

Indoor Worship Protocol

St. Michael's Executive Committee has recently discussed protocols for indoor worship and group activities and recommends following the recent CDC and state government guidelines regarding mask wearing.

- **Per CDC guidance and the easing of restrictions for indoor gatherings by the Governor's office, and along with vaccination progress, the wearing of masks at indoor services and other group activities will be optional.**
- To safeguard your health and the health of our worship leaders and to ensure the cleanest air possible, Guardian Angel air purifiers with HEPA filters and UV lighting will continue to be utilized.
- Hand sanitizing stations will continue to be on-site.
- Offerings are to be brought forward as people come forward for Holy Communion.
- Bulletins will still be sent electronically for viewing on phones, and paper copies will be available on a table in the narthex.
- Our building will be thoroughly cleaned on Monday afternoons.
- Persons shall not attend if you are feeling unwell, have tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days, have recently been in contact with someone with symptoms or has tested positive, or have recently returned from travel to a high-risk state.

St. Michael's Lutheran Church Mission

A Christian community gathered by
the Holy Spirit to declare God's love
and grace in Christ



Fourth Sunday of Easter

ELW setting 3

April 21, 2024

10:00 a.m.

* *Please stand.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

Setting by John A. Behnke

Tune by Friedrich Silcher, 1789-1860

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

* **INVOCATION**

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.**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.
We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

* **HYMN #532 GATHER US IN**

GATHER US IN

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
O Lord Christ, **good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

LESSON

1 John 3:16-24

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

read responsively

¹The LORD¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not¹ be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me be-¹side still waters.**

³You restore my¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways¹ for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is¹ running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the¹ LORD forever.**

* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

* HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Harv Weitzel

* **HYMN #778 THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD**

BROTHER JAMES' AIR

* PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with one of these responses:

Lord, in your mercy, Hear us, O God. Bless we the Lord
hear our prayer. Your mercy is great. Thanks be to God!

(The prayers conclude:)

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

* PEACE

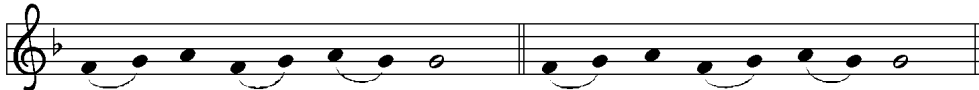
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

* PREFACE DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

* PREFACE FOR EASTER

* HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please bring your offering with you as you come forward to receive Holy Communion. Communion distribution is by intinction. The communion bread or gluten-free rice cracker will be placed in your hand. Take the bread or cracker and dip it into the chalice of wine. Do not have your fingers touch the wine.

HYMN #471 LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.
Let us drink wine together on our knees,
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.
Let us praise God together on our knees,
Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

*** POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

SENDING

*** BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope ☩ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

*** HYMN #536 GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN**

GOD BE WITH YOU

*** DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Rigaudon

Gordon Young

IN OUR PRAYERS

Prayer Request books can be found at each entryway. Requests written in the Prayer books will be included in today's prayers; someone is added to the Prayer List by a note to Pastor or the church office, and will run for **four consecutive Sundays**. Requests may be renewed.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING are offered for all those celebrating birthdays this week including **Ashlynn Stolar and Justin Wietfeldt (Apr 22), Deb Evensen (Apr 23) and Taggart Adams (Apr 25)**.

CARE AND HEALING: Chris Angione, Ken Bielemeier, Joe Boehm, Shari Bruner, Robert Carpenter, Angela Castillo, Steve Cocchia, Althea Ericsson, Eric Ericsson, Jordan Ferenc, George Garrett, Michael Grassi, Mark Hansen, Rita Hausdorff, Jack Koch, Karen Hoffman, Bob Klein, Liam Ledbetter-Dunn, Baylor (Boomer) Manchuck, Claire Miethke, Richard Miller Jr., Judy Mirczak, Ann Moores, Jim Moores, Benton Morse, Barbara Peter, Doris Ann Peter, Joey Peter, Toni Rohde, Marlene Schoustra, Kate Wroblewski

MISSION PARTNERS: in the Gulf States, Martin Luther Church, (ELCA) Mobile, Alabama, and our NEW ENGLAND SYNOD PARTNERS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Palestine and the Holy Land, and the Lutheran church in Honduras

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given by **Elaine Utley in honor of George D. Utley II's birthday**.

ETERNAL LIGHT

The eternal light is given by **Elaine Utley's children in honor of Elaine's birthday**.

SERVING TODAY

Greeter
Assisting Minister
Reader
Altar Guild
Counters
Cookies and Conversation
Interim Pastor
Director of Music

Lisa Ferraro
Ken D'Arinzo
Diana VanDam
Agneta Aspinwall, Yin Kahler
Joanne Corney, Ken D'Arinzo
Diana VanDam
Pastor Harv Weitzel
Dr. Alla Borzova

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Greeter
Assisting Minister
Reader
Altar Guild
Counters
Cookies and Conversation

Ken Fitter
Kyle Runestad
Melba Grieshaber
Nancy Reichart
Melba Grieshaber, Roger Heine
Ingrid Hollinger

Pastor Harv Weitzel, Interim Pastor (203) 956-5812
Church Office (203) 966-3913
Ilona Kucharczyk, Admin (203) 966-3913
Alla Borzova, Director of Music
Tom Peter, Council President
Website (Stephen Galyas; webmaster)

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