



Candlelight Master. Young Boy Singing, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55668> [retrieved December 9, 2025].

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025 • 8 AM Rite I

St. Michael's Welcomes You!

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Ralph Osborne,
Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. Jim Swarthout,
Assistant Rector

The Rev. Tim Murray, *Deacon*
Carter Brett, *Parish Administrator*

Sara Torbeck, *Director of Music*
Jerry Egger, *Organist*

Kay Lewis, *Junior & Senior High
Youth Ministry*

Kim Curtis, *Sunday School
Director*

Carol Hebert, *Bookkeeper*

VESTRY

Liz Gabis, *Senior Warden*
Bob Hoyer, *Junior Warden*

2026
Sam Adams-Lanham
Wes Kimes
Lynn Mayberry

2027
Paul Carrubba
Craig Anderson
Jeff Tolle

2028
Pat Okonek
Cathy Koehlinger
BJ Seagrist

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.

Sunday Worship and Education Schedule

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

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.

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 for more information and announcements.

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The Holy Eucharist

The Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 14, 2025 | 8:00 AM | Rite I

PRELUDE | Jerry Egger, organ

The Word of God

Please stand as able.

OPENING HYMN | 76 On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's cry, *Winchester New*

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT OF PURITY | BCP 323

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

TRISAGION | BCP 324

Said in unison three times.

Holy God
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant continues:

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING | Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146:4-9 | *Lauda, anima mea*

Said in unison

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the LORD their God;
5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas,
and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;
6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.
7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; *

then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler,
not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 The LORD shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING | James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able.

THE GOSPEL | Matthew 11:2-11

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

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON | Father Ralph Osborne

THE NICENE CREED | BCP 326

Please stand and say 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 was made man.
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 and
the Son.
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.**

The Prayers of the People | BCP, p. 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and ever living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Sarah, Archbishop-elect of Canterbury; Stephen, Interim Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Paula, our Bishop; Joseph, Archbishop of Upper Nile Province and Simon, Bishop of the Diocese of Renk, South Sudan; our clergy: Ralph, Jim, Betsy, Tim and Judy, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially Donald our President and J.B. our Governor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Heather, Carol, Helena, Brooke, Kara and Oliver, Sara, Steve, Kristen, Bob, Jesophine, Kathy, Braelyn, Denise, Doug, Sally, Mary, Ben, John,

Teresa, Dolores and family, Mark, Kitty, Olivia and family, Liam and family, Nancy, Caden, Dave, Brian, Barb and Steve, and Patty, and for all whom you alone know.

We give thanks for prayers answered, and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. We thank you for the birthdays and anniversaries of: Forest Mayberry, Kelly Lensink. Gene Dawson, Jackie Kraus, Jeff Cross, Terri Longo, Caden Chan, Kathy Galliher, Judy Tammi, and Lorna Garcia.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear especially Jacqueline Marie Martin, Maribeth Totten, Peter Forbes, Jean Treveiler, Barbara Mabbs, Bette Sue Thomasson, Scott Treveiler, Jr., John Dowling, Anthony Slone, and JoAnn Godfrey, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of St. Michael and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. Michaels. Be with us and lead us as we seek the next rector for our church. We ask your direction and guidance for those in discernment for our new spiritual leader, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries. Grant us perception, faithfulness and joy, so that we may hear your voice in all our deliberations. Grant us also the desire and the ability to truly hear each other and those who have entrusted us with this process. Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us. Come Holy Spirit.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Deacon: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION | BCP 330

Deacon or Celebrant:

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says:

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

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. Offerings may also be made online at stmichaelsbarrington.org/give or by scanning the QR code.



MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY | 67 Comfort, Comfort ye my people Psalm 42

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING | Eucharistic Prayer I | BCP, p. 333

Please stand as able

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: **It is meet and right so to do.**

The Celebrant continues:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said.

Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Celebrant: All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

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

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood. And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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, receiving the Bread while standing or kneeling at the altar rail. While receiving both the Bread and the Wine is tradition, receiving the Bread alone constitutes full participation in this Holy Communion, and includes all benefits of the Sacrament. (Gluten free Bread available upon request).

To also receive the Wine, you may remain at the altar rail to drink from the chalice; please do not dip or intinct the Bread into the Wine as fingers will contaminate the cup.

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 | Jerry Egger, organ

Kneel or stand.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Said in unison.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

BLESSING

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN | 72 Hark the glad sound, the savior comes! *Richmond*

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE | Jerry Egger, organ

What's in *The Sword* this week

(scan to sign up for the newsletter)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALENDAR AND EVENTS

- **Sunday, Dec 14** | 9:00 a.m. in the Community Room. A fun and interactive Sunday Brew on how to invite, welcome and integrate new people into our church.
- **Sunday, Dec 21** | St. Nicholas Celebration: A festive gathering with food and brass.
- **Christmas Sale at the "And All The Angels" Gift & Book Shop:** Saturdays, Dec. 20th; and Sundays, Dec. 14th & 21st, 9 am until noon. Please note that we will be CLOSED on Wednesdays, Dec. 24th & 31st; and Saturday, Dec. 27th. Thank you for your support in 2025! We enjoyed another successful year, and will be donating all profits to women's and children's charities after our volunteers meet in January.
- **Christmas Eve Services** | 3:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Celebrate the birth of Christ with beautiful liturgies and music.
- **Christmas Day Eucharist** | 10:00 a.m.

WEEKLY EVENTS

- **Sundays 10:00 a.m.** | Children's Sunday School
- **Tuesdays 9:30-11:00 a.m.** | Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study at the Sturtz House
- **Tuesdays 7:00-8:30 p.m.** | Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study via Zoom
- **Fridays at 6:00 a.m.** | Men's Fellowship meets in the Community Room

MONTHLY EVENTS

- **"Stock the Shelves"** | Is on the third Sunday of every month.
- **The second Friday of every month** | Prayer Shawl meets in the Library at 1:00 p.m.
- **Last Tuesday of every month** | Prayer Shawl meets in the Library at 6:30 p.m.
- **Third Wednesday of every month** | Book Club meets in the Library at 7:00 p.m.

Those for whom prayers have been requested:

Heather, Carol, Helena, Brooke, Kara and Oliver, Sara, Steve, Kristen, Bob, Jesophine, Kathy, Braelyn, Denise, Doug, Sally, Mary, Ben, John, Teresa, Sarah, Dolores and family, Mark, Kitty, Olivia and family, Liam and family, Nancy, Caden, Dave, Brian, Barb and Steve, and Patty.

Birthdays

12/15	Forest Mayberry
12/16	Kelly Lensink
12/17	Gene Dawson
12/17	Jackie Kraus
12/18	Jeff Cross
12/18	Terri Longo
12/19	Caden Chan
12/19	Kathy Galliher
12/20	Judy Tammi
12/20	Lorna Garcia

Anniversaries

Remembrances

12/14	Jacqueline Marie Martin
12/15	Maribeth Totten
12/17	Peter Forbes
12/17	Jean Treveiler
12/18	Barbara Mabbs
12/19	Bette Sue Thomasson
12/19	Scott Treveiler, Jr.
12/19	John Dowling
12/20	Anthony Slone
12/20	JoAnn Godfrey

AT TODAY'S WORSHIP

Preaching: Father Ralph Osborne

Presiding: Father Jim Swarthout

Deacon: Tim Murray

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