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A Special Welcome to Our Visitors:

Welcome to St. Michael's Lutheran Church! We are a historic congregation committed to continuing the mission of Jesus Christ in our community. We are very excited to have you worshipping the Lord with us this evening. You are always welcome in our church! Here are a few helpful things to know about St. Michael's:

- Our beautiful and historic church building is over 100 years old. Unfortunately this means that it was not built with restrooms. Restrooms are located in our education building next door.
- A changing table for infants is located in classroom 4 in the education building.
- During our worship service, attendance books will be passed across the pews. Please take a moment to register your presence with us in the book and include your address and phone number so we can follow up with you in the future.
- Our pastor, Rev. Nate Hill, is always willing to meet with you to answer any questions that you might have about our church and beliefs or to be of help in any way that he is able. Please introduce yourself to him this evening. He will be thrilled to meet you!

We hope that you find St. Michael's to be a place where you feel at home as we worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Sermon on the Mount

A Series of Services for the Season of Lent

Week 1:
Salt and Light

Order of Service

Welcome to Worship

Opening Hymn

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

LSB #440 v. 1

Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion;
With your Spirit me endow for such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish
Of your suffering, pain and death that I may not perish.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P You are the salt of the earth.

C **Our Christianity flavors, enhances and preserves your creation.**

P You are the light of the world.

C **Our light sent and sustained by Christ cannot be hidden.**

P You are the lamp that lights the house.

C **Our reflection of the light of Jesus drives away darkness.**

P Do good works that others may see

C **and give glory to the Father.**

P You are the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

C **May we never lose our flavor or dim the light.**

Hymn

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

LSB # 440 v.6

Graciously my faith renew; help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from you, peace mid pain and losses.
May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav'n above sing your praise forever.

Confession and Absolution

P We are created by God to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.
Too often we are neither. Forgive us, O Lord.

C **Most merciful God, when we fail to salt the earth with your love, forgive us. When we fail to shine the light of your peace, forgive us. When we place the light of Christ under a basket, forgive us. When we hide Jesus, deny him, or cover up our Christianity, forgive us. We are sinful from birth and sin against you in thought, word and**

deed. Our neighbors are too often shielded from your light because we are sinners. Forgive us of all of our sins and grant us your mercy.

P Jesus is the true salt of the earth and the light of the world from all eternity. For you he hung on the cross on earth's darkest day and rose again from the dead to shine the light of eternity. Therefore, I announce to you that all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Hymn of Response *“On My Heart Imprint Your Image”*

LSB #422

On my heart imprint your image, blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares and pleasures never may your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation, and my glory and salvation.

Old Testament Reading

Micah 6:6-8

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 5:1-8

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

³But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. ⁴Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. ⁵For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the

kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not associate with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:13-16

¹³[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Children’s Message

Sermon Hymn

“The People That in Darkness Sat” LSB #412 v. 1-2, 5-6

The people that in darkness sat a glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long in shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been.

To hail thee, Sun of Righteousness, the gath’ring nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear their harvest treasures home,
Their harvest treasures home.

His righteous government and pow’r shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based, his reign shall have no end,
His reign shall have no end.

Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, and make us thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art and Holy Spirit, one,
And Holy Spirit, one.

Sermon

Rev. Nate Hill

Offering

Prayers

P Lord Jesus, you are the salt of the earth. So flavor this world with your love and forgiveness that presidents, kings and princes would act justly and love mercy and, as a result, see to it that all people would have the opportunity to hear about and experience your grace. In your mercy,

C make us to be salt and light.

P Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world. You shine your light through your Church and have called and created us to be living examples and loving people. Forgive us when we fail to shine the light of your love. Then shine your light in us and through us that everyone we meet would see your glory. In your mercy,

C make us to be salt and light.

P Lord Jesus, you are the lamp that lights the house. Bring your light into all of our households that mothers, fathers, children and all family members live in love and harmony. Make our homes the places where your salt and light are passed on from one generation to the next. In your mercy,

C make us to be salt and light.

P Lord Jesus, you do all things well. When we are ill, you are the one who has the ability to make us well. Lay your healing hand on all who are hospitalized, suffering from chronic illness or nearing the end of earthly life. Make them well in your own way and according to your good pleasure. In your mercy,

C make us to be salt and light.

P Into your hands, Lord Jesus, we place all of our needs, knowing that you are the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**C 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.**

Benediction

P The God of all grace who is the salt of the earth and the light of the world, bless you to be salt and light in your family, your church and your community. Rejoice and be glad! Amen.

Closing Hymn

“O God of God, O Light of Light”

LSB #810 v. 1,3-4

O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and King of kings:
To you in heaven’s glory bright the song of praise forever rings.
To him who sits upon the throne, the Lamb once slain but raised again,
Be all the glory he has won, all thanks and praise! Amen, amen.

That life of truth, those deeds of love, that death so steeped in hate and scorn—
These all are past, and now above he reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
Lift up your heads, O mighty gates! So sang that host beyond our ken.
Lift up your heads, your King awaits. We lift them up. Amen, amen.

Then raise to Christ a mighty song, and shout his name, his mercies tell!
Sing, heav’nly host, your praise prolong, and all on earth, your anthem swell!
All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain! Forever let the song ascend!
Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign, all glory, pow’r! Amen, amen.

