



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, RIDGECREST

Where All Souls Are Welcome

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OFFICIANT
Richard Hendricks

ALTAR GUILD
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READER
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EVENING PRAYER RITE TWO WITH COMMUNION

Fourth Wednesday in Lent

Saint Joseph (March 19)

March 20, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Please stand as able.

OPENING ANTHEM

Officiant You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but citizens together with the saints and members of the household of God. *(Ephesians 2:19)*

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the people:

Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest alone stands and says:

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Please stand as able.

Officiant God, be not far from us.

People **Come quickly to help us, O God.**

**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.**

PSALM 134

ECCE NUNC

Officiant and People together, all standing:

Antiphon **Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

**Behold now, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, *
you that stand by night in the house of the LORD.**

**Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the LORD; *
the LORD who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.**

Antiphon **Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

THE PSALM

PSALM 89:1-4, 26-29

OFFICIANT

THE PSALM APPOINTED IS A PORTION OF PSALM 89.

- ¹Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- ²**For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**
- ³"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- ⁴**"I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations."**
- ²⁶He will say to me, 'You are my Father, *
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'
- ²⁷**I will make him my firstborn *
and higher than the kings of the earth.**
- ²⁸I will keep my love for him for ever, *
and my covenant will stand firm for him.
- ²⁹**I will establish his line for ever *
and his throne as the days of heaven."**

THE READINGS

THE FIRST READING

2 SAMUEL 7:4, 8-16

READER

A READING FROM THE SECOND BOOK OF SAMUEL.

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. When he commits iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows inflicted by human beings. But I will not take my steadfast love from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE E

A SONG OF JERUSALEM OUR MOTHER

Isaiah 66:10-14

Officiant and People together, all standing:

Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her *

all you who love her,

Rejoice, rejoice with her, *

all you who mourn over her,

That you may drink deeply with delight *

from her comforting breast.

For thus says our God, *

"I will extend peace to her like a river, the wealth of nations like an overflowing stream.

**“You shall nurse and be carried on her arm,
and you shall nestle in her lap.
“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; *
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.
“You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice, *
you shall flourish like the grass of the fields.”**

Please be seated.

THE SECOND READING

LUKE 2:41-52

READER

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE.

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day’s journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.” He said to them, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE P

A SONG OF THE SPIRIT

Revelation 22:12-17

Officiant and People together, all standing:

**“Behold, I am coming soon,” says the Lord, “and bringing my reward with me, *
to give to everyone according to their deeds.**

**“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, *
the beginning and the end.”**

**Blessed are those who do God’s commandments,
that they may have the right to the tree of life, *
and may enter the city through the gates.**

**“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you, *
with this testimony for all the churches.**

**“I am the root and the offspring of David, *
I am the bright morning star.”**

**“Come!” say the Spirit and the Bride; *
“Come!” let each hearer reply!**

**Come forward, you who are thirsty, *
let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.**

SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

Officiant and People together, all standing:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He

descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

THE PRAYERS

SUFFRAGE A

Officiant Show us your mercy, O Lord;

People **And grant us your salvation.**

Officiant Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People **Let your people sing with joy.**

Officiant Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People **For only in you can we live in safety.**

Officiant Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Officiant Let your way be known upon earth;

People **Your saving health among all nations.**

Officiant Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Officiant Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Officiant For the special needs and concerns of this congregation: For the Schook for Deacons and Staff, for Michael our Presiding Bishop and David our Bishop. We also pray for Joseph our President, Gavin our Governor, and Eric our Mayor. For our sick, Stan, Rita, Sandy, Bob, Dick, Suzie and the students at Mesquite and Burroughs High Schools, and for all the members of Saint Michael's, and their ministries.

Officiant We all can make prayers, petitions, and thanksgiving silently or out loud now.

Officiant Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit, you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

SAINT JOSEPH

(BCP p. 239)

Officiant Hear our cry, O God.

