

— ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



July 26, 2026
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE MUSIC & WELCOME

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

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

Officiant Let us pray.

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.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS & PSALM

A reading from the first book of Kings (3:5-12)

Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but

have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please pray Psalm 119:129-136 responsively by half-verse.

129 Your decrees are wonderful; *

therefore I obey them with all my heart.

130 When your word goes forth it gives light; *

it gives understanding to the simple.

131 I open my mouth and pant; *

I long for your commandments.

132 Turn to me in mercy, *

as you always do to those who love your Name.

133 Steady my footsteps in your word; *

let no iniquity have dominion over me.

134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, *

and I will keep your commandments.

135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant *

and teach me your statutes.

136 My eyes shed streams of tears, *

because people do not keep your law.

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL MATTHEW (13:31-33, 44-52)

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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, be in the midst of us now as we pray for ourselves and the world saying, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Reader We pray for the Church, the body of Christ, that you would be in our midst everywhere we are. Strengthen us, reorient us and send us to be your people to the world. We especially pray for Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Megan, our Bishop, Megan, Mike, Rod, and Jesse, our clergy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the health, welfare, and legacy of this nation. We pray for the prosperity and needs of our brothers and sisters across our country and around the world. Embolden us to serve the common good and advocate for the needs of all people. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all creatures on the earth, and for the earth itself. We pray for an end to pollution and the apathy that destroys the creation that you called Good. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation, give us hearts that long for you and hands that serve others in your name. We especially pray for Olivia, our interim head of school, for all the staff, teachers and students of St. Michael's Episcopal Day School and Starr King TK-8. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick, suffering, anxious, hopeless, imprisoned, persecuted or alone. We pray for those who are ill and for those who provide them care. Especially we pray for **Mary, Rick, Larry, Diane, John, America, Kathy, Ramiro, Jane, Fred, Ellen, Bill, Carol, Holly, Sara, Kathy, Dan, Jon, Sarah, Jennifer, Michael, Andrea, Chris, Mike and Hunter.** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be with the dying, comfort the grieving, and hold us in your heart, this day and always. We especially pray for the repose of the souls of Barbara Gilcrist and Ed Linn, 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, you have promised to be with us whenever we gather in your name, be with us now. Hear and respond to our prayers. Show us the path to be your people more perfectly. All this we ask in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

GENERAL CONFESSION

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

**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 us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us 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 our 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 us, and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CONCLUDING REMARKS, DISCUSSION, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND
CHECK IN.