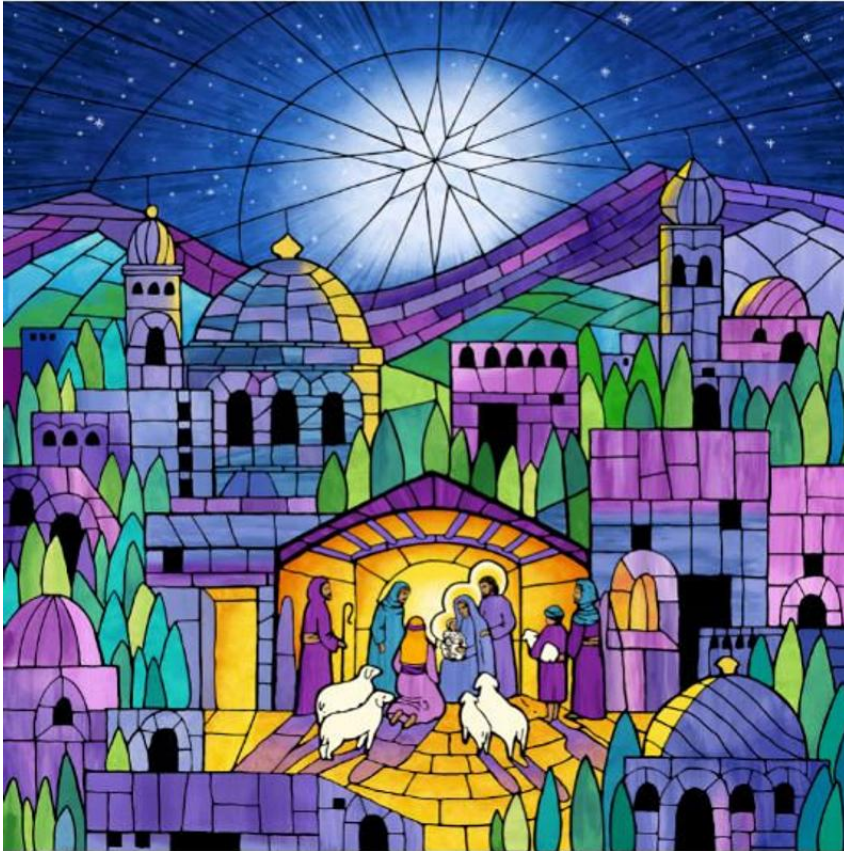


SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Nativity of Our Lord – Christmas Eve

December 24, 2020

4:00 pm & 7:00 pm

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

PRELUDE

Saint Michael Chime Ensemble
Saint Michael Trio

4 pm
7 pm

Please Stand

GREETING

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people:

To us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

GATHERING SONG

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW 283

*1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels: Refrain*

*Refrain:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

OPENING DIALOGUE

Sing to God something brand new!

For God has done wonderful things!

God has not forgotten to love us all!

Even the ends of the earth have heard!

Make a joyful noise! Break forth in song!

With strings and horns,

sing praise to the Holy One!

With the roaring sea and everything in it!

With all the land and everything in it!

The floods clap their hands. The hills sing for joy.

Thank God! God is coming to set everything right:

Justice for everyone, everything fair.

Sing to God something brand new!

For God has done wonderful things!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, 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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

SONG

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW 270

*1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*

Please Stand

SONG

Go Tell It on the Mountain

ELW 290

*Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain, go tell it on the mountain
over the hills and ev'rywhere; that Jesus Christ is born!*

*1 While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Refrain*

GOSPEL: Luke 2:8-20

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SONG

Go Tell It on the Mountain

ELW 290

*Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

*3 Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Refrain*

Please Sit

MESSAGE

Pastor Frank W. Anderson

THANKSGIVING

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

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

Piano Music (4 pm)
Guitar Reflections on Christmas Carols and Songs (7 pm)

Malechi Doren
Henry McLeod

Please Stand

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279

*1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*4 O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!*

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as 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.	as we forgive 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,	For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

CHRISTMAS DIALOGUE

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

By day and night he shines for all to see.

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,
so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus is the light of the world.

