



St Michael's
L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

Sunday, February 20, 2022—8:45 a.m.
Seventh Sunday After Epiphany

Welcome Statement

St. Michael's Lutheran Church lives out God's grace and love for all people. Faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we welcome those who have been part of church communities, those who have no previous church experience, and those who have felt excluded by the Church because of their race or ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental capabilities, financial resources, or family circumstances. In this witness we seek reconciliation, healing, and wholeness. As a diverse people we are then empowered by the Holy Spirit to live and work together for God's promised day of justice, peace, and mercy.

In Christ's love, we welcome you!



St. Michael's Lutheran Church is a
Reconciling In Christ Congregation.



St. Michael's Lutheran Church is
a member of the ELCA.

Worship Activity bags are located at the back of the Sanctuary, to help keep little fingers and minds busy with worship-themed activities.

The nursery is open! However, it is currently unstaffed. Parents/Guardians are welcome to accompany their child(ren) in the nursery. We ask that you help us provide a safe space for the littles by following the sanitizing instructions in the room after its use.

We continue to use COVID-19 health protocols in worship and in the building for the health and safety of the community. As our sanctuary seating opens up, **we remind you to space yourselves out so there is no one directly in front of you or directly behind you.**

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INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Mercy is abundant in today's assigned scripture passages. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of the glory of God revealed in Christ.

+GATHERING+

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Beach Spring
The Sacred Harp, 1844

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who acts in ways of justice and peace,
who is our help in times of trouble,
who is our refuge and our redeemer.

Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Trusting in the power of God to heal and transform our lives, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnal, "hymn" numbers are found at the top of the page; "page" numbers are found at the bottom of the page.

St. Michael's Lutheran Church gathers for worship on the ancestral homeland of the Dakota people. We recognize and honor all our indigenous siblings who have called and continue to call this land their home.

From Psalm 37
All may make the sign of the cross †, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Jesus has said, "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you."

And yet we do not know what this means in today's world. Our divisions are deep and our distrust in one another increases with each day.

Jesus has said, "Give to everyone who begs from you; do to others as you would have them do to you."

And yet scarcity and greed control our actions. We find that our generosity is guarded by our ego or fear. We place our desires above the needs of our neighbors.

Jesus has said, "Do not judge, and you will not be judged."

And yet we judge others and ourselves harshly. Our expectations mirror perfection. We obsess over the places we have failed rather than living into the promises of your grace.

For all these reasons, O God, we come before you needing healing and forgiveness.

Do not let us leave here unchanged.

Brief silence is held.

God claims us in grace and calls us to live in the promise of forgiveness which belongs to you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. Thanks be to God!

OPENING HYMN

God, We Gather as Your People

ACS 1038: 1 & 2

See next page



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we
that they nev - er have a rea - son to
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

Refrain



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

Worship begins with a prayer of mutuality - the presider and the congregation seeking the presence of God with and for one another.

Adapted from the prayer attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi

God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, silence, and song.

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good, to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

THE GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us join our voices in prayer.

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, where there is despair, hope, and where there is sadness, joy. Grant, O merciful God, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name.

Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Ali Ferin

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:3-11

Spark Story Bible pg. 60

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God;

God has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

PSALM

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers,

for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.

Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

Take delight in the Lord, the Lord will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in the Lord, and they will act.

The Lord will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.

Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil.

For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.

But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; the Lord is their refuge in the time of trouble.

The Lord helps them and rescues them; the Lord rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hallelujah

ACS 1088



Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah,



hal - le-lu-jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah!

Text: Traditional

Music: SYRIAN HALLELUJAH, Syrian traditional

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from

you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ!

SERMON

Pastor Ali Ferin

ANTHEM

Sing to the Lord, Rejoice
arr. Hal Hopson

APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to show radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust, even to enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*God feeds us with the
presence of Christ in the
Sacrament of
Communion.*

+MEAL+

We invite you to share a
sign or word of peace
with those around you,
remembering those
who are worshipping
with us online today.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all
And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance;
so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that
God has made

A brief silence.

*Each petition ends with "God of grace,"
The congregation responds, "receive our prayer."*

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we
lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and
faith; through Jesus Christ our hope and life. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites all to this meal. Therefore; we remember those who are not present with us: those who are worshiping at home, those who have passed away, those who are ill, those who are anxious or afraid, and those who experience exclusion and shame. We especially remember those who have planted and harvested the grapes and grains for this meal, those whose labor we rely on for our daily needs. In the hopes of all people gathering in the grace and love of God, we receive this foretaste of the feast to come.