People **And listen to our prayer.**

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, who from the family of your servant David raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the spouse of his virgin mother: Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to your commands; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Officiant The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all. *(1 Chronicles 29:11)*

People may remain seated or standing. during the preparation. Please stand as able for the Eucharistic Prayer.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

(BCP p. 367-369)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say.

People and Clergy pray together:

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Anthem at the Breaking of Bread

(Psalm 105:4) (2003 TBOS p.22)

Celebrant Search for the Lord and his strength; *

People **continually seek his face.**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION

In the Episcopal Church all baptized people are welcome to our Lord's Table to eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

(2018 BOS p. 26)

Celebrant Bow down before the Lord.

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Officiant or Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

OUR MISSION

The people of Saint Michael's welcome all those who seek a deeper understanding of God's love for ALL God's children. Our congregation is "intentionally inclusive," welcoming all persons without regard to age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or developmental disability.

CHURCH PRAYER LIST

We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop and David our Bishop. We also pray for Joseph our President, Gavin our Governor, and Eric our Mayor. *Please remember in your prayers Stan, Rita, Sandy, Bob, Dick, and the students at Mesquite High School.*

PLEASE GIVE

Mail your pledges and offerings to:

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 200 W. Drummond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Contribute to the church online at:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z9KQ/home>

NEWS AND EVENTS

Weekly Services: Services in English: Sundays at 10 am and Wednesday Evenings at 6 pm
Services in Spanish: Sundays at 12 Noon.

Cathedral Livestream: As an alternative for those unable to attend our Sunday services in person, St. James Episcopal Cathedral offers a livestream of their service. Link:

www.youtube.com/@StJamesEpiscopalCathedral/streams

Food Ministry Dates

- The Thrift Store Co-Op is normally open every Wednesday, 10 am-1 pm.
- Monday, March 18 - CAPK Senior Box Day, 10:30-11:30 am
- Tuesday, March 26 - Food Pantry is open 9-11 am

Episcopal Church Foundation will provide a Webinar on March 23 at 1:00 pm by Zoom to the Diocese on Planning Giving. It will cover Planned Giving (leaving the church in your will,) Charitable Gift Annuity, Charitable Remainder Trusts, Pooled Income Funds. You will learn about the importance of a parish vision, building trust among parishioners, and how to invite others to remember your parish through estate gifts and financial planning, considering the many recent tax law changes. Attendees will also learn of the many resources for planned giving from ECF. To register for this event, call ECF at 800-697-2858 or visit

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvdeugrzooGdba-Ek0NW6wIDNjPdk39o#/registration>.

Chrism Mass & Renewal of Vows: March 26, 2024, at 11:00 am., in Saint James Cathedral. Fresno, CA.

Next Bishop's Committee Meeting: Wednesday, March 27, at 7:00 pm.

Tutu Desk Program: Students in South Africa, especially children, do not have desks in their classrooms. Therefore, Canon Anna Carmichael invites us to support the program to provide them Portable Desks. The cost of each portable desk is \$20.00. Please, donate. We will raise funds through the Day of Pentecost (May 19, 2024). Then our Church will send a check to the Diocesan Office at due time with our contributions. Let's make the difference in the life of children in Africa.

LENTEN SEASON SERVICES AND EVENTS

Palm Sunday: Sunday, March 24; for both Services, English and Spanish, we will gather in the Parish Hall at usual time to bless the Palms and in Procession will go to the Sanctuary. Church will provide the Palms.

Contemplative Day: Wednesday, March 27. Please, Sign the Sign-up Sheet for the time you will be in the Sanctuary. Available time from 7:00 am. to 6:00 pm.

Maundy Thursday: March 28 at 5:30 pm. Our Service will begin with the Agape Meal in the Parish Hall. Please, Sign the Sign-up Sheet for the Ceremony of Foot Washing.

Good Friday Service: March 29 at 5:30 pm, Service in English with Veneration of the Cross. And Stations of the Cross at 6:30 pm in Spanish.

EASTER SEASON SERVICES AND EVENTS

Easter Sunday Service: March 31 at 10:00 am, Service in English and 12:00 pm, Service in Spanish. Please come dressed in white.