

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Morning Prayer
Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 15, 2020

400 River Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29212

*In the order of service, congregational responses are printed in **bold**.
Please speak the responses **gently**. It is recommended that masks are worn during worship.*

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Please Stand

DIALOGUE AND DOXOLOGY

O Lord, open my lips,

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the + Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Amen.

Alleluia.

GATHERING SONG

How Long, O God?

ELW 698

Men & Leaders sing

**1 "How long, O God?" the psalmist cries,
a cry we make our own,
for we are lost, alone, afraid,
and far away from home.**

Men & Leaders sing

**4 How can we hope? How can we sing?
O God, set free our voice
to name the sorrows, name the pain,
that we might yet rejoice.**

Women & Leaders sing

**2 The evil lurks within, without,
it threatens to destroy
the fragile cords that make us one,
that bind our hearts in joy.**

Women & Leaders sing

**5 "How long, O God?" the psalmist cries,
a cry we make our own.
Though we are lost, alone, afraid,
our God will lead us home.**

Please Sit

WORD

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

PSALM 90:1-8, 12

¹Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

**²Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.**

³You turn us back to the dust and say,

“Turn back, O children of earth.”

⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night;

⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

⁶in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

**⁸Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

¹²So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, “The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.”

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. ¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of

clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. ¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Leader sings

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart be good soil.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

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

Please Sit

MESSAGE

Seminarian Luke Delasin

Please Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

When Peace Like a River

ELW 785

Men & Leaders sing

*1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to
say, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

Refrain All sing

*It is well (it is well)
with my soul, (with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

Women & Leaders sing

*2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials
should come, let this blest assurance
control, that Christ has regarded my
helpless estate, and has shed his own
blood for my soul. Refrain*

Men & Leaders sing

*4 Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall
be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a
scroll, the trumpet shall sound and the
Lord shall descend; even so it is well with
my soul. Refrain*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Lord of the church, ignite your people with the passion of your love. By the fire of your Holy Spirit, unify us across ministries, congregations, and denominations, and refine us to participate in your activity throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of creation, we stand in awe at the works of your hands and praise you for the beauty of nature. Bless the earth for your glory and restore its integrity where exploitation has caused ruin. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of the nations, sound forth your justice in the ears of all leaders. Increase concern for those who are most vulnerable, especially as international leaders forge trade agreements and cooperate to end human rights abuses. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of all in need, search out all who cry to you in distress. Scatter the heavy clouds of depression, chronic illness, unemployment, and loneliness with your radiant light. Send us as encouragement and signs of your healing. We pray especially for those on our Prayer List, including *Bill, Gwen, Gloria, Mickey, Gayle, Olene, Bruce, and Crystal*. We also ask you to watch over and keep our armed forces and military members safe, especially, *Tyler, Samantha, Grant, Victor, Phil, George, Griffin, Brian, and William*. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of the stranger, stir up holy restlessness in us to extend love to those at the margins. Release our desire for control and open us to learn from the perspectives of others. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of the living and the dead, we give you thanks for all the saints at rest from their labors. Rouse us to live by their example, that saints yet to come may also know your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver
us from evil.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and
the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Please Sit

THANKSGIVING

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

OFFERING

*We offer the convenience of **secure online giving** through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly). Please see the back page for more information about online giving. Offering plates are currently located at each entrance/exit for your convenience. If you need an envelope, please ask an usher.*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

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

Ever-living God, author of creation, we give you thanks for your gift of water that brings life and refreshes the earth. We bless and praise you, for by water and the Word we are cleansed from sin and receive everlasting life. Join us again this day to the saving death of Christ; renew in us the living fountain of your grace; and raise us with Christ Jesus to live in newness of life; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with

all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

On the first day of the week at early dawn, the women came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them: “Why do you look for the living among the dead? Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.”

BAPTISMAL SONG

Leader sings

*I Wash, O God, our sons and daughters,
where your cleansing waters flow. Number
them among your people; bless as Christ
blessed long ago. Weave them garments
bright and sparkling; compass them with
love and light. Fill, anoint them; send your
Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.*

All sing

*3 Oh, how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways! To your name
be glory, honor! With our lives we
worship, praise! We your people stand
before you, water washed and Spirit born.
By your grace, our lives we offer, Recreate
us; God, transform!*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Please Stand

BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Men & Leaders sing

*1 Thine the amen thine the praise
alleluias angels raise
thine the everlasting head
thine the breaking of the bread
thine the glory thine the story
thine the harvest then the cup
thine the vineyard then the cup
is lifted up lifted up.*

Women & Leaders sing

*2 Thine the life eternally
thine the promise let there be
thine the vision thine the tree
all the earth on bended knee*

Thine the Amen

ELW 826

*gone the nailing gone the railing
gone the pleading gone the cry
gone the sighing gone the dying
what was loss lifted high.*

Men & Leaders sing

*4 Thine the kingdom thine the prize
thine the wonder full surprise
thine the banquet then the praise
then the justice of thy ways
thine the glory thine the story
then the welcome to the least
then the wonder all increasing
at thy feast at thy feast.*

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

LECTOR: Harry Metz

USHERS: Dean Whitecotton, Gerry Goegeline, Larry Slice, Bo Harris

ALTAR FLOWERS given to the Glory of God by Connie & Bruce Schuver.

