

— ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



OCTOBER 6, 2024

WEEK OF THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS

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.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may, for love of you, delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 Job (39:1-18)

"Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?
Do you observe the calving of the deer?
Can you number the months that they fulfil,
and do you know the time when they give birth,

when they crouch to give birth to their offspring,
and are delivered of their young?
Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open;
they go forth, and do not return to them.

"Who has let the wild ass go free?
Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass,
to which I have given the steppe for its home,
the salt land for its dwelling-place?
It scorns the tumult of the city;
it does not hear the shouts of the driver.
It ranges the mountains as its pasture,
and it searches after every green thing.

"Is the wild ox willing to serve you?
Will it spend the night at your crib?
Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes,
or will it harrow the valleys after you?
Will you depend on it because its strength is great,
and will you hand over your labour to it?
Do you have faith in it that it will return,
and bring your grain to your threshing-floor?

"The ostrich's wings flap wildly,
though its pinions lack plumage.
For it leaves its eggs to the earth,
and lets them be warmed on the ground,
forgetting that a foot may crush them,
and that a wild animal may trample them.

It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own;
though its labour should be in vain, yet it has no fear;
because God has made it forget wisdom,
and given it no share in understanding.
When it spreads its plumes aloft,
it laughs at the horse and its rider."

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

Thanks be to God

Reader Please pray Canticle of Brother Sun responsively by half verse.

Most high, all powerful, all good Lord!*

All praise is Yours, all glory, all honor, and all blessing.

To You, alone, Most High, do they belong.*

No mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your name.

Be praised, my Lord, through all Your creatures,*

especially through my lord Brother Sun,

who brings the day; and You give light through him.*

And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendor! Of You, Most High, he bears the likeness.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars;*

in the heavens You have made them bright, precious and beautiful.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air,*

and clouds and storms, and all the weather, through which You give Your creatures sustenance.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Water;*

she is very useful, and humble, and precious, and pure.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom You brighten the night.*

He is beautiful and cheerful, and powerful and strong.

Be praised, my Lord, through our sister Mother Earth,*

who feeds us and rules us, and produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

Be praised, my Lord, through those who forgive for love of You,*

through those who endure sickness and trial.

Happy those who endure in peace,*

for by You, Most High, they will be crowned.

Be praised, my Lord, through our sister Bodily Death,*

from whose embrace no living person can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin!*

Happy are those she finds doing Your most holy will. The second death can do no harm to them.

Praise and bless my Lord, and give thanks,*

and serve Him with great humility. Amen.

Officiant A reading from the Gospel of Luke 12:13-21

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

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What

should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

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 Creating and sustaining God, in faith we lift our voices to you that we might be transformed by your love saying, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for the church, that it may manifest your grace and mercy in the world. We pray especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Sean, our Presiding Bishop-elect, Megan our Bishop, Katie, Mike, Rod, and Jesse our clergy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our nation, that it might fulfill its promise and be a nation where people know justice, peace, and the opportunity to thrive. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly, that we might be a place where each of us can discover our call and find ways to minister together as the body of Christ. We pray especially 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.**

We pray for the natural order, that the abundance and diversity of creation might be preserved through our choices and advocacy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Compassionate God, bring comfort to those whose lives have been devastated this hurricane season. We pray especially for the victims and survivors of hurricane Helene. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for justice and peace throughout the earth, following the way of Jesus and learning from his example. We pray especially for those in the Middle East facing violence. We pray for you to be with them and for an end to the atrocities that continue to plague the world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick, the injured, the anxious and despairing, grant them hope and wholeness through the power of your healing presence. Especially we lift up **Cynthia, Liz, Barbara, Bobbi, Mike, Sandy, Jane, Robert, Sherry, Michael, Sarah,**

Tina, Jennifer, Jay, Mark, Mary, Kay, Hunter, and Billie. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the dead and the dying, especially Paula Baldwin and Betsy Burns, that they might fulfill your will for them and rest in the glory of your eternal love. 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.**

Celebrant You have promised to hear and respond to us when we gather in your name; answer us with your loving kindness that our hopes may be fulfilled. All this we ask through the One who showed us your love most perfectly Jesus Christ. **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.