

— ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



February 8th, 2026

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

PRELUDE MUSIC & WELCOME

Officiant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom now and for ever. Amen.**

Officiant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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 The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Isaiah (58:1-9a)

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?
Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please pray Psalm 112:1-9 responsively by half-verse.

1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!
2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.

8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

9 They have given freely to the poor, *
**and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up
their head with honor.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL MATTHEW (5:13-20)

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

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

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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 Creating God, you have made us in your image that we might reflect your glory, hear us now as we say, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Reader Be present in and guide your church that it might always stand for the way that leads to life and light. 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 offer to you the deepest needs and longings of our own hearts, help us to grow into the people you created us to be and to take up the work you have given us to do. 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.**

Open our eyes to behold the glory of your Creation that we might take up our responsibilities to preserve and protect it with joy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Extend your healing presence to all who suffer and restore them to a sense of wholeness. Especially we pray for **Michael, Jim, Bill, Carol, Dave, Holly, Sara, Dorothy, Kathy, Dan, Jon, Sarah, Jennifer, Michael, Andrea, Chris, Liz, Mike, Tina, Mary, Kay, Hunter, and Billie.** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Welcome all who have died into your loving presence and bring us also into that new kingdom in your new age. We especially pray for the repose of Caroline Ficker and for peace and comfort to her family 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 You have offered us the gift of grace and reconciliation through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. Let us live into your Son's example that we might also know abundant life in your presence. All we ask, we ask through our Lord and intercessor, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns eternally. **Amen.**

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 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 The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People **Thanks be to God.**

CONCLUDING REMARKS, DISCUSSION, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND
CHECK IN.