



Grzegorz Dawidowicz

*Saint Michael's Lutheran Church*



## Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

ELW setting 3

February 1, 2026

10:00 a.m.

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\* *Please stand.*

### GATHERING

PRELUDE

*A Charge to Keep I Have*

Setting by John A. Behnke

Tune **BOYLSTON** by Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

### • 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.**

OPENING HYMN #522 AS WE GATHER AT YOUR TABLE



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.



## KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. Amen.

## \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### LESSON

Micah 6:1-8

**H**ear what the Lord says:  
Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the Lord has a case against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup> “O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup> O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

<sup>6</sup> “With what shall I come before the Lord  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup> Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

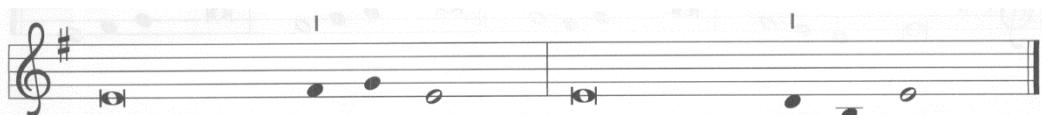
<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 15

*Sing responsively*



<sup>1</sup> Lord, who may dwell in your <sup>1</sup> tabernacle?  
Who may abide upon your <sup>1</sup> holy hill?

**<sup>2</sup> Those who lead a blameless life and do <sup>1</sup> what is right,  
who speak the truth <sup>1</sup> from their heart; R**

<sup>3</sup> they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil <sup>1</sup> to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit up- <sup>1</sup> on a neighbor.

**<sup>4</sup> In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who <sup>1</sup> fear  
the Lord.**

**They have sworn upon their health and do not take <sup>1</sup> back their word.**

<sup>5</sup> They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- <sup>1</sup> gainst  
the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be <sup>1</sup> overthrown. **R**

## 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

Matthew 5:1-12

### The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

**W**hen Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.<sup>2</sup> And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

## HYMN #302

## AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD

1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid-ing star be - hold;  
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,  
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;  
 5 In the heav'n-ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;

as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;  
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
 and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;

so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
 all our cost - list trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly king.  
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

## APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.

## \* 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.**

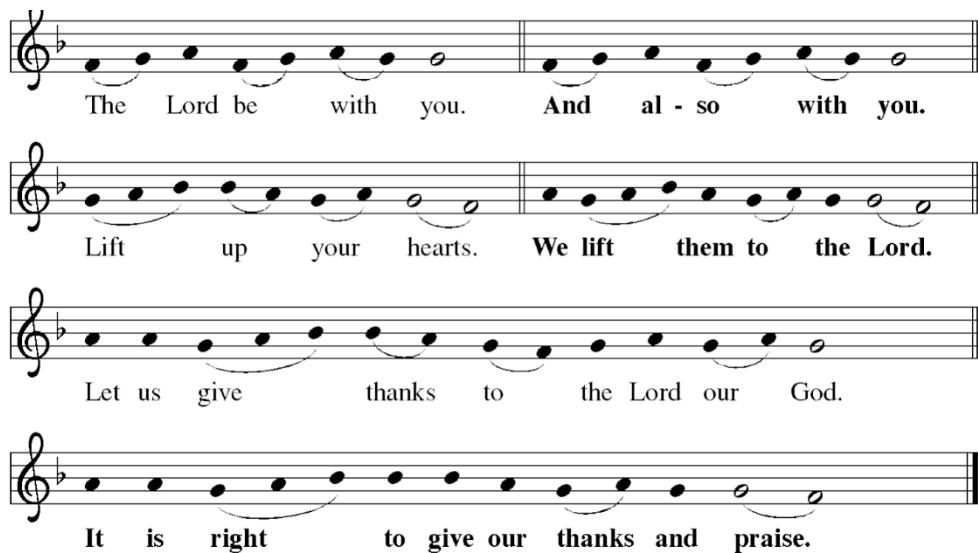
## \* PEACE

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

### \*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.

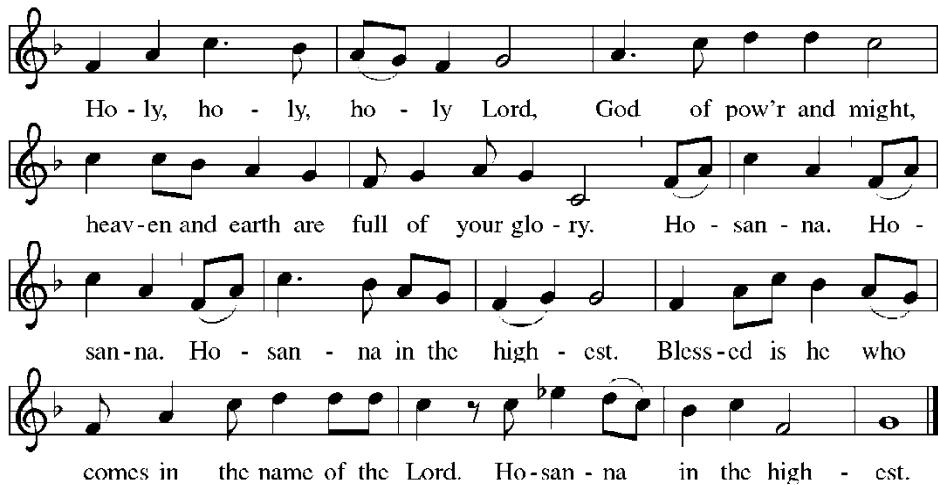
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### \* PREFACE FOR SEASON OF EPIPHANY

## \* 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

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took break, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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,  
forever and ever.

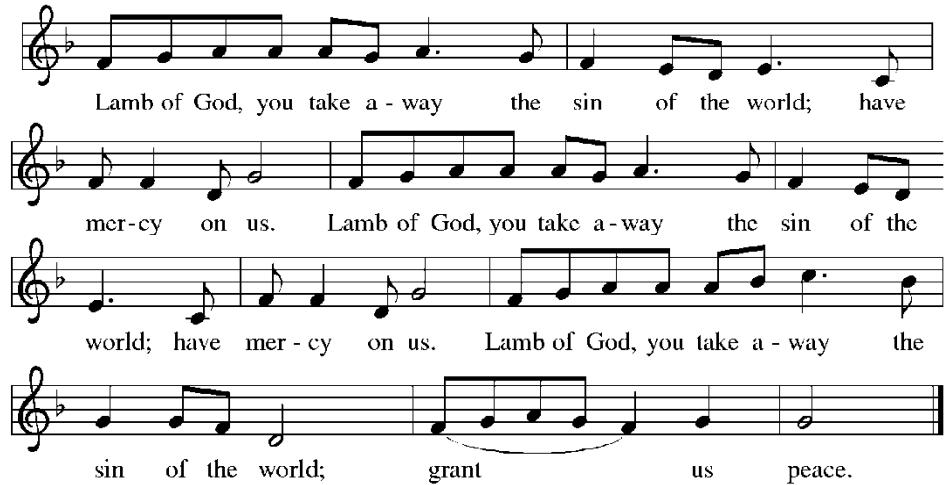
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

God feeds us with tender mercy.

Come to the 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 wafer will be placed in your hand. Take the bread or wafer and dip it into the chalice of wine. Do not have your fingers touch the wine*

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.

**\*COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and always keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

LET US PRAY.

**\* 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**

May God who comes among us,  
Father,  Son, and Holy Spirit,  
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,  
and good news to share today and always.  
**Amen.**

\* HYMN #669

RISE UP, O SAINTS OF GOD!

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;  
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulfs earth's frame;  
3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;  
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;  
5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;

Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.  
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se-quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

\* DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Setting by Carlos Staszeski  
Tune **ST. DENIO**

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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 Sara Pflueger (January 28).

