



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ARLINGTON, VA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S EVE

Whatever has brought you to worship with this community today, we're so glad you're here. If you're wondering whether there might be something more for you, we hope you'll come back and find out. One of the things we're committed to is finding how our story connects with God's story. We'd love to have your story become a part of our story. The best way to participate in these conversations is to look for announcements about "Being With" courses in our e-newsletter.

Sounds from children, young and old, are a valuable part of our prayer life – not a distraction from it! Families are encouraged to sit in the front of the sanctuary, allowing children as many opportunities to follow along and participate as possible. Should a break be beneficial at any point in the service, the nursery is available for supervised play, and includes a QR code for streaming of the service on any device.

The root of the word liturgy is "the work of the people." Meaning all that happens in the sanctuary with the community who gathers 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! So don't worry about "doing" anything "right." Whether you've been to Episcopal services for a long time, or this is your first, we hope you'll worship in the way that is most comfortable to you. The service instructions about standing, kneeling, and other directions are intended to help clue you into the habits of this particular community.

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.

We are currently offering communion in both kinds, the bread and the wine. Drinking from a common cup, is an essential symbolic practice, a reflection of our theology. We place great emphasis on offering this meal from a single paten (plate which holds the bread) and chalice to symbolize the unity we find in Christ, despite any perceived divisions. We return to the Eucharistic table again and again, because it is only through Christ that we are able to imagine what being unified might look like. Choosing to intinct the bread in the chalice is the least sanitary option, as we risk having many hands in the chalice. Please either drink from the chalice, or refrain from consuming the wine. Whether you would like to receive bread, bread and wine, or a blessing, please know that you are welcome at the Lord's table.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S LESSONS, CAROLS, AND HOLY EUCHARIST

PRELUDE

PROCESSION

O come, all ye faithful

Adeste fideles

Hymn 83

BIDDING PRAYER

Officiant Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide, we continue to rejoice in the Birth of our Savior and approach the beginning of a New Year, we join in prayer. May we seek to live in harmony with God's will and be grateful for the benefits, protection, and favor bestowed upon us. Let us give thanks and acknowledge God's gracious goodness, especially for the opportunity to dwell peaceably in safety and happiness, even as we continue our prayers for true and lasting peace among all nations and peoples. Let us make our hearts ready for this New Year by joining now in prayers and hymns and by celebrating as one family the feast Christ himself prepares for us.

Officiant Light and peace in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Officiant Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

LESSON I

Isaiah 61:10–62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Of the Father's love begotten

Divinum mysterium

Hymn 82

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

- a time to be born, and a time to die;
- a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
- a time to kill, and a time to heal;
- a time to break down, and a time to build up;
- a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
- a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
- a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
- a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
- a time to seek, and a time to lose;
- a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
- a time to tear, and a time to sew;
- a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
- a time to love, and a time to hate;
- a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures for ever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
 People Thanks be to God.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
 People Thanks be to God.

People, look East

Besançon Carol

WLP 724

Officiant Let us pray,

In your wisdom, O Lord our God, you have made all things, and have allotted to each of us the days of our life; Grant that we may live in your presence, be guided by you Holy Spirit, and offer all our works to your honor and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Good Christian friends, rejoice

In dulci jubilo

Hymn 107
verse 1

THE GOSPEL

John 1:18

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
 People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
 People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Good Christian friends, rejoice

In dulci jubilo

Hymn 107
verse 2

THE NICENE CREED

People We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

BCP p. 837

Leader Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us. For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

People We thank you, Lord.

Leader For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

People We thank you, Lord.

Leader For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

People We thank you, Lord.

Leader For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

People We thank you, Lord.

Leader For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

People We thank you, Lord.

Leader For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

People We thank you, Lord.

Leader For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

People We thank you, Lord.

Leader For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

People We thank you, Lord.

Leader Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

People To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God.
 People God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
 People **And also with you.**
We greet one another, passing the peace of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

Old 100th

Hymn 380

verse 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 praise him, all creatures here below;
 praise him above, ye heavenly host:
 praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Enriching Our Worship Eucharistic Prayer 1

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
 People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
 People **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

People **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER CONTINUES

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
People 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

COMMUNION *Gluten-free wafers are available.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

The First Noel

The First Nowell

Hymn 109
verses 1 and 5

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK AT ST. MICHAEL'S

SUN 12/31	9:30 AM	New Year's Eve Lessons, Carols, and Holy Eucharist
TUE 1/2	7:30 PM	Executive Committee
THUR 1/4	9:00 AM	Education for Ministry
	7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
SUN 1/7	9:30 AM	Holy Eucharist II, Children's Worship
	10:45 AM	Story Core

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Genesis 1:1-5 • Psalm 29 • Acts 19:1-7 • Mark 1:4-11

PRAYER LIST FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 31

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda. In the Diocese of Virginia, we pray for All the Baptized into Christ. In the region of Arlington, we pray for St. George's Church.

