

— ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



MARCH 9, 2025

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

PRELUDE MUSIC & WELCOME

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever.

THE GENERAL CONFESSION

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People **Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
Have mercy on us and forgive us;
That we may delight in your will,
And walk in your ways,
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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Together, let us pray

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE 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

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy (26:1-11)

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before

the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please pray Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 responsively by half-verse

1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *

Abides under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 He shall say to the Lord, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, *

My God in whom I put my trust."

9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge, *

And the Most High your habitation,

10 There shall no evil happen to you, *

Neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, *

To keep you in all your ways.

12 They shall bear you in their hands, *

Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *

You shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.

14 Because he is bound to me in love, Therefore will I deliver him; *

I will protect him, because he knows my Name.

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *

I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, *

And show him my salvation.

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke (4:1-13)

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

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,'

and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Officiant The Gospel 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 In this, the first Sunday of the holy season of Lent, let us offer to God the deepest needs of our hearts crying out to him, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Reader Holy One, bless this church with an ever-deepening faith and lead us forward in our own season of wonder as we prepare for the season of Lent. We especially pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Megan our Bishop, Andy, Katie, Mike, Rod, and Jesse, our clergy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy One, protect the children and families of our community. 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 TK-8. Give them the gift of time, health, and love of you. Let us be a part of the life of families and especially send us to love the lonely and forgotten who live among us. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy One, healing is one of our greatest needs in this life. It is our privilege to offer to you those we know who are in need of your healing and who seek a relief from pain and suffering. We especially offer to you **Marilei, Jennifer, Michael, Andrea, Kathy, Chris, Kate, Holly, Frances, Cynthia, Liz, Barbara, Mike, Tina, Mark, Mary, Kay, Hunter, and Billie.** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy One, we know that you have prepared a place for us. Gather those who die in the light of your love, especially Jim Carpenter, Bert Calvert and Gumersindo Leuterio, and bless the grieving with comfort and peace. 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 Holy God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless our prayers with your discerning love and lead us ever more into a deeper life of faith life with you. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

***SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER* ***

Officiant 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.**

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who hears when you call; the grace of Christ, who reconciles you; the power of the Holy Spirit, who sustains you; remain with you in these Lenten days and for all your days, and forevermore. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CONCLUDING REMARKS, DISCUSSION, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND
CHECK IN.