



**The Third Sunday in Lent**  
Sunday, March 3, 2024 • 10:00 AM Rite II

# St. Michael's Welcomes You!

## St. Michael's Episcopal Church

### CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Jesse Perkins, *Rector*  
The Rev. Jim Swarthout,  
*Assistant Rector*  
The Rev. Tim Murray, *Deacon*  
The Rev. Elizabeth (Betsy) Ward,  
*Retired Priest Associate*  
The Rev. Ralph Osborne,  
*Retired Priest Associate*  
The Rev. Judy Heinrich,  
*Retired Deacon*  
Theresa Halminiak, *Parish  
Administrator*  
Sara Torbeck, *Director of Music*  
Jerry Egger, *Organist*  
Kay Lewis, *Junior & Senior High  
Youth Ministry*  
Kim Curtis, *Facilities Manager &  
Sunday School Director*  
Carol Hebert, *Bookkeeper*  
Caren Hunter, *Director of Little  
Angels Christian Preschool*

### VESTRY

Bill Ferry, *Senior Warden*  
Liz Gabis, *Junior Warden*

2025  
Marisa Boynton  
Brant Deichmann  
Ellen Lindeen

2026  
Sam Adams-Lanham  
Wes Kimes  
Lynn Mayberry

2027  
Paul Carrubba  
Amy Hoff  
Jeff Tolle

John Davis, *Treasurer*  
Craig Anderson, *Clerk*



Whether you are visiting with us for the first time today or if St. Michael's is your home, we welcome you and are glad you are joining us for worship. Wherever you might be in your spiritual journey, we invite you to continue to explore a deeper relationship with God and a stronger spiritual life.

### Saturday Worship

5:00 p.m. **Saturday Evening Holy Eucharist Spoken Service** (Small Chapel)

### Sunday Worship and Education Schedule

8:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist, Rite I**  
9:00 a.m. **St. Michael's Jr. (LiFT)** | Sturtz House *(summer hours vary)*  
10:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist, Rite II**  
10:00 a.m. **Sunday School** | Visit [stmichaelsbarrington.org](http://stmichaelsbarrington.org)  
6:30 p.m. **St. Michael's Sr. High (LiFT)** | Sturtz House *(as scheduled)*

### Things to Remember

- When it is time for Holy Communion, walk up to the altar and stand or kneel at the altar rail.
- A digital version of this bulletin is available by visiting our website at [www.stmichaelsbarrington.org/blog](http://www.stmichaelsbarrington.org/blog).

We also live-stream all services to Facebook and the parish website. This provides a way for everyone to worship with us, even if they are not comfortable returning in person. If you come up for communion, you will likely be seen in our online video by those worshipping at home.

Please visit our website at [www.stmichaelsbarrington.org](http://www.stmichaelsbarrington.org) for more information and announcements.

### Contact Information

The Reverend Jesse Perkins, Rector  
[jperkins@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:jperkins@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

The Reverend Deacon Tim Murray  
[tmurray@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:tmurray@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

Theresa Halminiak, Parish Administrator  
[thalminiak@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:thalminiak@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

Kim Curtis, Facilities and Sunday School  
[kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

Sara Torbeck, Choir Director  
[storbeck@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:storbeck@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

Bill Ferry, Senior Warden  
[sr-warden@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:sr-warden@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

## The Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 3, 2024 | 10:00 AM | Rite II

### PRELUDE | Organist Selection

*A bell will sound three times, inviting the congregation to stand.*

### The Penitential Order

*Process in silence.*

### OPENING HYMN | Hymn 152 Kind Maker of the world, O hear, *A la venue de Noël*

*The people stand or kneel as able.*

### OPENING ACCLAMATION | BCP 355

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God who forgives all our sins.

*People:* **God's mercy endures for ever.**

*The Celebrant continues:*

Jesus Said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your god with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION | BCP 352

*The Deacon or Celebrant:*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Said in unison.*

**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 our Savior 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.**

*The Celebrant continues:*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

# S84 Kyrie Eleison

Plainsong Mode 1, Missa orbis factor, Mass 11 arr. David Hurd



Repeat 3x

Cantor:Ky - ri - e E - - le - i - son.  
Choir:Ky - ri - e E - - le - i - son.  
Congregation:Ky - ri - e E - - le - i - son.



