



ST. MICHAEL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ARLINGTON, VA

Sunday, October 25, 2020

Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

Virtual Worship

Welcome!

Welcome to virtual worship with the greater St. Michael's community! You honor us by participating in this service. The root of the word liturgy is "the work of the people." Meaning all that happens in this virtual community works because of your participation. The beautiful thing about this invitation to participate is that, who we are and what we bring is enough because God meets us here in this virtual space.

The words of our worship service are lifted from the Episcopal (and before that Anglican) tradition. The thing that sets us apart from other denominations is our dedication to Common Prayer. These same words have been used for hundreds of years by people all over the world, and are still used today. The hope of finding ourselves in the midst of this ancient tradition is that we might both learn from those who have come before, and add our own voices to the heavenly chorus.

During this time of worshipping virtually what you will find is an order for ante-communion, or in more familiar language, the Liturgy of the Word. Until we can safely gather together and share in breaking of the bread and the common cup, we will feast on Holy Scripture. Jesus told his disciples, "Whenever two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." We trust that God's presence is very much with us as we share our intentions and prayers in worship.

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Hymn: 423

Praise to God

423

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt.

Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877);
harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

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

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

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.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A reading from **Deuteronomy 34:1-12**

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for

Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth
were born, *
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is
past*
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 13 Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.
- 14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
- 15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.
- 16 Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

A reading from **1 Thessalonians 2:1-8**

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

A reading from **Matthew 22:34-46**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet"'?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions. Matthew 22:34-46

The Sermon

Amanda Doshier

The Prayers of the People (A Litany of Healing, Enriching Our Worship)

Celebrant Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

The People audibly name those for whom they are interceding.

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation: **We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly: **We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence: **We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being: **We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or suffering, that they may be made whole: **Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence: **Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit: **Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience: **Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved: **Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world: **Hear us, O Lord of life.**

You are the Lord who does wonders: **You have declared your power among the peoples.**

With you, O Lord, is the well of life: **And in your light we see light.**

Hear us, O Lord of life: **Heal us, and make us whole.**

A period of silence follows.

God whose vision spans all the ages of the earth, help us to see in this moment the pain and suffering our sisters and brothers are subjected to, and give us the will to right the wrongs we have done, by our actions and our inactions. Ease the pain of all your people. Help us also to see beyond this moment and to embrace the wider perspective of your whole creation. Deliver us from fear and lead us into a way of love and justice that makes room for all peoples. Send your spirit among us that we may know the healing power of your love. All this we ask through your son, Jesus, the reconciler of the world. **Amen.**

Let us pray together using the words 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.**

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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.

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.**

Prayer for Communion

God of Love, we thank you for bringing us together in this place, on this day to honor and to celebrate you and your People, the living, loving Body of Christ. Jesus told his disciples, "Whenever two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Bless this gathering as a sacramental rite, a visible sign of your love for us, and our love for one another. Even in the absence of the bread and the wine, let us feed on You, your Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, in our hearts, with faith and thanksgiving. Amen.

Closing Prayer

May the Spirit kindle in us the fire of God's love. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

141

Shall We Gather at the River

1. Shall we gath-er at the riv - er, Where bright an - gel feet have trod; _
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, Wash - ing up its sil - ver spray, _
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, Lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down; _
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, Soon our pil - grim - age will cease, _

1. With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the _ throne of _ God?
2. We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, All the hap - py _ gold - en _ day.
3. Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, And pro - vide a _ robe and _ crown.
4. Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er With the mel - o - dy of _ peace.

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful _ riv - er;

Gath - er with the saints _ at the riv - er That flows by the throne of _ God.

Words: Robert Lowry (1826-1899)
Music: Robert Lowry

Activities This Week At St. Michael's

Sun., Oct. 25	8:00 AM	Worship on the Lawn
	9:30 AM	Worship on the Lawn
	11:00 AM	Virtual Service
Wed., Oct. 28	7:00 PM	Race: Where do we stand? (Virtual)
Thu., Oct. 29	1:30 PM	XYZ (Virtual)
Sun., Nov. 1	8:00 AM	Worship on the Lawn
	9:30 AM	Worship on the Lawn
	11:00 AM	Virtual Service

Those Serving Today

Seminarian	Amanda Doshier
Music	Noel Warford
Lector	Tayt Korejwo
Zoom Manager	Isabel Ruff

Prayer List Week of October 25, 2020

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Church in Wales. In the Diocese of Virginia we pray for Grace, Kilmarnock; Westover, Charles City; St. James, Mt. Vernon, Alexandria. In the region of Arlington we pray for St. Mary's. We pray for leaders of churches everywhere, especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Susan, Jennifer, and Porter our bishops; Beth, our rector, and Amanda our seminarian.

We pray for goodwill among nations; for Donald, our President, Antonio, Secretary General of the United Nations, Ralph, our Governor, members of the Arlington County Board, and all those in authority. We pray for the welfare of those serving our nation at home and abroad, especially Jeremy, Georganna, and Annamarie.

In our Parish Family, we pray for Maria, Erin, Chrissie, Silas, Roberta, Margot, Paul, Anthony, Leroy, Cindy, Sarah, Giovana, Connor, Lisa, Jonathan, Genevieve, and Bob.

In our greater community, we pray for Cindy, Rita and Paul, George, Emily, Andrew, Cate, Wendy, Ethan, Marion, Roland, Lexi, Patty, Ethan, Caroline, Joe, Whitney, Dave, Henry, Richard, Becky, Susan, Keith, Martha, Barbara, Betty, Joyce, Doris, Susan, Evelyn, Janet, Jennifer, JoAnn, Devon, the Smith family, Marjory, Edward, Mary, all doctors, nurses and health care staff members, all funeral home staff members, elected officials, all essential workers, all parents, all students and teachers, all those unemployed or furloughed, and all staff and residents of nursing homes especially Goodwin House, Culpeper Garden, Regency, Powhatan, Larmax, and the Virginian. We remember all those who have died.