Jesus is the light of our lives.

Sing to God a new song!

A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world. Amen.

The minister lights a large candle from an altar candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world of whom John's gospel speaks. The ushers light their candles from the minister's candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another.

HYMN OF LIGHT

Silent Night, Holy Night!

ELW 281

*1 Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.*

***2 Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!***

*3 Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.*

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

Many ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed man and woman in his own image; long after the great flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant;

twenty-one centuries from the time the promise was given to Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt and Miriam danced in freedom; eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the judges;

one thousand years from the anointing of David as king, in fulfillment of the times and years and months and days discerned by the prophets;

in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome; the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus;

while the whole world enjoyed a span of peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being

conceived by the Holy Spirit and nine months of growth in the womb of his mother—
now in our own times is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh.

SENDING SONG

Away In A Manger

ELW 277

*1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.*

*3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.*

BLESSING

Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day ✝
through the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the
angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of
the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and
forever. **Amen.**

✝ ✝ ✝ ✝ ✝ ✝ ✝ ✝

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Ushers: Paul Nevergoll, Gerry Goegeline,
Myrna Goegeline, Bo Harris,
Bob Anderson





POINSETTIAS may be taken home after the service for those who purchased a plant. Please see the complete list of those honored, remembered, and lifted up tonight and always. There are a few insert-style lists in the narthex for anyone that would like one to preserve or to send to a loved one.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27TH – Please join us for Lessons and Carols led by Cantor Malechi Doren. Worship begins at 10:30 am. This will also be Malechi’s final worship as our music leader. Farewell and Godspeed, Malechi!

A large, elegant, cursive handwritten-style graphic that says "Thank You". The letters are dark and have a slight shadow effect, giving it a three-dimensional appearance.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to our musicians: Laura, Frank, Austin, and Richard Thomas; Karen Thomas, Jeff Dugger, Bo Harris, Frank Anderson, Henry McCleod, and especially Malechi Doren, for sharing their musical talents and gifts with us tonight.

FROM PASTOR FRANK, MALECHI & KRIS
A very special thank you to all who remembered us this Christmas season with gifts, cards, and special recognitions. We are truly blessed to be a part of this wonderful congregation. Merry Christmas!

*The Poinsettias
Gracing the Chancel
Are Given by*



Bob, Rita, & Jennifer Anderson in loving memory of
Bror & Eileen Anderson and Alfred & Marina Monsalvatge

Pastors Frank W. & Mary Anderson in loving memory of
our parents, Dorothy Shuler & Emory Williams
and Harriet & Merl "Andy" Anderson

Pastors Frank W. & Mary Anderson in loving memory of
Gloria Helgeson

Carolyn Cook to the Glory of God
and in honor of my family

Ted & Linda Frick in loving memory of our parents
Dan & Thelma Frick and Ed & Edna Day

Edward Fulmer in loving memory of
Marjorie Fulmer

Edward Fulmer in honor of
Glynn & Sandra Fulmer, Patty Fulmer, and Beth Wolfe

Myrna & Gerry Goegeline in loving memory of our parents

Myrna & Gerry Goegeline in honor of our family

Myrna & Gerry Goegeline to the Glory of God

*The Poinsettias
Gracing the Chancel
Are Given by*



Alice L. King & family in loving memory of
Gary D. King, Mr. and Mrs. Cicero J. King, Larry D. King,
Gregory M. Rawson, Mr. and Mrs. Alpheus K. Lain,
Raymond L. Lain, Melanie C. Lain, and Danna Lain

Alma Paulson & family in loving memory of
Omar "Corky" Paulson

Alma Paulson & family in loving memory of
Alma's twin sister, Thelma Wicks

Bob & Sandra Michelsen in loving memory of our parents

Larry Slice in loving memory of
my parents, Roscoe & Ludell Slice,
and my step-grandson William Tedder Russell

Cleve and Jenny Smith in honor of Pastor Frank Anderson

Cleve and Jenny Smith in honor of Malechi Doren

Cleve and Jenny Smith in honor of Kris Esgar

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 instantaneous receipt is sent via email or text for your tax records, too.

Restrooms 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 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!!