

— ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



March 1, 2026
The Second Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE MUSIC & WELCOME

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures forever.**

Officiant Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.”

GENERAL CONFESSION

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

People **Gracious God,
we praise you for accepting us as your children**

**and making us heirs of eternal life.
In your mercy you have washed us from our sins
and made us clean in your sight.
Yet we still fail to love you as we should
and serve you as we ought.
Forgive us our sins and renew us by your grace,
that we may continue to grow as members of Christ,
who is our savior and redeemer. 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 Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Genesis (12:1-4a)

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make

your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please pray Psalm 121 responsively by half-verse.

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *

from where is my help to come?

2 My help comes from the Lord, *

the maker of heaven and earth.

3 He will not let your foot be moved *

and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *

shall neither slumber nor sleep;

5 The Lord himself watches over you; *

the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *

nor the moon by night.

7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *

it is he who shall keep you safe.

8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *

from this time forth for evermore.

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL JOHN (3:1-17)

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

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

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent

in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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 Holy God, fill all those who lift their hearts to you with a spirit of rebirth, that we might find your joy and pour it out for others in your name. Answer us as we say, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Reader We pray for the church universal, for our understanding of your holy word to increase and our ability to live the life of service you demand of us to be a source of peace and joy. We especially pray for Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullally, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Megan our Bishop, Megan, Katie, Mike, Rod, and Jesse, our clergy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for justice and peace throughout the earth, following

the way of Jesus, seeking to serve him in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves and respecting the dignity of every human being. God hear the cry of the oppressed. Send your Spirit upon all those who grieve and sit in fear, and grant wisdom to those in authority to act with wisdom and grace. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world itself, for this earth and all your creation, that we may all work together to repair the harm we have done and to discover new, more sustainable ways of life. We pray especially for Christine, our head of school, for all the staff, teachers and students at St. Michael's Day School and Starr King TK-8. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, for those in trouble and despair, for those who are ill and frightened, for those who are grieving, anxious or hopeless. We pray that those in greatest need may feel you close about them. Especially we pray for **Jane, Fred, Diane, Ellen, Michael, Jim, Bill, Carol, Dave, Holly, Sara, Dorothy, Kathy, Dan, Jon, Sarah, Jennifer, Michael, Andrea, Chris, Liz, Mike, Kay, Hunter, and Billie.** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own lives and the needs of those we love. We pray for those we do not know and for those we have neglected or harmed. Be mercifully present to us and to all. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the departed, for those who are dying and for all those who watch and wait with them. May light perpetual and joy unending be theirs to claim. We especially pray for the repose of

the souls of Jennine Quiring, Mary Hutchinson and Sr. Tina Francesca Ferriot and for peace and comfort to their families and loved ones. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Officiant Lord, like Nicodemus we do not fully understand the mysteries of your love and we sometimes willfully ignore the truth of your word. Bring us again into new life lived in you and share with us the joy of your eternal kingdom. To you, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit we pledge our lives. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER *

Officiant In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you, and, since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, 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

Officiant Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CONCLUDING REMARKS, DISCUSSION, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND
CHECK IN.