

Saint Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church
EVENING PRAYER & HOLY COMMUNION

Wednesday evenings in Lent • 7:00 PM



WE WELCOME YOU TO LENTEN EVENING PRAYER AND COMMUNION. We are glad you have joined us! If you're looking for a church home, we hope you'll find one here. To learn more about us, please sign the guestbook found at the greeter table in the narthex.

PLEASE OBSERVE SILENCE UPON ENTERING THE CHURCH and use the time to pray, meditate, or simply to rest and prepare for worship.

YOU MAY MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS whenever you see the ✠ symbol.

POSTURAL INSTRUCTIONS ARE INCLUDED IN THIS SERVICE BOOKLET TO HELP GUIDE YOU. However, you may stand, sit, or kneel during any part of this service, or remain seated until Communion.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN ALL OF OUR LITURGIES. Childcare for children from 3 months to age 5 is available in the Nursery.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER & HOLY COMMUNION

Incense Rite

The People may stand as able

Celebrant Let our prayers be set forth in God's sight as incense,
and the lifting up of our hands as an evening sacrifice. **Amen.**

Incense is offered, representing our prayers and praises rising toward heaven

The Confession and Absolution

Celebrant If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All may kneel as able; a period of silence is kept

Together **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.**

Celebrant 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 Invitatory and Phos hilaron

The People may stand as able

Celebrant O God, make speed to save us.

People **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Together **Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

O GRACIOUS LIGHT is a metrical version of one of the Church's most ancient hymns, the **PHOS HILARON**. Please join in singing the hymn, or you are welcome to sit and listen.

1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in
 2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the
 3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O
 you the Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,
 lamps are lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
 Son of God, Life - giv - ing Lord; where - fore you are through
 blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.
 Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
 all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984) • Music: *The Eighth Tune*, Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

The People are seated

Holy Scripture

The Gospel from the Daily Office appointed for Evening Prayer is read

Quiet Meditation

In place of a sermon, you are invited to meditate quietly for a duration of five minutes.

To help frame our meditation, a singing bowl will sound at the beginning and end.

A Collect to Conclude our Meditation

Together **O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray you, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Suffrages

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

The People may kneel as able

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And sustain us by your Holy Spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

For you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

Keep me, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;

Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant Let us now pray for the needs and concerns of those here gathered.

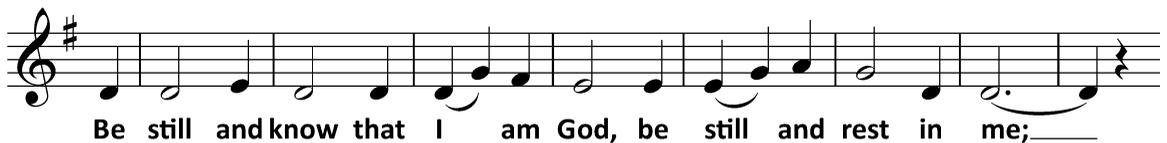
*Please add your own petitions, intercessions, and thanksgivings,
either silently or aloud.*

Celebrant As we entrust our petitions and thanksgivings to God, let us pray:

Together **O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.**

Prayer with Laying on of Hands

You are invited to come forth and light a candle as a sign of your prayer to God. You may kneel at the altar rail for prayer, or go where instructed for healing prayer and laying on of hands. Please sing the chant as the Spirit moves you.



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Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge God's Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Holy Communion

adapt. from *Common Worship*, Church of England

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also 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 God thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away
you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

***You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.***

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

***He opened his arms of love upon the cross
so that, free of sin, we might live in holiness and righteousness.***

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends, he took bread,
and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: "Take,
eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me."

***Holy God, we do this in remembrance of Jesus:
Christ's body is the bread of life.***

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and
said: "Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which
is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this to remember me."

***Holy God, we do this in remembrance of Jesus:
Christ's blood is the cup of salvation.***

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us
the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ.

Celebrant With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice
to join the eternal song of heaven:

Together ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.***

✠ ***Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Together ***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.***

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread in silence

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Celebrant In this bread and this wine, God comes to us,
that we may come to God.

*This is God's table and all who seek God and a more profound life in Christ
are welcome to receive communion.*

*If you prefer to receive a blessing
instead of Communion, simply cross your arms in front of your chest.*

Please let the priest know if you would like a gluten-free wafer.

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

The People may kneel or stand as able

People **Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.**

The Nunc dimittis & Dismissal

The People may stand as able

Celebrant Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping;

People **that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep we may rest in peace.**

Together **Lord, you now have set your servant free
to go in peace as you have promised;**

**For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:**

A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping;

**that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep we may rest in peace.**

Celebrant The blessing of God Almighty, ✠ Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

You are invited to remain in prayer and meditation at the end of the liturgy.

Please depart the church in silence for the benefit of those who remain. Go in peace.

CONTACTING ST. MICHAEL'S

Office Hours: Tuesday—Thursday, 8 AM—1 PM

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Parish Administrator Chris Pierce

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