We pray for leaders of churches everywhere, especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Mark and Gayle, our bishops; Beth, our rector; Rosemari, our supply priest; and Drew, our seminarian.

We pray for goodwill among nations; for Joe, our President, Antonio, Secretary General of the United Nations, Glenn, our Governor, members of the Arlington County Board, and all those who have been recently elected. We pray for the welfare of those serving our nation at home and abroad, especially Jeremy.

In our Parish Family we pray for Leroy, Sarah, Paula, Liz, Norma, Ethan, Beverly, Pat, Martha, Fran, Katheryn, Dwight, and Barbara. We offer prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of Nicholas Pierson, son of Beth and Nic Franklin.

In our greater community, we pray for Cindy, George, Emily, Andrew, Roland, Henry, Susan, Martha, Betty, Laura, Pat, Beth, Jen, George, Peggy, Jon Rucker, Jr., Susan, Keith, Doug, Colby, Sarah, August, Barbara, Alan, Kay, Katie, Paul, Ben, Mae, Steve, Esther, Marina, Gordon, Julie, Steve, Megan, and Marjory.

We remember all those who have died, especially Cate Partain and John Dyer.

FRANKLINS WELCOME NICHOLAS PIERSON

Nicholas Pierson Franklin was born on December 14, 9 lbs. 6 oz. Mama and baby are healthy and thriving. Warner was excited about the present his baby brother brought him, and can't wait to share his books. Nic and Beth are incredibly grateful for your prayers and support. May your Christmas be as full of love as ours has already become!

Beth, Nic, Warner, and Pierson

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Beginning in 2024, the church office will be open Tuesday-Thursday, 9 AM–4 PM.

END-OF-THE-YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

In order for contributions to be applied to 2023 taxes, they need to be received in the Parish Office by today.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: AFAC



Can you spare two hours on Saturday, January 6, 12:30–2:30 PM? If you can, please volunteer to help bag vegetables and/or sort cans at the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), 2708 S. Nelson Street. Individuals, including families with children age 12+, are welcome. Please sign up by scanning the QR code.

NAME TAGS

Reminder: please wear your name tags on Sundays as the Rev. Rosemari Sullivan gets reacquainted with the congregation. If you don't see one with your name on it, please request one by writing your name on the clipboard by the front entrance.

LEADERSHIP DURING RECTOR'S LEAVE

While Beth is on leave, The Rev. Rosemari Sullivan is serving as supply priest. Meaning, Rosemari is present on Sundays, and available by appointment in the office. Additionally, feel free to be in touch with any of our Wardens, who can help to ensure that your needs are addressed in a timely fashion.

The Rev. Rosemari Sullivan (rosemari@stmichaelsarlington.org), 703-801-6832

Vicki Barnett (vjbwinkin@gmail.com), 703-919-7194

Jim Dinan (jhdinan@gmail.com), 703-522-8396

Kaipo McCartney (kaipo_mccartney@yahoo.com), 703-945-5353

The pastoral care emergency line may be used at any time, 703-239-3787.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Lector	Vicki Barnett
Ushers	Fran Olsen, Cindy Matlack
Greeter	Roberta Thibodaux
Acolyte	Wil Harkins, Angie Hernandez
LEM	Evelyn Bence
Altar Guild	James Chang
Zoom Coordinator	Corbin Monahan

ST. MICHAEL'S CLERGY AND STAFF

Rector	The Very Rev. Beth Franklin
Supply + Priest	The Rev. Canon Rosemari Sullivan, D.D., M. Div.
Music Minister	Mike Schmidt
Children & Families Minister	Karen Ruff
Seminarian	Drew Downey
Treasurer	Janet Hansen
Parish Administrator	Katrina Moore

ST. MICHAEL'S VESTRY

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Molly Beier	Vicki Barnett (<i>Sr. Warden</i>)	Jim Dinan (<i>Jr. Warden</i>)
John Kelleher	Beth Cavey	Lisa Meacham
Kaipo McCartney (<i>Warden</i>)	Bob Moore	Mary Thorne (<i>Registrar</i>)

CONNECT

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