Repeat 3x

Cantor:Chri - ste E - - le - i - son.  
Choir:Chri - ste E - - le - i - son.  
Congregation:Chri - ste E - - le - i - son.



Repeat 2x

Choir:Ky - ri - e E - - le - i - son.  
Congregation:Ky - ri - e E - - le - i - son.



Cantor:Ky - ri - e - - - E - - le - i - son

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant:* God be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* 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 FIRST READING | Exodus 20:1-17

*Please be seated.*

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 labour 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.

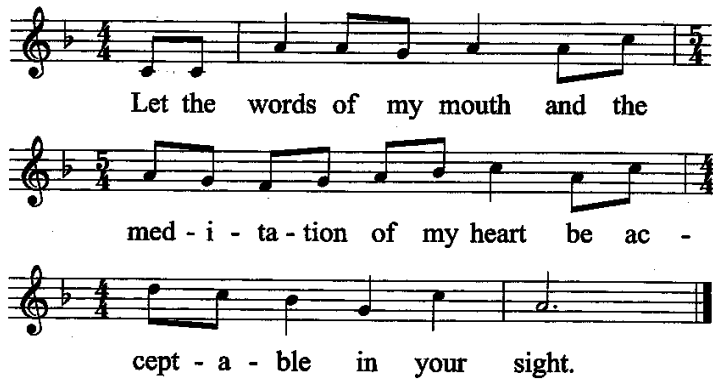
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

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.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 19| *Caeli enarrant*



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- <sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- <sup>2</sup>One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.   **Antiphon**
- <sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language,  
and their voices are not heard,
- <sup>4</sup>Their sound has gone out into all lands,  
and their message to the ends of the world.   **Antiphon**
- <sup>5</sup>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.
- <sup>6</sup>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.   **Antiphon**
- <sup>7</sup>The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- <sup>8</sup>The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.   **Antiphon**
- <sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.   **Antiphon**
- <sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup>Who can tell how often he offends?  
cleans me from my secret faults.   **Antiphon**
- <sup>13</sup>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.
- <sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.   **Antiphon**

## THE SECOND READING | 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

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 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.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## GRADUAL HYMN | Hymn 431 The stars declare his glory, *Aldine*

## THE GOSPEL | John 2:13-22

*Please stand as able.*

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People:* **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.

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE NICENE CREED**

*Please stand. Said in unison.*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living  
and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver  
of life, who proceeds from the Father.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic  
Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



# Prayers of the People

## Form 1

*Intercessor:*

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls. Let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.*** -

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

We pray for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Paula, our Bishop; Joseph, Archbishop of the Upper Nile Province, and Simon, Bishop of the Diocese of Renk, South Sudan; for Jesse, Jim, Betsy, Ralph, Tim, and Judy, our clergy; and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For our President, Joe, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For reasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For those who travel on land, on water, in the air or through outer space, let us pray to the lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries: John Davis and Sharon and Richard Curran, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For those who have requested our prayers: Jackie, Kristin, Lynda, Emma Rose, the Kean family, Zach and Jenny, Karen, Spencer, Meg and Charlie, Sarah and Evelyn, Amy and Matthew, Jeff, Richard, Nancy, Christine, Jeff, Sharon, Andy, Marilyn and Pat, Caden, Sadie, Dave, Phyllis, Cameron, Maribeth, Ruth, Brian, Barb and Steve, Patty, and Amy.

Are there others? [PAUSE].

For all whom we remember today, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially, Sophia Stewart, Penelope Stewart, Sarah Logan, Henry Greene, David Bailey, Harry Strouse, Joseph Beuttas, and Jerry Camper, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

**Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of St. Michael and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God

**To thee, O Lord our God.**

*Silence.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## THE PEACE

*Celebrant:* The Peace of Christ be always with you.

