

# — ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



APRIL 27, 2025

The Second Sunday of Easter

## PRELUDE MUSIC & WELCOME

*Officiant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Officiant* Together, let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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. We thank you for having drawn to us several persons 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 Acts of the Apostles (5:27-32)**

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

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

*People*    **Thanks be to God.**

**Please pray Psalm 150 responsively by half-verse**

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; \*  
**praise him in the firmament of his power.**
- 2 Praise him for his mighty acts; \*  
**praise him for his excellent greatness.**
- 3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; \*  
**praise him with lyre and harp.**
- 4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; \*  
**praise him with strings and pipe.**
- 5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; \*  
**praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.**
- 6 Let everything that has breath \*  
**praise the Lord. Hallelujah!**

*Officiant*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*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* Joyful in the light of your love and your invitation to abundant life in Christ, we offer to you now the prayer of our deepest longings and hopes saying, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Lord, give us hands that reach out to the poor, the imprisoned, the hungry, the homeless, the sinful, the undesirable in the spirit of your love. Help our indifference. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, give us voices to proclaim the good news of your justice to all persecuted and persecutors of the world. Help our lethargy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, give us leaders that work toward justice and life for all people and nations. We especially pray for Mary, our head of school, Christine, our incoming head of school, for all the staff, teachers and students at St. Michael's Day School and Starr King TK-8. Help our apathy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, give us churches that welcome all your beloved and strive to walk your way of love. Help our desire to change. We especially pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Megan our Bishop, Andy, Katie, Mike, Rod, and Jesse, our clergy. We pray also for wisdom and grace to be given to all those responsible for discerning who will be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. By the power of the Holy Spirit may an individual who is a strong spiritual leader and unifier of the faithful be selected. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, give us bodies, minds, and spirits that are hopeful and health. Help our sickness and our sin. Especially we pray for **Dancy, Tom, Cindy, Greg, Sarah, 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.**

Lord, give us the promise of eternal life in you. Help us to be your signs in the world, that we might impart peace to the dying and comfort to the grieving. Help our inadequacy. 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* Heavenly Father you desire nothing but life in abundance for us. Give us the courage to claim that life, and the conviction to proclaim your goodness in all we do. We ask this through your Son, our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. **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**

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

*Officiant* Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

CONCLUDING REMARKS, DISCUSSION, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND  
CHECK IN.