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Saint Michael's Lutheran Church



Fourth Sunday of Easter

ELW setting 3

April 26, 2026

10:00 a.m.

(*Indicates Please Stand)

GATHERING

PRELUDE

The Strife is O'er

Edward Broughton

Tune: VICTORY

Arr. From Palestrina by W.H. Monk

* 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 #385 GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE AND SING!



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

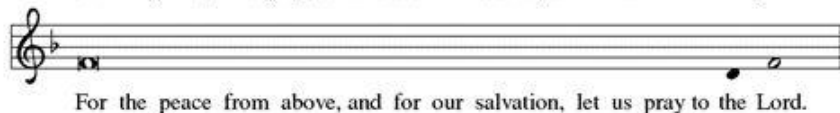


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

KYRIE



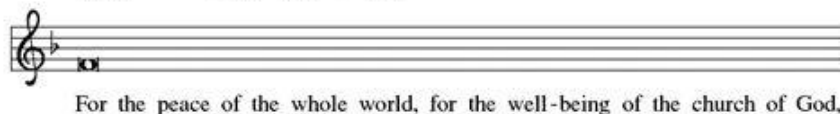
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



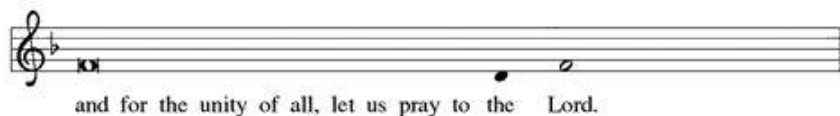
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



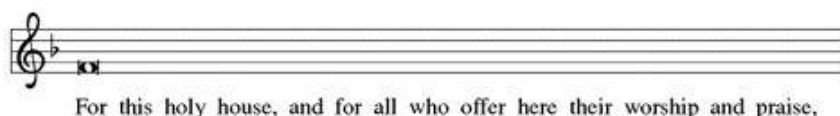
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



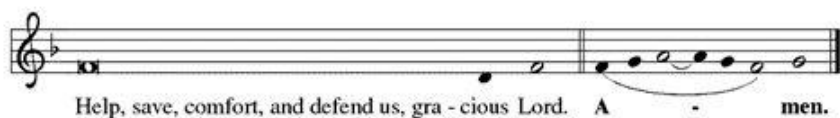
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, 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

Acts 2:42-47

The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Guest Pastor Daniel DeLoma

* HYMN #778

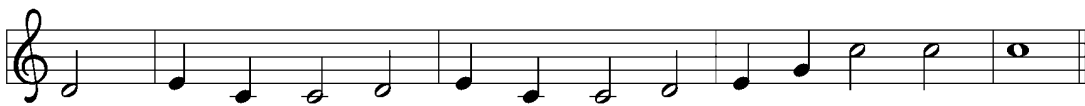
THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres-ence of my foes;
5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
with - in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake;
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;
my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell-ing-place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
with - in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell-ing-place shall be.

*** 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,

hear our prayer.

(The prayers conclude:)

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bless we the Lord

Thanks be to God!

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**

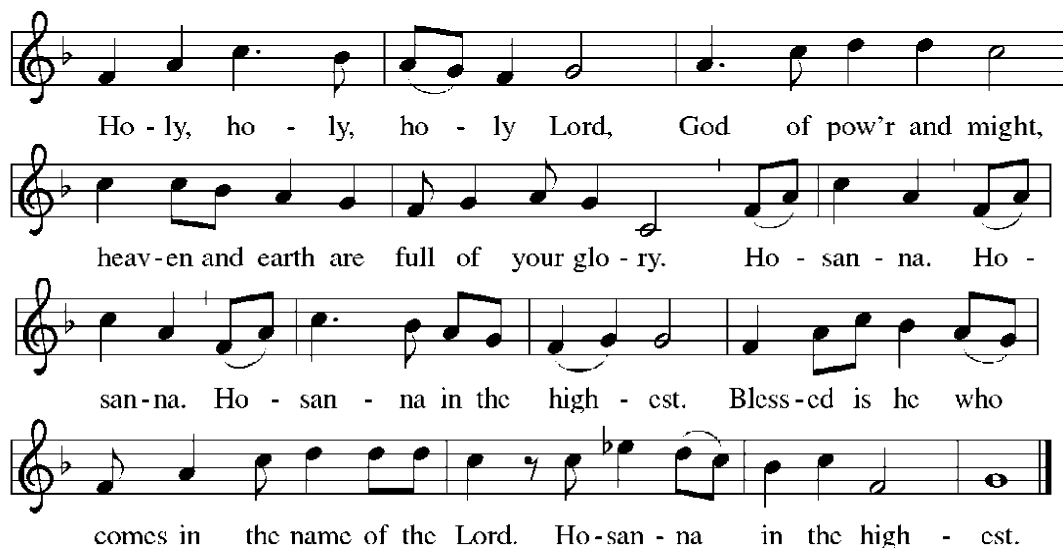
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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 EASTER SEASON**



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 bread, 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

P 471

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 #774 WHAT A FELLOWSHIP, WHAT A JOY DIVINE

1 What a fel - low - ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms;
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms;
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms?

what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;
 Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus.

lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus.

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O Sons and Daughters

Lani Smith

Tune: O FILII ET FILIAE
a traditional French melody

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PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING are offered for all those celebrating birthdays this week

CARE AND HEALING: Elaine Bakios, 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, 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, Nancy Reichart, Jan and Harv 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

Reverting To Previous Routine For Assigning Worship Assistants

We've concluded that our experiment with the new system (volunteers directly entering themselves into slots in an online calendar) wasn't working as well as the prior system (volunteers email their availability and then a calendar is produced for everyone). There was confusion and difficulty in making changes and because volunteers could only find out about remaining open slots by entering the system, several slots remained open for weeks. Melba has generously volunteered to spearhead the return to the prior approach and will be shortly sending out emails asking volunteers to email their availability for May and June to her. You can connect with Melba at mlg3344@yahoo.com.

SERVING TODAY

Greeter	Ken D'Arinzo
Assisting Minister	Elizabeth Tobey
Reader	Deb D'Arinzo
Altar Guild	Diana Van Dam
Cookies & Conversations	Norma Gerwig
Counters	Ken D'Arinzo, Melba Grieshaber
Guest Pastor	Pastor Daniel DeLoma
Organist	Dr. Alla Borzova

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Greeter	Lisa Ferraro
Assisting Minister	Ken D'Arinzo
Reader	Norma Grieshaber
Altar Guild	Laura White
Cookies & Conversations	
Counters	Ken D'Arinzo, Roger Heine
Interim Pastor	Pastor Daniel DeLoma
Organist	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.

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)

mgrorud@gmail.com
saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com
saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com
music@StMichaelsLutheran.org
president@StMichaelsLutheran.org

WEEKLY NEWS

April 26 – May 2

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.

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.

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.

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.

29 IN ATTENDANCE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 19

This Week: April 26 - May 2

Sunday, April 26

9:00 am & 11:15 am Choir Practice

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Cookies & Conversation

Next Week: May 3 - 10

Sunday, May 3

9:00 am & 11:15 am Choir Practice

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Cookies & Conversation

*Save
the Date*

Holden Evening Prayer Around The World

May 27 - 7:30 pm

New Member Orientation

June 7 - 11:00 am

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For pastoral services, Pastor Grorud can be reached at (402) 620-8032 or via his email address **mgorrud@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.

Please note: Nancy will be out of the church office from April 28 through May 8.

New Canaan Historical Society:

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