

# ST. MICHAEL'S

# LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our mission is to celebrate and share God's love in Jesus Christ

<sup>38</sup> Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked.



"Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." <sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

# **Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

July 20, 2025 at 10:00 AM ELW Setting 6

#### **WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL'S!**

If you are visiting with us for the first time, please share in all that is ours in Christ! We invite you to consider making St. Michael's your church home. Please ask us about our participation in God's mission in the world. By God's grace we celebrate and share Christ. Our 10:00 worship service this morning is streamed live to St. Michael's Facebook and YouTube pages. Please keep conversation to a minimum in the sanctuary, you may be picked up by our sound system. If you prefer not to be seen on camera please speak to an usher and they will seat you outside of the video frame. Thank you for your understanding.

Special thanks to Katrina Wylie for sharing her musical talents with us today.

#### **DIGITAL SIGN IN**

To help keep each other safe, you are welcome to sign in with our new digital sign in. Please use the QR Code that can be found here in the bulletin or the iPad in the Narthex.



Ministers: The People of St. Michael's
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#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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#### INTRODUCTION

Perhaps the church, at its best, is "all ears." God urges the faithful, again and again, to "listen up!"—to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** 

"God's Time is the Best"

J.S. Bach, arr. Bigs

#### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The assembly is invited to stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the  $\pm$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

#### Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection.

#### Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of  $\Phi$  Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

#### Amen.

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all laud we would render; oh, help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt OneLicense, net #A-711336

#### **GREETING**

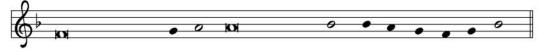
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

#### **KYRIE**



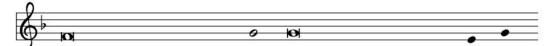
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



God, and for the uni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.





For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.





Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.



# **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**







#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### Amen.

The assembly is seated.

#### **WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING Genesis 18:1-10a

The LORD visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long-awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

A reading from Genesis.

¹ The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁶ Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁶ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

<sup>9</sup> They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." <sup>10a</sup> Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Colossians 1:15-28

This letter offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is "Christ in you." Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

A reading from Colossians.

<sup>15</sup> [Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup> for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

<sup>21</sup> And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup> he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, <sup>23</sup> provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

<sup>24</sup> I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. <sup>25</sup> I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup> the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup> To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup> It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The assembly is invited to stand.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**





GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42

During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>38</sup> Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." <sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** *The assembly is seated.* 

#### **SERMON**

The assembly is invited to stand.

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Give Me Jesus"

**ELW 770** 

In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.

#### Refrain

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus. 2 Dark midnight was my cry, dark midnight was my cry, dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus. Refrain

Just about the break of day, just about the break of day, just about the break of day, give me Jesus. Refrain 4 Oh, when I come to die, oh, when I come to die, oh, when I come to die, give me Jesus. *Refrain* 

5 And when I want to sing, and when I want to sing, and when I want to sing, give me Jesus. *Refrain* 

Text: African American spiritual. Used by permission OneLicense.net #A-711336.

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

#### THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world, responding with "hear our prayer".

A brief silence.

Inspire your church, like Sarah and Mary, to listen with eager longing for your words of life. Equip biblical interpreters and teachers with faithful discernment, that your word may be more fully known. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Every creature under heaven has been promised the hope of the gospel. From that promise, generate in humankind an eagerness to protect and care for creation. Bring healing to the earth with your words of life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Peel away the distractions, worries, and fears of all who govern the nations of the world. May your word of love and life dispel all other voices. Provide gracious hospitality in places where hostile forces hold sway. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Speak your word of comfort to any who suffer pain, illness, grief, depression, or despair, especially...those we name aloud...and those we hold in our hearts. Bring honor to any

who experience slander and evil intent or are discredited by others. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Enliven and uphold all siblings in Christ who strive to provide hospitality and safe spaces where everyone, without exception, can receive and be transformed by your word of life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

For Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Mary, Martha, and all the saints who attended to your word, we give thanks. Open our ears to your voice until that day when we realize the promise of the gospel with all creation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

#### **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### **OFFERING**

MUSICAL OFFERING: "This is my Father's World" arr. Lucy Ann Warriner

Offering is being gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. You are invited to place your offering in one of the offering plates located in the rear of the Sanctuary or send your offering to the church office through the mail or by having your bank mail a check directly. You can also contribute using any of the electronic giving options found on our church website or app.

The assembly is invited to stand.

#### **OFFERATORY**



## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

#### **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

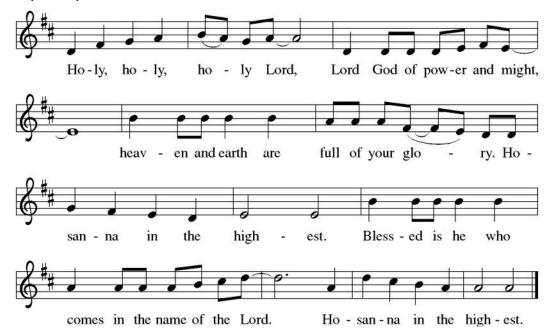
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful  $\operatorname{\mathsf{God}}\nolimits.$ 

You are most holy,

and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, forever and ever. Amen.

