



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

Sunday, September 19, 2021 – 11:00 a.m.
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

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 keep little fingers and minds busy with worship-themed activities.

The Wiggle Space is transitioning back to the nursery this fall! You are invited to utilize the nursery space as needed for ages 3 and under. The nursery is located along the South hallway, closest to the parking lot.

We continue to use protocols in worship to protect children, youth and those who have not yet completed COVID-19 vaccinations. Our protocols will continue to adapt in the weeks and months ahead.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

+GATHERING+

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Allemande
J.S. Bach

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.

Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Let us come into the presence of God and one another in a spirit of renewal and life; Knowing that here we are met by the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence for reflection

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.

God draws us together and dwells within the community

All are invited to make the sign of the cross † as the presiding minister begins. This sign given to us in our baptism reminds us of our identity as followers of Christ, of God’s own.

For the right roads we avoided travelling,
and the kindly words we refused to share;
for the false gods who received our attention
and the true selves we have starved of love...
God, by your grace,
Forgive us.

For the hidden hurts we have held too tightly
and the promises which we never kept;
and the lame excuses we should never have made,
God, by your grace,
Forgive us.

For all we should be
and all we can amend,
God in your love,
renew us.

For all you have in store for us
And all you may ask of us,
God, in your love,
Prepare us.

For the life of the world
And the love of its people,
God in your love,
Commit us.

In promise God reaches out and claims us again and again—
never letting us go. It is by the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus,
that God renews and gives us life. Receive with glad hearts
the forgiveness of God and strength for the journey.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

God, We Gather as Your People

ACS 1038

David Lohman is a Twin Cities based musician and composer. The son of a Lutheran pastor, he wrote this hymn as an expression of welcome for all.



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.



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.

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

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

Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.

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

O God, our teacher and guide,
you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+WORD+

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 11:18-20

It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me

that they devised schemes, saying,
"Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!"

But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

PSALM

Psalm 54

Save me, O God, by your name;

in your might, defend my cause.

Hear my prayer, O God;

give ear to the words of my mouth.

**For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless
have sought my life,**

those who have no regard for God.

Behold, God is my helper;

it is the Lord who sustains my life.

Render evil to those who spy on me;

in your faithfulness, destroy them.

I will offer you a freewill sacrifice

and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.

For you have rescued me from every trouble,

and my eye looks down on my enemies.

SECOND READING

James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.⁴

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it;

The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.

so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.124

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first two phrases: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,'. The second staff contains the melody for the next two phrases: 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The notes are simple, with some slurs and ties, and the piece ends with a double bar line.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:30-37

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first

must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

Pastor Brad Froslee

ANTHEM

Look at the World
John Rutter

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Together we express our faith:

**We believe in God,
Who conceived all that is created,
God who fathers and mothers all people.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ
God's anointed and only Lord of the earth.
He came from both heaven
and the womb of Mary;
he lived in solidarity with humankind,
befriending, teaching,
Healing, and restoring.
He called humanity into renewed relationship
with God and with neighbor;
revealing God's love, equipping for service.
He was denied and betrayed;
and sentenced to death by the state.
He descended to the place of the dead,**

rose to life again,
and ascended to heaven
where he dwells in holy presence.
**This same Jesus will return again
To judge the living and the dead.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
whose dynamic presence can make all things new.
And we believe in the holy catholic church,
The community 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+

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all
And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the
church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

*Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy"
The congregation responds, "Hear our prayer"*

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts
known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, forever and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF DISTRIBUTION

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of life and promise,
in the gift of the bread that is broken and the cup that is shared you claim us in healing and hope. Now send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love, living in service to others, and embodying the welcome made known in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

+SENDING+

BLESSING

People of God,
you are Christ's body,
bringing new life to a world in need.
The holy Trinity, † one God,
bless you now and forever
as you live in love toward God and one another.
Amen.

Communion will be distributed in the pews. If you did not receive elements upon entering the sanctuary an usher can provide them to you.

God blesses us and sends us into the world

SENDING HYMN

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

ELW 545

SPECIAL MUSIC

Blessing

Jonathan Willcocks

DISMISSAL

Our worship is over,
our service begins.

Go in peace. God is at work in you and through you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Gavotte

J.S. Bach

WORSHIP NOTES

The Confession for today comes to us from the *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, Sunday Morning Communion Service A, Wildgoose Publications, 2017.

The Affirmation of Faith is adapted from the *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, Sunday Morning Communion Service B, Wildgoose Publications, 2017.

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Participants in Today's Worship

Pastors: *Rev. Ali Ferin, Rev. Brad Froslee*

Musician: *Tom Bartsch, Organist*

Special Music: *St. Michael's Singers*

Lector: *Laurie Krachmer*

Worship Flowers: *Rick McComb*

In honor of Ellie McComb's grandparents, Bev & Dick McComb.

St. Michael's Lutheran Church

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Announcements

Sunday School

Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

Confirmation

Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Thursdays, 9:30am

Youth Music Rehearsals

September 8, Wednesday

Youth Bells 5:30 p.m.

Celebration Singers 6:30 pm.

Spirit Choir 7:30 p.m.

Chapel Ringers

Wednesdays, 6:30pm

Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays, 6:30

Fall Yoga Devotion

Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

Loaves & Fishes

Monday, September 20

Men's Bible & Brew

Tuesday, September 21, 7:30p.m.

Faith in Daily Life

Wednesday, September 22, 12:00 p.m.

Desserters II Book Club

Tuesday, September 28, 7:00 p.m.

Register for Sunday School by
scanning this code:



SCAN ME

Worship Leaders Needed

Ushers

Lectors

Fellowship Hosts

Altar Flowers



SCAN ME



This Week at St. Michael's

Sunday, September 19

- 8:45 a.m. Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12:30 p.m. High School Service
Project Scavenger Hunt

Monday, September 20

- 12:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:30 p.m. Loaves & Fishes
- 6:30 p.m. Yoga Devotion

Tuesday, September 21

- 9:30 a.m. Messenger Assembly
- 7:30 p.m. Men's Bible & Brew

Wednesday, September 22

- 12:00 p.m. Faith in Daily Life
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Bells
- 6:30 p.m. Chapel Ringers
- 6:30 p.m. Celebration Singers
- 6:45 p.m. Confirmation
- 7:30 p.m. Spirit Choir

Thursday, September 23

- 9:30 a.m. Thursday Morning
Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Friday, September 24

- 6:30 p.m. All Church Movie Night

Sunday, September 12

- 8:45 a.m. Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12:30 p.m. 10th Grade Confirmation
Capstone