

— ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



October 4, 2026

The Feast of St. Francis

PRELUDE MUSIC & WELCOME

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. 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.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may, for love of you, delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; 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 book Job (39:1-18)

"Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?

Do you observe the calving of the deer?

Can you number the months that they fulfil,

and do you know the time when they give birth,

when they crouch to give birth to their offspring,

and are delivered of their young?

Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open;

they go forth, and do not return to them.

"Who has let the wild ass go free?

Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass,

to which I have given the steppe for its home,

the salt land for its dwelling-place?

It scorns the tumult of the city;

it does not hear the shouts of the driver.

It ranges the mountains as its pasture,

and it searches after every green thing.

"Is the wild ox willing to serve you?

Will it spend the night at your crib?
Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes,
or will it harrow the valleys after you?
Will you depend on it because its strength is great,
and will you hand over your labour to it?
Do you have faith in it that it will return,
and bring your grain to your threshing-floor?

"The ostrich's wings flap wildly,
though its pinions lack plumage.
For it leaves its eggs to the earth,
and lets them be warmed on the ground,
forgetting that a foot may crush them,
and that a wild animal may trample them.

It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own;
though its labour should be in vain, yet it has no fear;
because God has made it forget wisdom,
and given it no share in understanding.
When it spreads its plumes aloft,
it laughs at the horse and its rider."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please pray The Cantic of Brother Sun responsively by half-verse.

Most high, all powerful, all good Lord!*

All praise is Yours, all glory, all honor, and all blessing.
To You, alone, Most High, do they belong.*

No mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your name.

Be praised, my Lord, through all Your creatures,*

especially through my lord Brother Sun,
who brings the day; and You give light through him.*

**And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendor! Of You,
Most High, he bears the likeness.**

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars;*

**in the heavens You have made them bright, precious and
beautiful.**

Be praised, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air,*

**and clouds and storms, and all the weather, through which
You give Your creatures sustenance.**

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Water;*

she is very useful, and humble, and precious, and pure.
Be praised, my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom You
brighten the night.*

He is beautiful and cheerful, and powerful and strong.

Be praised, my Lord, through our sister Mother Earth,*

**who feeds us and rules us, and produces various fruits with
colored flowers and herbs.**

Be praised, my Lord, through those who forgive for love of You;*

through those who endure sickness and trial.

Happy those who endure in peace,*

for by You, Most High, they will be crowned.

Be praised, my Lord, through our sister Bodily Death,*

from whose embrace no living person can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin!*

**Happy are those she finds doing Your most holy will. The
second death can do no harm to them.**

Praise and bless my Lord, and give thanks,*
and serve Him with great humility. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL LUKE (12:13-21)

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

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

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

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, you call us to be your people and to live in ways that honor you and all people. Give us hearts that cleave to your command to love you and to love our neighbor as much or more than we love ourselves. Hear us as we pray, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Reader We pray for the church, in the world at this time; that we might be Christ's hands and feet in a world that still cries for deliverance. 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 our nation, for the health, safety, and peace of all people everywhere. 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 the needs of the world; for an end to warfare; for the recognition of rights for all people; and for those who are persecuted, that they may be set free from the bonds of oppression and despair. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those affected by disaster, both natural and human caused, that we might find ways to make positive changes for the benefit of all. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who suffer from illness, anxiety, depression, loneliness, grief, or hopelessness, that their burdens might be

lightened by our compassion and your love. Especially we pray for **Clara, Kyle, Denise, Mary, Rick, Larry, Diane, John, America, Ramiro, Fred, Ellen, Bill, Carol, Holly, Sara, Kathy, Dan, Jon, Sarah, Jennifer, Michael, Andrea, Chris, Mike and Hunter.** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We remember and offer to you our prayers for the dead, that they might celebrate new life in your kingdom, in your eternal presence. We especially pray for the repose of the soul of Barbara Hulse and for peace and comfort for her family and loved ones. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

On this feast day of St. Francis, we give thanks for all who served Christ in the order of St. Francis. We especially give thanks for the life, love, and witness of Sister Tina Francesca. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Officiant All this we ask in love, through You, your Son, and the Holy Spirit. **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 with

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 Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CONCLUDING REMARKS, DISCUSSION, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND
CHECK IN.