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

*All may greet one another with the Peace of Christ..*

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please be seated.*

## The Holy Communion

## THE OFFERTORY

*Thank you for your gifts in support of the church's mission and ministries. The offering plates are in the rear at both doors or offerings may be made online at [stmichaelsbarrington.org](http://stmichaelsbarrington.org).*

**MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY** | A Lenten Prayer, Antonio Salieri, arr. Hal Hopson

**DOXOLOGY** | Hymn 380, Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow, Old 100th, Verse 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** Prayer A | Expansive Language

*Please stand as able.*

*Celebrant:* God be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

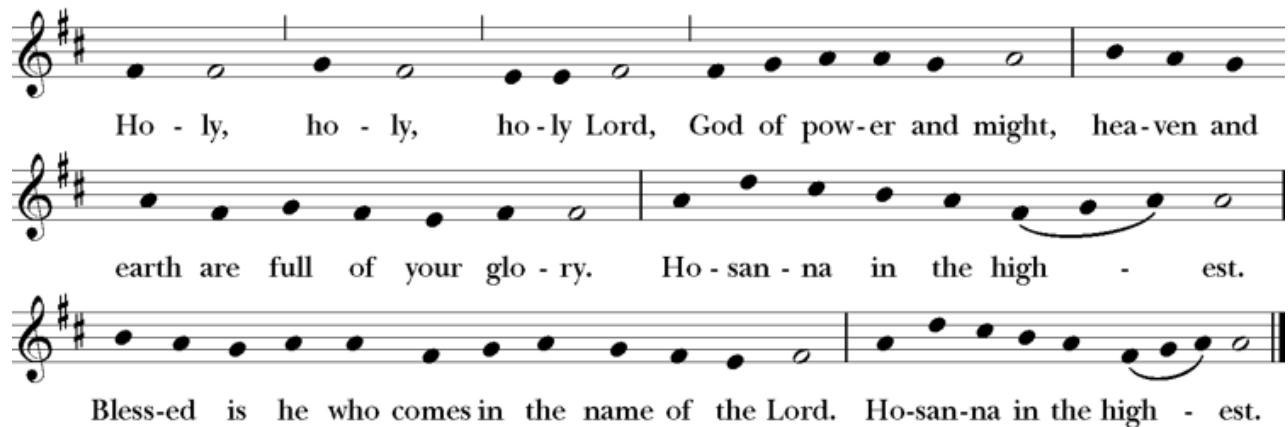
*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a proper preface is said.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**SANCTUS** | S124, David Hurd



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

*The people stand or kneel as able. The Celebrant continues:*

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*At the following concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to lay a hand upon it.*

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*The Celebrant and people:*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues:*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

*Celebrant and People:*

**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. A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant:* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

## ANTHEM S157 | O Lamb of God, *John Merbecke*



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the  
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the  
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the  
sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

## THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All are welcome to come forward to the altar rail for Communion or a Blessing.*

**Celebrant:** 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.

*Please come forward to receive Communion. When you arrive at the front of the nave, please take a plastic, compostable cup and bring it to the altar rail for the wine. While receiving both the Bread and the Wine is tradition, receiving the Bread alone constitutes full participation in this Holy Communion.*

*If you would like a blessing instead, cross your arms and the priest will bless you. If a person desires to receive the Sacrament, but, by reason of extreme sickness or physical disability [or pandemic], is unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, the Celebrant is to assure that person that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth. (BCP 457)*

**MUSIC AT COMMUNION** | Hymn 315 Thou who at thy first Eucharist didst pray, *Song I*

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*Kneel or stand.*

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

*Said by the Celebrant & people:*

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen**

## THE BLESSING

Bow down before the Lord.

*The people kneel and the Celebrant says the following prayer:*

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please stand as able.*

**CLOSING HYMN** | WLP 753 When from bondage we are summoned, *Grid* (Green Hymnal)

*Process in Silence*

## DISMISSAL

**Deacon:** Let us bless the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** | Organist



## What's in the Sword this week?

### CALENDAR AND EVENTS

- **February 14-25** | Uncaged Art Exhibit at St. Michael's Church, *please see Sword for dates and hours.*
- **February 21-March 20** | Stations of the Cross, weekly on Wednesday at 6pm
- **February 25** | Bread baking 11:15am
- **March 10** | Choral Evensong, 5pm
- **March 24** | Palm Sunday, 8am and 10am
- **March 28** | Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm
- **March 29** | Good Friday Service, 12pm
- **March 29** | Good Friday Evening Service, we will be joining the Salem United Methodist Church in Barrington at 7pm.
- **March 30** | Easter Vigil, Holy Saturday Evening, 8pm
- **March 31** | Easter Sunday Services, 9am and 11am
- **March 31** | Easter Egg Hunt following the 11am service.

