

## **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



## Fifth Sunday of Easter

ELW setting 3

April 28, 2024

10:00 a.m.

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\* *Please stand.*

### GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Aria on "Jewels"*

Setting by Dale Wood

Tune by George F. Root (1820-1895)

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 #379 NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISES**

NOEL NOUVELET

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
 O God, **you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**WORD**

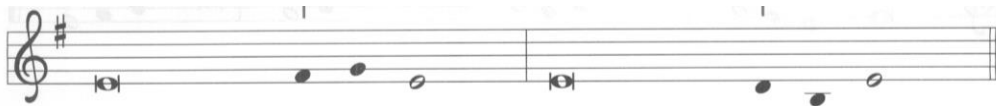
**LESSON**

1 John 4:7-21

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

PSALM 22:25-31

*sung responsively*



<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the <sup>1</sup> great assembly;  
 I will perform my vows in the sight of those who <sup>1</sup> fear the LORD.  
<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat <sup>1</sup> and be satisfied,**  
**Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts <sup>1</sup> live forever!**  
<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn <sup>1</sup> to the LORD;  
 all the families of nations shall bow <sup>1</sup> before God.  
<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs <sup>1</sup> to the LORD,**  
**who rules o- <sup>1</sup> ver the nations.**  
<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow <sup>1</sup> down in worship;  
 all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- <sup>1</sup> fore the LORD.  
<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall <sup>1</sup> serve the LORD,**  
**whom they shall proclaim to genera- <sup>1</sup> tions to come.**  
<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people <sup>1</sup> yet unborn,  
 saying to them, "The <sup>1</sup> LORD has acted!"

\* 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 15:1-8

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 #449 WE KNOW THAT CHRIST IS RAISED

ENGELBERG

\* PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

Lord, in your mercy, <b>hear our prayer.</b>	Hear us, O God. <b>Your mercy is great.</b>	Bless we the Lord <b>Thanks be to God!</b>
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(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.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

*Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee*

Music by Simon Lole

Text 12th century Latin; Translated by Edward Caswall (1814-78)

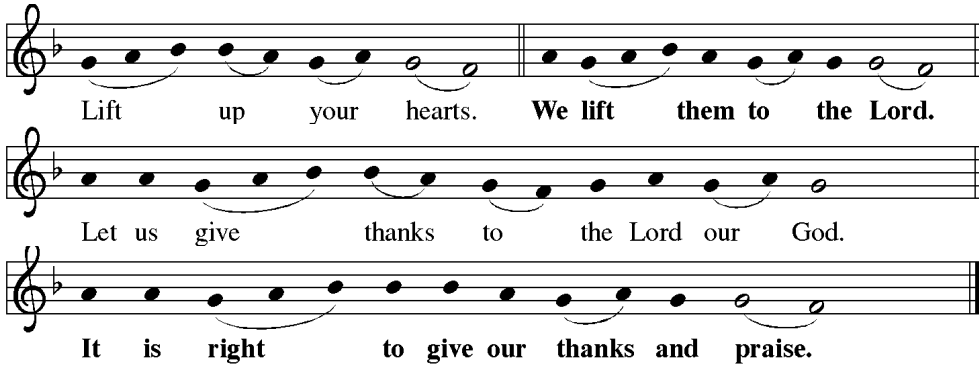
**MEAL**

\* 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

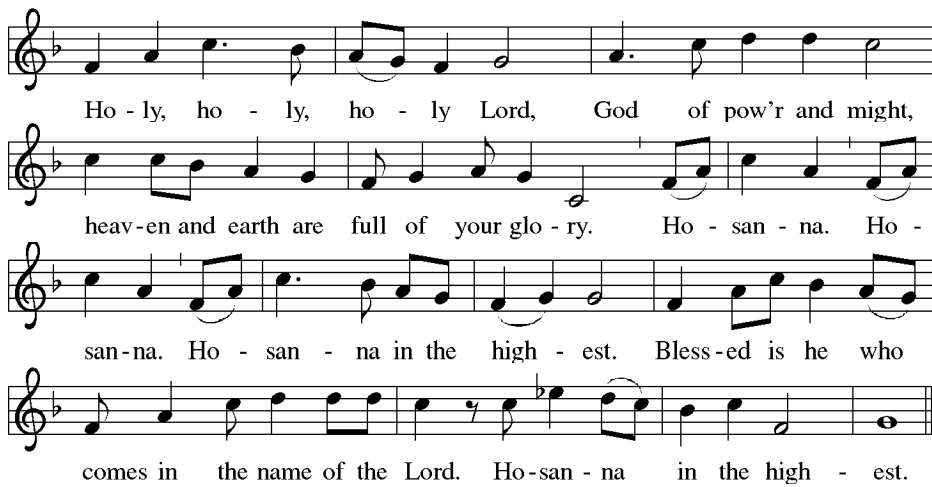
The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**



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 #881 LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING**

THE ASH GROVE

\* **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

*Celebration*

Stephen L. Aber

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## **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 **Ashlinn Cunningham (Apr 28), Kameron Ancker (Apr 30) and Sydney Phillips (May 2)**.

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

## SERVING TODAY

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

Ken Fitter  
Kyle Runestad  
Melba Grieshaber  
Nancy Reichart  
Melba Grieshaber, Roger Heine  
Ingrid Hollinger  
Pastor Harv Weitzel  
Dr. Alla Borzova

## SERVING NEXT WEEK

Greeter  
Assisting Minister  
Reader  
Altar Guild  
Counters  
Cookies and Conversation  
Guest Pastor

Ken Fitter  
Ken D'Arinzo  
Nancy Perez  
Diana VanDam  
Ken D'Arinzo, Roger Heine  
Deb Evensen  
Pastor Laurie Anderson

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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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