

# ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



## *Lessons and Carols* *First Sunday of Christmas*

January 1, 2023

*400 River Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29212*

*In the order of service, congregational responses are printed in **bold**.  
Our worship **begins** at the Prelude, as we hear God's word in music.*

## GATHERING

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

The angel said to [the shepherds], “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).

As we gather we hear again the good news the angels proclaimed: God has come for all people through the birth of the one named Jesus. Through Bethlehem's manger God comes into the chaos, messiness, and vulnerability of the world. In all things and at all times, we rejoice that God comes to save us and reigns in love. We come to adore Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.

*Please Stand*

### CONFESSION

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God's forgiveness, grace, and love.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

**Forgive our lack of faith and trust.**

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

**Forgive our neglect of the poor.**

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

**Forgive our selfishness and complacency.**

With great joy the angels proclaimed, “Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

In + Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God's forgiveness is good news of great joy! **Amen.**

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who is Savior and Lord, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

**ELW 289**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please Sit*

## **WORD**

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

## **PSALM 8**

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory above the heavens.

<sup>2</sup>Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

<sup>3</sup>When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;

<sup>4</sup>what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them a little lower than God,  
and crowned them with glory and honor.

<sup>6</sup>You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet,

<sup>7</sup>all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup>the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

<sup>9</sup>O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**“For unto you is born a *Savior*, who is Christ, the Lord”**

**LESSON: Isaiah 12:2-6**

<sup>2</sup>Surely God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the Lord GOD is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.

<sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day:  
Give thanks to the LORD,  
call on his name;  
make known his deeds among the nations;  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL**

*O come, all ye faithful (refrain only)*

**ELW 283**

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

**LESSON: Matthew 1:18-21**

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**“For unto you is born a Savior, who is *Christ*, the Lord”**

**CAROL**

*Lo, How a Rose E'er blooming*

**ELW 272**

**LESSON: Isaiah 61:1-3, 11**

<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;

<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;

<sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion —  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

<sup>11</sup>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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL**

*O come, all ye faithful (refrain only)*

**ELW 283**

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

**LESSON: John 1:19-23, 29-34**

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about

yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

<sup>29</sup>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup>And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**“For unto you is born a Savior, who is Christ, the *Lord*”**

**CAROL**

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

**ELW 294**

**LESSON: Isaiah 6:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the LORD sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL**

*O come, all ye faithful (refrain only)*

**ELW 283**

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

## LESSON: Luke 1:26-35

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CAROL**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**ELW 279**

*Please Stand*

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

*A brief silence.*

Merciful God, broaden the church's hospitality and welcome. Open our hearts to any in need of refuge and help, especially those who are persecuted. Prosper the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Life-giving God, restore the health of the soil, the seas, and the air. Increase the joy and praise of all living things. In the coming year strengthen local, national, and international efforts to prevent further harm to the environment. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Liberating God, deliver your people from cruel oppression. Increase justice in every nation and keep the dream of freedom alive. In this new year bring the blessing of peace and put an end to violent conflict throughout the world. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Uplifting God, raise all who are bowed down by trouble and need, especially individuals and families living in poverty, and those struggling with illness and infirmity, we pray

especially for.... Protect and nurture all children. Sustain those who parent, teach, and care for the young. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Abiding God, accompany this community in the coming year. Increase our love for one another and the neighbors we serve. Enrich our worship and deepen our faith. Sustain our Saint Michael staff and all who minister in your name. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Loving God, the holy innocents who perish in every generation are safe in your keeping. We give you thanks and praise for the all the faithful who have gone before us into everlasting life with you. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING

*We give in grateful response for all God's gifts; God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

### OFFERTORY

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Generous God, you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

*On the night before he died, 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.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**                      **as we forgive those**  
                 **hallowed be thy name,**                                      **who trespass against us;**  
                 **thy kingdom come,**                                      **and lead us not into temptation,**  
                 **thy will be done,**                                      **but deliver us from evil.**  
   **on earth as it is in heaven.**                      **For thine is the kingdom,**  
**Give us this day our daily bread;**                                      **and the power, and the glory,**  
**and forgive us our trespasses,**                                      **forever and ever. Amen**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Share in the feast of salvation.