The body of Christ is given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

We continue to receive communion in the pews. If you did not receive communion elements upon entering the sanctuary, please indicate that to an usher and they will deliver them to your seat. Gluten Free wafers are available, all of the elements are non-alcoholic. If you are communing from home today, we invite you to gather food and drink for virtual communion; bread, crackers, juice... any ordinary food and drink will do!

God blesses us and
sends us into the world.

+SENDING+

BENEDICTION

Today's benediction is
attributed to St. Theresa
of Avila (1515-1582).

Christ has no body but yours,
no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which Christ looks with
compassion on this world,
yours are the feet with which Christ walks to do good,
yours are the hands with which Christ blesses all the
world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
yours are the eyes, you are the body.
Go – be the body of Christ in the world!
Amen!

CLOSING HYMN

God Be With You

TFBF 160

God be with you, God be with you,
God be with you, un-til we meet a - gain;
God be with you, God be with you,
God be with you, un-til we meet a - gain.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993
Music: DORSEY, Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Swingin' with the Saints

Arr. Mark Hayes

Our worship is over,
our service begins.

WORSHIP NOTES

- ◇ Songs reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-703936. All rights reserved.
 - ◇ Songs with the abbreviation ELW are found in the ELCA hymnal titled, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.
 - ◇ Songs with the abbreviation ACS are found in the new ELCA hymnal supplement titled, *All Creation Sings*.
 - ◇ Songs with the abbreviation GC are found in the GIA hymnal titled, *Gather Comprehensive*.
 - ◇ Songs with the abbreviation TFBF are found in the ELCA hymnal titled, *This Far by Faith*.
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PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Pastors: *The Rev. Ali Ferin*

Assisting Minister:

Musicians: *Jill Schendel, piano*
St. Michael's Singer, Karen Wilkerson, director
Charlie Preis, euphonium

Lector: *Grete Hanson*

Usher: *Mike Gregory, Chuck Hanson*

Worship Flowers: *Shirley Friberg*

In memory of her husband, Dick, and her sister, Marvel Holland.



Announcements

Worship Schedule in Lent

This year at St. Michael's we will be adjusting the Wednesday Evening Services and activities during Lent. Recognizing the challenges of COVID-19, there will NOT be soup suppers.

March 2: Ash Wednesday

Services at 12:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6

Lenten services of Holden Evening Prayer at 6:30 p.m.

April 14: Maundy Thursday

Services at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

April 15: Good Friday

Service at 7:00 p.m.

Starting March 2, Wednesday Evening Schedule

5:15-6:00 p.m. Youth Bells (balcony of sanctuary)

6:00-6:30 p.m. Youth choir (1st-5th grade in courtyard room)

Set-up, preparation for Worship (sanctuary)

6:30-7:10 p.m. Worship: Holden Evening Prayer (sanctuary)

7:15-8:30 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal (sanctuary)

(Adult bells will move rehearsals back to Thursday nights.)

Winter Games!

February 27th

1pm-3pm @ St. Michael's

Join us for snow art, scavenger hunt, snow games and more! Be sure to wear warm clothes, we will be outside most of the day. This is open to all Middle school aged students and friends.

Register Here!

Middle School



High School



High School Team Leaders

Join us for St. Michael's Winter Games!
High Schoolers are welcome to participate
as referees and team leaders.



This Week at St. Michael's

Sunday, February 20

- 8:45 a.m. Worship: In-person & Live Streamed
- 10:00 a.m. Education Hour
- 11:00 a.m. Worship: In-person
- 4:00 p.m. DEI Matters

Monday, February 21

- 12:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Yoga Devotion

Tuesday, February 22

- 9:30 a.m. Messenger Assembly
- 7:00 p.m. Desserters II Book Club

Wednesday, February 23

- 12:00 p.m. Faith in Daily Life
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Bells
- 6:15 p.m. Confirmation
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Bells
- 6:30 p.m. Celebration Singers
- 7:30 p.m. Spirit Choir

Thursday, February 24

- 9:30 a.m. Thursday Morning Bible Study
- 5:00 p.m. Befrienders
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir
- 7:30 p.m. Men's Bible & Brew

Sunday, February 27

- 8:45 a.m. Worship: In-person
- 10:00 a.m. Education Hour
- 11:00 a.m. Worship: In-person & Live Streamed
- 1:00 p.m. Middle School Winter Games