WE WELCOME LUKE DELASIN, a seminary student at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (LTSS) in Columbia. Luke is a senior at LTSS and hails from the Florida-Bahamas Synod. We are so grateful to have Luke share his faith with us today. Many Blessings to him in his pastoral career.



PLEASE ASK AN USHER if you need assistance or have a question before worship. Extra bulletins, offering envelopes, etc. are available if needed. They are not in the pews due to COVID.

HOME COMMUNION available through Pastor Frank or the office. Each cup is individually sealed and contains a wafer and juice or wine serving. We can put together several servings in a sealed plastic bag and deliver curbside if you call in advance!

HOLY COMMUNION takes place on the first Sunday of the month due to ongoing COVID precautions. You may select an individual, pre-filled wine, juice, or gluten-free wafer set at the entrance, which you may keep with you until communion. During Holy Communion, the pastor will direct the congregation to partake from the pews. Please remember to deposit empty cups, seals, and bulletins in the blue recycle bins as you exit.

CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING—SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND

Due to COVID-19 concerns, any member in good standing may “pre-vote” a ballot for council members and on the approval of the proposed 2021 budget. Simply drop by the church office between **10 am and 3 pm, Monday, November 16 through Thursday, November 19**, sign in to the meeting, then mark your ballot, fold and place in the ballot box. All early ballots will be included with those cast “live” on Sunday, November 22nd. If you need curbside assistance, please call the office before you arrive so we know you’re on the way.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL

<u>TODAY, November 15</u>	<i>Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost</i>
9:15 a.m.	Sunday School—FH
10:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer Worship; Also Streaming Online
2:30 p.m.	AA Meeting—FH
<u>Tuesday, November 17</u>	12:00 noon AA Meeting—FH
<u>Wednesday, November 18</u>	10:00 am Bible Study
<u>Thursday, November 19</u>	12:00 noon AA Meeting—FH
<u>Next Sunday, November 22</u>	<i>Christ the King Sunday</i>
9:15 a.m.	Sunday School—FH
10:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer Worship—Also Streaming Online
Immediately Following	Congregation Annual Meeting
Until 1:00 p.m.	<i>Drive-In Drop Off for Sistercare—hygiene/personal care items</i>
2:30 p.m.	AA Meeting—FH

*Every Monday and Friday, expect a call from Pastor Frank at 4:55 p.m.
#KeepingUsConnected*

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

Bill Adams
Roy Adams
Shirlene Adams
Dot Black
Gwen Buff
*Helen Derrick
*Virgie Dreher
June Fulmer
Gloria Helgeson



John Kreykenbohm
Jill Lee
Mickey Lindler
Caroline McCauley
Scott McCauley
Gayle Michelsen
Sandra Michelsen
Linda Miller
Susan Norcutt



*Billie Schnabel
*Olene Sons
Richard Starnes
Terry Stokes
Ed Thomas
Bruce William
David Wilson
Crystal Wood

**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
Grant Frick, grandson of Ted & Linda Frick, SC National Guard
Victor Frick, grandson of Ted & Linda Frick, US Army
Phil Lake, husband of Bridgett (Sloan) Lake, US Naval Reserve
George McArthur, son of Judith Tolhurst, USMC In Japan
Griffin Mcleod, son of Amanda Mcleod, SC National Guard
Brian Pipkin, son-in-law of Louie & Imogene Conder, SC Natl. Guard
William Woodruff, son of Jeff And Libby Woodruff, US Army



SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



If you are a guest, welcome! Please ask an usher for a blue Connections Card and drop in the offering plate so that we can get to know you better. As you leave today, be sure to 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 available in the app store or www.tithe.ly/give. Set up a secure profile, search "St. Michael Lutheran" and click on our church. One-time or recurring gifts can be scheduled, eliminating the need for 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. Designations for memorial or special gifts are available. An instant 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, a nursery is located in the Administrative Building with the service available via audio.

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

The People of Saint Michael, Ministers

The Reverend Frank W. Anderson, Pastor

Malechi Doren, Cantor

Kris Esgar, Parish Administrator

StMichael1814@gmail.com www.stmichael1814.com 803-781-0229 (office)

WiFi: StMichaels_Guest PW: Sunday!!