



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ALL SOULS ARE WELCOME. INTENTIONALLY INCLUSIVE. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1630, Ridgecrest, CA 93556 ~ (760) 446-5816

Web: www.stmichaelsridgecrest.org ~ E-mail: stmichaelsridgecrest@mail.com

EVENING PRAYER: RITE TWO

EVE OF THE EPIPHANY

January 5, 2022, 6:30 p.m., Zoom Meeting ID: 928 461 1047, Passcode: StMichael

PRESIDER

The Rev. Paul Clark

RESPONDER

Richard Hendricks

READER

Sandy Davis

OPENING SENTENCE

PSALM 141:2

(BCP p. 115)

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

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

(BCP p. 116)

Presider: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord 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

Presider: O God, be not far from us.

Responder: **Come quickly to help us, O God.**

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. **Amen. Alleluia.**

O GRACIOUS LIGHT

(EOW p. 23)

Presider and responder

Light of the world, in grace and beauty,
Mirror of God's eternal face,
**Transparent flame of love's free duty,
You bring salvation to our race.**
Now, as we see the lights of evening,
We raise our voice in hymns of praise;
**Worthy are you of endless blessing,
Sun of our night, lamp of our days.**



PSALM APPOINTED

PSALM 29

(BCP p. 620)

*Presider and **responder** alternate by whole verse.*

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; *
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 **He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 **The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.**
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD *
all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.**
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**



THE READINGS

THE FIRST READING

ISAIAH 66:18-23 (CEB)

SANDY DAVIS

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH:

Because of their actions and thoughts, I'm coming to gather all nations and cultures. They will come to see my glory. I will put a sign on them, by sending out some of the survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Libya, and Lydia, and to the archers of Cilicia and Greece—distant coastlands that haven't heard of my fame or seen my glory. They will declare my glory among the nations. They will bring your family members from all nations as an offering to the Lord—on horses, in chariots, in wagons, on mules, and on camels—to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing an offering in purified containers to the Lord's house. I will select some of them as priests and Levites, says the Lord.

As the new heavens and the new earth that I'm making will endure before me, says the Lord, so your descendants and your name will endure. From month to month and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all humanity will come to worship me, says the Lord.

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

Responder: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SONG OF MARY

LUKE 1:46-55

(EOW p. 27)

Presider and responder alternate by whole verse.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in you, O God my Savior; *
for you have looked with favor on your lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your Name.

You have mercy on those who fear you *
from generation to generation.

You have shown strength with your arm, *
and scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones, *
and lifting up the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good things, *
and sent the rich away empty.

You have come to the help of your servant Israel, *
for you have remembered your promise of mercy,

The promise you made to our forebears, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.



THE SECOND READING

ROMANS 15:7-13

SANDY DAVIS

A READING FROM THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS:

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

Responder: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SONG OF SIMEON

LUKE 2:29-32

(BCP p. 120)

Presider and responder alternate by whole verse.

Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;

**For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:**

A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION

APOSTLES' CREED

(BCP p. 120)

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(BCP p. 121)

Presider: God be with you.

Responder: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us 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. 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.

SUFFRAGES A

(BCP p. 121)

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. **And grant us your salvation.**
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us by your Holy Spirit.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY (BCP p. 214)

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

(BCP p. 124)

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR MISSION

(BCP p. 124)

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Presider: Are there any prayers or thanksgivings you wish to offer?

The people may offer their intercessions and thanksgivings.



THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

(BCP p. 125)

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

Presider Let us bless the Lord.

Responder **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING SENTENCE

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

(BCP p. 126)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**



THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Feast Day: January 6

The name “Epiphany” is derived from a Greek word meaning “manifestation” or “appearing.” Anglican Prayer Books interpret the word as, “The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles.” The last phrase, of course, is a reference to the story of the Magi from the East.

A Christian observance on January 6 is found as early as the end of the second century in Egypt. The feast combined commemorations of three events that were considered manifestations of the Incarnate Lord: the visit of the Magi, led by the star of Bethlehem; the Baptism of Jesus in the waters of the Jordan River; and Jesus’ first recorded miracle, the changing of water into wine at the wedding of Cana.

Epiphany is still the primary Feast of the Incarnation in Eastern churches, and the three-fold emphasis is still prominent. In the West, however, including Anglican churches, the story of the Magi has tended to overshadow the other two events. Modern lectionary reform, reflected in the 1979 Prayer Book, has recovered the primitive trilogy by setting the event of Christ’s Baptism as the theme of the First Sunday after the Epiphany in all three years, and by providing the story of the Miracle at Cana as the Gospel for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany in Year C.

(Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018 p. 30)

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

This service conforms to Daily Evening Prayer: Rite Two, which begins on page 115 of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Scripture readings are appointed by the Daily Office Lectionary and are excerpted from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA or the Common English Bible (CEB), copyright 2011. Psalm texts are taken from the BCP. Other liturgical elements may include materials compiled from Episcopal Church publications including Enriching Our Worship (EOW), the 2018 Book of Occasional Services (BOS), and the 2018 Lesser Feasts and Fasts (LFF).