### WEEKLY EVENTS

- **Sundays 10:00am** | In Person Sunday School
- **Sundays 9:10am** | Lent Adult Study with Deacon Tim in the Conference Room
- **Sundays 11:30am** | Lent Adult Forum with The Rev. Ralph Osborne in the Library
- **Tuesdays 9:30am – 11:00am** | Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study
- **Tuesdays 7:00-8:30pm** | Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study via Zoom
- **Fridays at 6:00 AM** | Men's Fellowship meets in the Community Room

### MONTHLY EVENTS

- **Last Tuesday of Every Month** | Prayer Shawl meets in the Library at 6pm
- **Third Wednesday of Every Month** | Book Club meets in the Library at 7pm

### Those for whom prayers have been requested:

Jackie, Kristin, Lynda, Emma Rose, the Kean family, Zach and Jenny, Karen, Spencer, Meg and Charlie, Sarah and Evelyn, Nancy, Jeff, Richard, Amy and Matthew, Christine, Jeff, Sharon, Andy, Marilyn and Pat, Caden, Sadie, Dave, Phyllis, Cameron, Maribeth, Ruth, Brian, Barb and Steve, Patty, and Amy.

Birthdays		Anniversaries		Remembrances	
3/8	John Davis	3/3	Sharon and Richard Curran	3/6	Joseph Beuttas
				3/6	Sarah Logan
				3/6	Henry Greene
				3/6	David Bailey
				3/6	Harry Strouse
				3/7	Jerry Camper
					Penelope Stewart
					Sophia Stewart

### AT TODAY'S WORSHIP

*Preaching and Presiding:* The Rev. Jesse Perkins

*Deacon:* The Rev. Tim Murray

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THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

## Wandering Heart: "Praise the mount"



### Who Do You Say That I Am?

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Matthew 16:13-20

*Digital painting*

I don't know if this was a moment of clarity for Peter, if he was regurgitating the answer he thought Jesus wanted to hear, or if he was trying to convince himself that dropping everything and following this man was worth it, but I imagine this was a breakthrough for Peter.

I wanted to capture this as a moment of seeing and being seen. Jesus sees him as more than Simon, a fisherman and son of Jonah, and renames him Peter, the blessed foundation through which his ministry would take root and continue to grow. Jesus sees Peter through the eyes of God.

Peter sees Jesus as more than a teacher and companion. He sees through the veil of confusion concerning Jesus' identity. He doesn't see him as the reincarnation of a former prophet, or another contemporary baptizer pointing the way. He names Jesus as the "anointed one," the one his people have so desperately longed for. Peter proclaims Jesus as Messiah and Son of the living God.

In this image, I wanted to create a kaleidoscope of perception, imaging the ways Jesus is perceived in the context of this passage, like light broken down into a myriad of shapes and colors. In the gold rays of light Jesus' form is obscured by the metallic shine of God's glory. In the gray and earth-tone rays he is seen in monochrome. Each of the earth-tone rays holds a pattern on Jesus' clothing which represents a misunderstanding of who Jesus is. Starting on the left, honey, locusts, and baptismal waters misidentify him as John the Baptist. Within the next ray to the right, ravens, an empty chair, rain, and fires from the heavens misidentify him as Elijah. On the right, scales of justice and plants being uprooted and planted misidentify him as Jeremiah.

Through the middle of the image, there is a ray of light where the image comes into full color that holds this moment of clarity where Jesus and Peter truly see one another. In this ray, Peter's clothing holds symbols of his new identity: a rock upon which the church will be built and keys to the kingdom. Jesus' clothing holds imagery—an oil jar and the light of the sun—representing the way Peter sees him as the Messiah and Son of the living God.

—Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman