

St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church

Communion Service

March 7, 2021 – Third Sunday in Lent



The ministers enter in silence.

Opening Acclamation

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

His mercy endures for ever.

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

***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.***

Almighty God who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

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

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and

hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,

Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its
course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are
being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not
God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did
not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to
save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim
Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are
the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's
foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human
strength.

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

The Gospel

John 2:13-22

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found
people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables.
Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the
cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He

told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of the Lord. ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

The Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.***

The Prayers of the People

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your loving kindness; in your great compassion, hear our prayers.

We pray for the whole church, all leaders and ministers, and all the holy people of God.

Silence

Wash us through and through,
And cleanse us from our sin.

We pray for our nation, for all the nations of the earth, and for all who govern and judge.

Silence

Purge us from our sin,
And we shall be pure.

We pray for those who hunger, those who thirst, those who cry out for justice, those who live under the threat of terror, and those without a place to lay their head.

Silence

Make them hear of joy and gladness,
that those who are broken may rejoice.

We pray for those who are ill, those in pain, those under stress, and those who are lonely.

Silence

Give them the joy of your saving help,
and sustain them with your bountiful Spirit.

In this season of Lent we pray for those who prepare for baptism, and we pray that we all might be given the grace and strength to repent and grow closer to you, O God.

Silence

Create in us clean hearts, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.

We pray for those who have died and who have entered into the land of eternal Light and your abiding peace. We pray especially this week for Laurene Pike, who entered the nearer presence of God last Saturday.

Silence

Cast them not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from them.

We pray for the sick and the needy, those who are oppressed and marginalized, and those who are serving our country in the armed forces. Today we also especially remember those on our parish prayer list: Dennis DiLiberto, Fr. Chuck Wheeler & Gail, Don, Shirley and Keith Szen, Janet & Nancy Casagrande, Bobby and Shirley Gardinier, Fay Hambridge, Patricia Jarosz, Shawna Lang, Sandy Wing, and Loren Gould.

Silence

Lord Jesus, it was your will that your Father's House would be a place of prayer for all people; grant us the strength and wisdom to be a people consumed with prayer and zeal for you, this day and always. **Amen.**

The Peace

Jesus says: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." May the peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Announcements

The suspension of in-person indoor gatherings has been extended through the foreseeable future. Please see our website for details on upcoming services.

Invitation to Communion

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offering and come into his courts.



The Great Thanksgiving

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Officiant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever! From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation. You give us breath and speech that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord! As a mother tenderly gathers her children you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Savior, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends, and taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take eat: this is my body which is given for you.

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 and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

***Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.***

Holy One, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us into the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember Lord your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace ...

Bring us at the last with Saint Michael and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendor for which you have created us;

through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by him, with him, and in him, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***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,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.***

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. [Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.]

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

***Merciful God,
you have renewed us
with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,***

*and strengthen our love
as we journey through the wilderness;
teach us always to hunger
for him who is the living bread,
and enable us to be
his living presence in the world
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Blessing

Bow down before the Lord.

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The service ends with the silent exit of the ministers.

St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church

81 Burke Drive
Buffalo, NY 14215
(716) 836-0220

Email: stmikesbuf@aol.com
Website: www.stmichaelsbuffalo.org
facebook.com/StMichaelsEpiscopalBuffalo

Rev. Jason Miller, Priest in Charge
(716) 204-6433 (cell)

Email: frjasonmiller@gmail.com

Robert Weekley, Pastoral Assistant
(716) 866-7464

Email: rcweekley@aol.com

Carol Weekley, Secretary
(716) 861-7248

Email: oficmgr@aol.com

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and governmental and diocesan restrictions, the church is currently closed for in-person gatherings. Please contact us via email or phone.

Notices

The Scripture texts are from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA. The text of this service is reproduced from *The Book of Common Prayer*, 1979, The Episcopal Church, USA, *Enriching Our Worship 1*, 1998, Church Publishing Incorporated, *The Book of Occasional Services 2018*, Church Pension Fund, and *New Patterns for Worship*, 2008, Church House Publishing. Hymns are reprinted under License Number **CCLI: 1323637**. All rights reserved. Used by permission.