**CARE AND HEALING:** Harold (Hap) Albrecht, Heather Bakios, Stephen Bakios, Ken Bielemeier, Joe Boehm, Shari Bruner, Robert Carpenter, Angela Castillo, Rosanna Dumbus, Althea Ericsson, Eric Ericsson, Phil Evensen, Jill Ferenc, Michael Guhl, April Gurciullo, Rita Hausdorff, Scott Kempton, Jack Koch, Mark Kramm, Riley Johansen, Liam Ledbetter-Dunn, Pam Lowell, Baylor (Boomer) Manchuck, Claire Miethke, Richard Miller Jr., Judy Mirczak, Ann Moores, Jim Moores, Benton Morse, Doris Ann Peter, Joey Peter, Jan and Harry Weitzel, and Jen Wolfe.

**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

### SERVING NEXT WEEK

Greeter  
Assisting Minister  
Reader  
Altar Guild  
Cookies & Conversations  
Counters  
Interim Pastor  
Organist

Ingrid Hollinger  
Ken D'Arinzo  
Melba Grieshaber  
Agneta Aspinwall  
Melba Grieshaber  
Ken D'Arinzo, Ingrid Hollinger  
Pastor Mark Grorud  
Dr. Alla Borzova

### **SERVING NEXT WEEK**

Greeter  
Assisting Minister  
Reader  
Altar Guild  
Cookies & Conversations  
Counters  
Interim Pastor  
Organist

Nancy Perez  
Kyle Runestad  
Nancy Perez  
Diana VanDam  
Joanne Corney, Melba Grieshaber  
Pastor Mark Grorud  
Dr. Alla Borzova

### **Indoor Worship Protocol**

We are still careful of one another's health in the post Covid time and encourage you to keep following safe protocols.

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Pastor Mark Grorud, Interim Pastor  
Church Office (203) 966-3913  
Nancy Rowe, Admin (203) 966-3913  
Alla Borzova, Director of Music  
Ken D'Arinzo, Council President  
Website (Stephen Galyas; webmaster)

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[saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com)  
[saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com)  
[music@StMichaelsLutheran.org](mailto:music@StMichaelsLutheran.org)  
[president@StMichaelsLutheran.org](mailto:president@StMichaelsLutheran.org)

## ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH WEEKLY NEWS

**February 2 - February 7**

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### **ONLINE? KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING...**

Please use **#stmichaelsnewcanaan** as your hashtag on social media during the week. **“Like”** our Facebook Page: St. Michael's Lutheran Church, New Canaan, CT.

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**OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Please use the offering envelopes in the pew rack if you make a cash donation, and write your name on the front of the envelope. This allows us to ensure we are keeping track of members' cash contributions placed in the offering plate without their numbered envelope.

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**COMMUNION CARDS:** To remain on the active member voting list you must submit at least one communion card per year and one financial contribution per year. If you have not filled out a communion card yet this year, please do so soon. They are located in the pew card holder and you can just drop it in the offering plate on your way up to communion.

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### **FLOWER AND ETERNAL LIGHT CHARTS**

Thank you for helping to beautify the church for worship! The next available dates to sign up are for the month of February.

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### **DEADLINE FOR WEDNESDAY'S CONSTANT CONTACT EMAIL**

The deadline for submissions for the weekly constant contact email is Tuesday at 9:00 AM. Any submissions received after the deadline will appear in the following week's CC email.

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### **18 IN ATTENDANCE ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 24**

## **This Week: February 1 – February 8**

### **Sunday, February 1**

9:00 am & 11:15 am Choir Practice  
9:00 am Confirmation Class  
11:00 am Cookies & Conversation

### **Next Sunday, February 8**

9:00 am & 11:15 am Choir Practice  
9:00 am Confirmation Class  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Cookies & Conversation

### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**For pastoral services**, Pastor Grorud can be reached at (402) 620-8032 or via his new email address [mgrorud@gmail.com](mailto:mgrorud@gmail.com). He is in the church office Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

**Need access to the church?** Please plan on coming during office hours: Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

### **New Canaan Historical Society:**

Normal hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 4 pm. They are closed on Sundays and Mondays.

# THE ANNUAL MEETING



Our Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 22**, following worship. Please plan on attending.