING REMARKS, DISCUSSION, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND
CHECK IN.