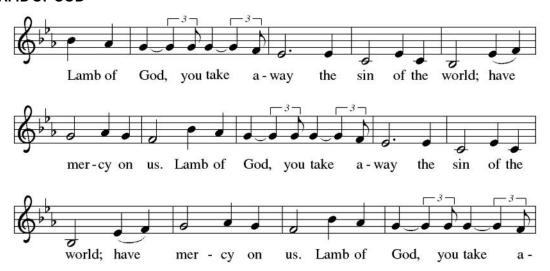
#### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

We give thanks as we receive the real presence of our resurrected Lord in, with, and under the bread and the wine. Communion will be distributed continuously under the direction of the ushers. Take an empty cup to receive from a pouring chalice (let the communion assistant know if you prefer grape juice). Please let the pastor know if you require a gluten free host. When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you." and each person may respond, "Amen". Worshippers who are not yet communing are invited to come forward for a blessing.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

#### **LAMB OF GOD**





The assembly is seated.

#### **COMMUNION HYMN**

"Be Thou My Vision"

**ELW 793** 

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art: thou my best thought both by day and by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord. Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r, raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always: thou and thou only, the first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
   Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931. Used by permission from OneLicense.net #A-711336

After all have communed the assembly is invited to stand.

#### **TABLE BLESSING**

The Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in Christ's Grace. **Amen.** 

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **SENDING**

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit  $\oplus$  bless you and give you peace. **Amen.** 

#### SENDING HYMN

"God, Whose Almighty Word"

**ELW 673** 

- 1 God, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard and took their flight: hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light.
- 2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your redeeming wing, healing and sight; health to the troubled mind, sight where illusions blind; oh, now to humankind let there be light.
- 3 Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy dove, speed forth your flight; move on the water's face bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place let there be light.
- 4 Holy and blessed three, glorious Trinity,
  Wisdom, Love, Might:
  boundless as ocean's tide,
  rolling in fullest pride,
  through the earth, far and wide,
  let there be light.

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt. Used by permission OneLicense.net #A-711336.

#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** 

"Maestoso"

Elizabeth T. Van Woert

The Eternal Candle is given by Peggy Schlagle.

#### **UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS**

# Mary Magdalene, Apostle

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Sometimes called "the apostle to the apostles" because she told them of her encounter with the risen Lord, Mary was a woman of Galilee who followed Jesus throughout his ministry. She was present at Jesus' crucifixion and his burial.

## Birgitta of Sweden, renewer of the church, died 1373

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Birgitta married at age thirteen and had four daughters. Widowed at age thirty-eight, she gave all that she owned to the poor, and founded a community of monks and nuns led by a woman. Her work is continued today by the Society of St. Birgitta.

### James, Apostle

Friday, July 25, 2025

James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).

#### WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULING

Summer is here and everyone is busy enjoying all the fun that summer has to offer. Worship Assistants can now update their availability (through August) using the Church Connect app. This allows the office to know everyone's availability with less confusion. Please update availability as soon as possible. Thank you in advance.

#### **SOCIAL JUSTICE & ADVOCACY EVENT**

What is your "Single Story"? Have you every thought about how your interactions with other people may have been affected y the stories we have been told about them and vice versa? This presentation will show us how easy it is to fall into that trap. Join Social Justice & Advocacy Committee on July 29th at 6:00PM for sandwiches and beverages, followed by a video and discussion at 6:30PM. We are excited to share this video with you! See Ruth Morgenroth or Anne Cassidy with any questions.

#### STITCHING SISTERS

Calling all knitters! Stitching Sisters will meet on Thursday, July 24th at 11:00 AM in the choir room. Bring your lunch, yarn, and needles. All are welcome! See Allyson Zinman for more information.

#### TEE TIME FORE SSJ NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Mark your calendars for Tee Time FORE the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Center. All are welcome, golfers and non-golfers to the SSJNC third annual fundraiser at Topgolf, Mt. Laurel on Thursday, August 7, 2025, from 5:30-8:30 pm. To register: <a href="https://ssjnc.org/topgolf/">https://ssjnc.org/topgolf/</a>

#### JOSEPH'S HOUSE BREAKFAST CASSEROLES

Joseph's House continues its ministry to feed the homeless in Camden. The next opportunity to provide BREAKFAST casseroles will be **THURSDAY**, **JULY 24TH**, **2025**. Casseroles can be dropped off between 10:00 AM and 12 Noon at the Elkins Road door. Please use this link to sign-up: https://bit.ly/3TnLwv7

# **PARISH CALENDAR**

# Sunday, July 20

8:15 AM Spoken Communion Service In-Person 10:00 AM Summer Holy Communion In-Person, Facebook & YouTube 6:00 PM NA Meeting

Monday, July 21

Tuesday, July 22

Wednesday, July 23 9:30 AM Weight Watchers Meeting

Thursday, July 24

10:00 AM JH Breakfast Casserole Drop-off
11:00 AM Stitching Sisters

Friday, July 25
Office Closed—Summer Hours

Saturday, July 26

Sunday, July 27

8:15 AM Spoken Communion Service In-Person 10:00 AM Summer Holy Communion In-Person, Facebook & YouTube 6:00 PM NA Meeting



# **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** God's work. Our hands.