*Please Sit*

## COMMUNION

*Holy communion is offered to all who believe in Jesus Christ, who confess their sins, and seek forgiveness. The pastor will commune those with mobility concerns first. All others come forward to receive. Wine (red), grape juice (white), as well as gluten-free wafers are available.*

*Please Stand*

## COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

## BLESSING

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the everlasting peace of Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord. Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve our Savior, Christ, and the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**ASSISTING IN WORSHIP**

Lector: Kate Brighton

Sacristans: Kristi Kunar & Myrna Goegeline

Ushers: Harry Metz, Bill Colley

† † † † † † † †

**THE GOOD GIFTS GIVING TREE** is in the Narthex through Sunday, January 8, 2023. Choose an ornament, write your check to St. Michael's for that amount (or for a general gift) and the ELCA program will provide much needed items to those in need. Many thanks to those who have already contributed.

**THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL**

TODAY, January 1

9:15 a.m.

**10:30 a.m.**

*First Sunday of Christmas—Happy New Year!*

Sunday School, Choir Rehearsal

**Lessons and Carols**



Tuesday, January 3

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

NO BEER & HYMNS—Back February 7<sup>th</sup>!

Wednesday, January 4

REMINDER--NO Bible Study—We're back on the 11<sup>th</sup>!

Thursday, January 5

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*), FH

Next Sunday, January 8

*Second Sunday of Christmas*

9:15 a.m.

Sunday School (NO Choir Rehearsal)

**10:30 a.m.**

**Worship with Holy Communion**

**LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS  
FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND\* OR ILL**

Bill Adams  
\*John Martin Areheart  
Keith Berkeley  
Keith B. Berkeley  
Leslie Berkeley  
\*Dot Black  
Ken Black  
Joyce Bowers  
\*Pastor Henry Brandt

Don Buff  
Joe Cooper  
Donny Day  
\*Helen Derrick  
Barbara Devore  
\*Virgie Dreher  
Allison Dugger  
Jackie Dunning  
Lisa Gillespie

Douglas Gourley  
Terry Harris  
Jim Johnston  
Jill Lee  
Mickey Lindler  
Terry Matlosz  
Gayle Michelsen  
Linda Miller  
Susan Norcutt



Harry O'Quinn  
Jane Potts  
\*Billie Schnabel  
Tommae Sligh  
Richard Starnes  
Ed Thomas

**FOR A SPECIAL MEASURE OF YOUR GRACE  
MEMBERS & FAMILIES OF THE US ARMED FORCES & MILITARY, INCLUDING:**



Tyler Alexander, grandson of Sherri Spangler, USMC  
Samantha Davis, niece of Gene & Diana Riley, US Army  
Zachary Davis, grandson of Carolyn Cook, US Navy  
Grant Frick, grandson of Linda Frick, SC National Guard  
Victor Frick, grandson of Linda Frick, US Army  
Phil Lake, husband of Bridgett (Sloan) Lake, US Naval Reserve  
Collin Maloney, son of Mike & Karla Maloney, US Army OTS  
Griffin McLeod, son of Amanda McLeod, SC National Guard  
Brian Pipkin, son-in-law of Louie & Imogene Conder, SC Natl. Guard  
Hunter Purvis, son-in-law of Jerry & Cheryl Baxter, US Army  
Colt Protheroe, nephew of Kate Brighton, US Navy

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



# ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*



**If you are a guest, welcome!** Please drop a connections card in the offering plate so that we can get to know you better. As you leave today, be sure to sign our guest register and introduce yourself to the pastor. If you would like to learn about membership or have other questions, please call the church office. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

**Tithe.ly online giving** is now available in the app store or [www.tithe.ly/give](http://www.tithe.ly/give). Set up a secure profile in just a few moments, search "St. Michael Lutheran" and click on our church. One-time or recurring gifts can be set up conveniently, eliminating the hassle of carrying cash or check writing. The process is quick, safe, and funds are deposited immediately. Personal information is secure, and you can change your giving profile at any time. Optional designations for memorial or special gifts are available. An instantaneous receipt is sent via email or text for your tax records, too.

**Restrooms are located** in both the Administrative and Christian Education Buildings.

**Children are always welcome** in our worship service, but for those who desire it, there is a Church nursery located in the Administrative Building with a speaker to listen to the service.

**Large Print** and **Kids Celebrate** bulletins available from an usher

*The People of Saint Michael, Ministers*

*The Reverend Frank W. Anderson, Pastor*

*Karen Shevenell, Cantor*

*Kris Esgar, Parish Administrator*

WiFi: *StMichaels\_Guest* PW: *Sunday!!* + [stmichael1814@gmail.com](mailto:stmichael1814@gmail.com) 803.781.0229