



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, RIDGECREST

Where All Souls Are Welcome

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HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

16th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 19) ~ September 17, 2023, 10 a.m.

The Rev. Jorge Pallares, Priest in Charge of St. Michael's, *Presider*

The Rev. Cathy Kline, Parish Deacon, *Preacher*

READER	CRUCIFER	ALTAR GUILD	PIANIST
Nani Banks	Alana Spurling	Nani Banks	Stephanie McManis

Please stand as able for the Opening Hymn

Opening Hymn

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand
In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ
No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

The people standing, the Presider says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Presider may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The following is said, all standing

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

PROPER 19 (Sunday closest to September 14)

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING

EXODUS 14:19-31

READER

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EXODUS.

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

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

Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE

PSALM 114

READER

Remaining seated, the Reader and the People say the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

THE PSALM APPOINTED IS PSALM 114.

Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

**Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.**

The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

**The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.**

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *

O Jordan, that you turned back?

You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

THE SECOND READING

ROMANS 14:1-12

READER

A READING FROM PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able for the Sequence Hymn and Gospel Proclamation.

Sequence Hymn

Blue Hymnal 711

Seek ye first

1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Allelu, alleluia!

2 Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek, and ye shall find.
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Allelu, alleluia!

THE GOSPEL PROCLAMATION

MATTHEW 18:21-35

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions,

and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

THE REV. CATHY KLINE
Parish Deacon

A period of silence and personal reflection follows the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED

(BCP pp. 358-359)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM IV

The Prayers of the People Form IV are found on page 388 in the Red Prayer Book.

The Prayers of the People are led by the Deacon or Crucifer.

The Priest concludes with the following collect.

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

(BCP p. 360)

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

A period of silent confession will be observed.

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.

The Priest stands and says,

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 PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please greet those in your pew, and those in front of and behind you, and then be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Priest may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences on page 376 in the Book of Common Prayer, or with some other sentence of Scripture.

The congregation may remain seated during the Offertory Hymn

Offertory Hymn

Hosanna

1. Praise is rising, eyes are turning to you,
we turn to you.
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for you,
we long for you.

Chorus

Cause when we see you,
we find strength to face the day.
In your presence all our fears are washed away,
washed away.
Hosanna, Hosanna.
You are the God who saves us,
worthy of all our praises.

2. Hear the sound of hearts returning to you,
we turn to you.
In Your Kingdom broken lives are made new,
You make us new.

Chorus

Cause when we see you,
we find strength to face the day.
In your presence all our fears are washed away,
washed away.
Hosanna, Hosanna.
You are the God who saves us,
worthy of all our praises.
Hosanna, Hosanna,
Come have Your way among us,
We welcome You here Lord Jesus.
(After 4 bar interlude, repeat chorus)
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as able.

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

(BCP p. 361-363)

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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.**

The people may stand or kneel.

The Presider continues

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.

The Presider continues

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.**

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

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

(BCP p. 364)

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Presider 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.

All are welcome at God's table.

Please come up to the altar rail. Gluten free wafers are available.

Returning to your pew after receiving communion; you may kneel and/or be seated.

After communion, the people stand as able, and the Priest says,

Let us pray.

Eternal God, **heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Priest may bless the people with these words,

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Blue Hymnal 376

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

- 1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
blooming meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

The Deacon or Presider dismisses the people with these words,

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

This concludes our service. Please join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour.

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, Dinnie, and the students at Mesquite High School.*

WEEKLY SERVICES

Services in English: Sundays at 10 a.m. and Wed. Evenings at 6 p.m.

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

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Continues through Sunday, October 8.

FOOD MINISTRY DATES

- The Thrift Store Co-Op is open every Wednesday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Monday, September 18: CAPK Senior Box Day, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, September 26: Food Pantry is open 9-11 a.m.

WELCOME CORPS INTEREST SESSION #3

Saturday, September 23, 3 p.m. at Ridgecrest Presbyterian Church, 633 Las Flores Ave.

Enter through the door marked "Welcome Corps Meeting".

UNITED THANK OFFERING BOXES

United Thank Offering (UTO) Blue Boxes are available to pick up in the Lobby. From now until our in-gathering on September 24, we encourage parishioners to take one Box home and consider using these as part of our spiritual practices; for example, whenever you identify and give thanks to God for your blessings, place a bill in the UTO Blue Box. At the end of September, when the Blue Boxes are collected, the donations received will fund grants for Episcopal ministries and partners all over the world.

NEXT BISHOP'S COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, September 27, 7 p.m.

ORANGE SHIRT SUNDAY – OCTOBER 1, 2023

On October 1 we encourage our members, if able, to wear orange in remembrance of the 200,000 victims and survivors of Indian boarding schools.

OCTOBER EVENTS

Sunday, October 1: Saint Michael's Sunday, potluck lunch at 11 a.m. (after the 10 a.m. service)

Saturday, October 7: Bilingual Blessing of the Animals Service in the Courtyard, 2 p.m.

Sunday, October 8: Francis of Assisi Sunday

PLEASE GIVE

Mail your pledges and offerings to:

St. Michael's Episcopal Church,
PO Box 1630, Ridgecrest, CA 93556

Contribute to the church online at:

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