

Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> 2025

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



# SAINT MICHAEL'S

## LUTHERAN CHURCH • LCMS

W I N C H E S T E R  T E X A S

Worship God. | Love One Another. | Serve All People.

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## **A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS:**

Welcome to Saint 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 worshiping the Lord with us this morning. You are always welcome in our church! Here are a few helpful things to know about Saint Michael's:

- Our beautiful and historic church building was built in 1906. 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 morning. He will be thrilled to meet you!

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

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## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION TODAY:**

Today, we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, in which our Lord Jesus Christ gives His true body and blood under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. This Sacrament is also a confession of the unity in faith, doctrine, and practice of those who receive it together.

If you are a confirmed member in good standing of Saint Michael's Lutheran Church or another congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we welcome you to commune with us today. However, if this is not the case, we ask that you refrain from communing today. If you have questions, please speak to the pastor. He would be happy to meet with you to talk about the blessings of church membership and arrange for you to be a part of our instruction leading toward church membership and the reception of Holy Communion at Saint Michael's.

If you will not be receiving the Lord's Supper today, you are still welcome to come forward during the distribution to receive a blessing from our pastor. In this case, please cross your arms across your chest as a sign that you desire a pastoral blessing.



For those who are sensitive to alcohol, the cups in the center of the communion tray contain water with one drop of wine added.

**DIVINE SERVICE  
SETTING TWO**

**Prelude**

Selected Music

**Ringling of the Church Bell**

Ushers

**Welcome and Greeting**

Pastor

**Opening Hymn**

*“Father Most Holy”*

LSB #504

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*The sign of the cross ✝ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**[P]** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**[C]** Amen.

*Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

**[P]** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**[C]** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*1 John 1:8-9*

*Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.*

**[P]** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**[C]** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**[P]** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*[John 20:19-23]*

**[C]** Amen.

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### Introit

Read Together

*Psalm 119:145-149; antiphon: Psalm 50:15*

**Call upon me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.  
With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O LORD!  
I will keep your statutes.  
I call to you; save me,  
that I may observe your testimonies.  
I rise before dawn and cry for help;  
I hope in your words.  
My eyes are awake before the watches of the night,  
that I may meditate on your promise.  
Hear my voice according to your steadfast love;  
O LORD, according to your justice give me life.  
*Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.*  
**Call upon me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.****

### Kyrie

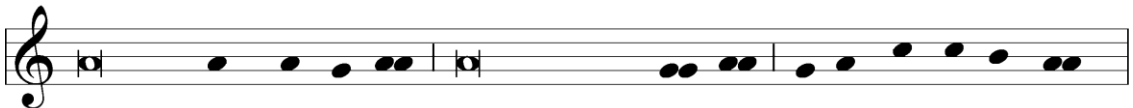
*Mark 10:47*



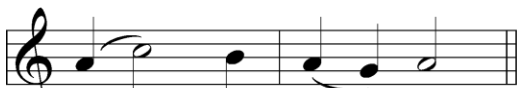
**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



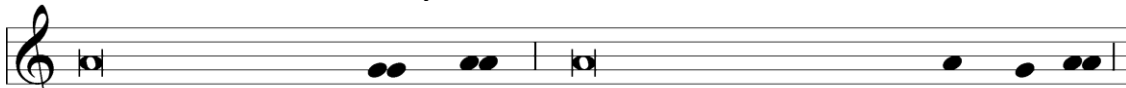
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



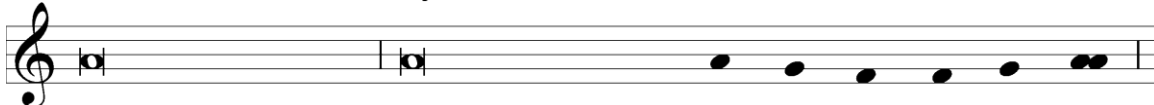
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



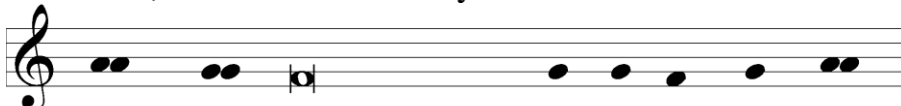
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

# Hymn of Praise

## "Gloria in Excelsis"

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



**A** Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we



praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You



take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



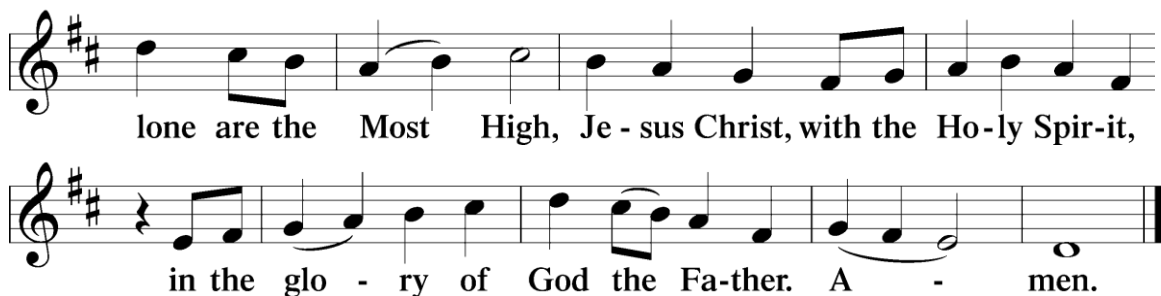
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the



Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a -



## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be attentive to the prayers of Your servants, and by Your Word and Spirit teach us how to pray that our petitions may be pleasing before You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Old Testament Reading

Genesis 18:17-33

<sup>17</sup>The Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, <sup>18</sup>seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? <sup>19</sup>For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring to Abraham what he has promised him." <sup>20</sup>Then the Lord said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, <sup>21</sup>I will go down to see whether they

have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.”

<sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” <sup>26</sup>And the Lord said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.”

<sup>27</sup>Abraham answered and said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him and said, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” <sup>30</sup>Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” <sup>31</sup>He said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” <sup>32</sup>Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” <sup>33</sup>And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm**

Psalm 138

<sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;

<sup>2</sup>I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,  
for you have exalted above all things  
your name and your word.

<sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me;  
my strength of soul you increased.



<sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth,

<sup>5</sup>and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
for great is the glory of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,  
but the haughty he knows from afar.

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve my life;  
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,  
and your right hand delivers me.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

## **Epistle Reading**

Colossians 2:6-19

<sup>6</sup>Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. <sup>17</sup>These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, <sup>19</sup>and not holding

fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia and Verse

*John 6:68*



## Holy Gospel

*Luke 11:1-13*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.



<sup>1</sup>Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” <sup>2</sup>And he said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread,

<sup>4</sup>and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation.”

<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; <sup>7</sup>and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, though he will not get up and

give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. <sup>11</sup>What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; <sup>12</sup>or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Children's Message

Pastor

**Hymn of the Day**    *"Our Father, Who from Heaven Above"*

LSB #766

**Sermon**                      *"Persistent Prayer, Merciful God"*  
   *Genesis 18:17-33*

Rev. Nate Hill

## Nicene Creed

**C**    I believe in one God,  
         the Father Almighty,  
         maker of heaven and earth  
         and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and  
the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

*[1 Timothy 2:1-4]*

**Offering**     *(Please sign the attendance books as they are passed)*     Ushers

*If you would like to transition to making your regular tithe or offering online,  
you may do so at [www.stmichaelswinchester.org/give](http://www.stmichaelswinchester.org/give)*

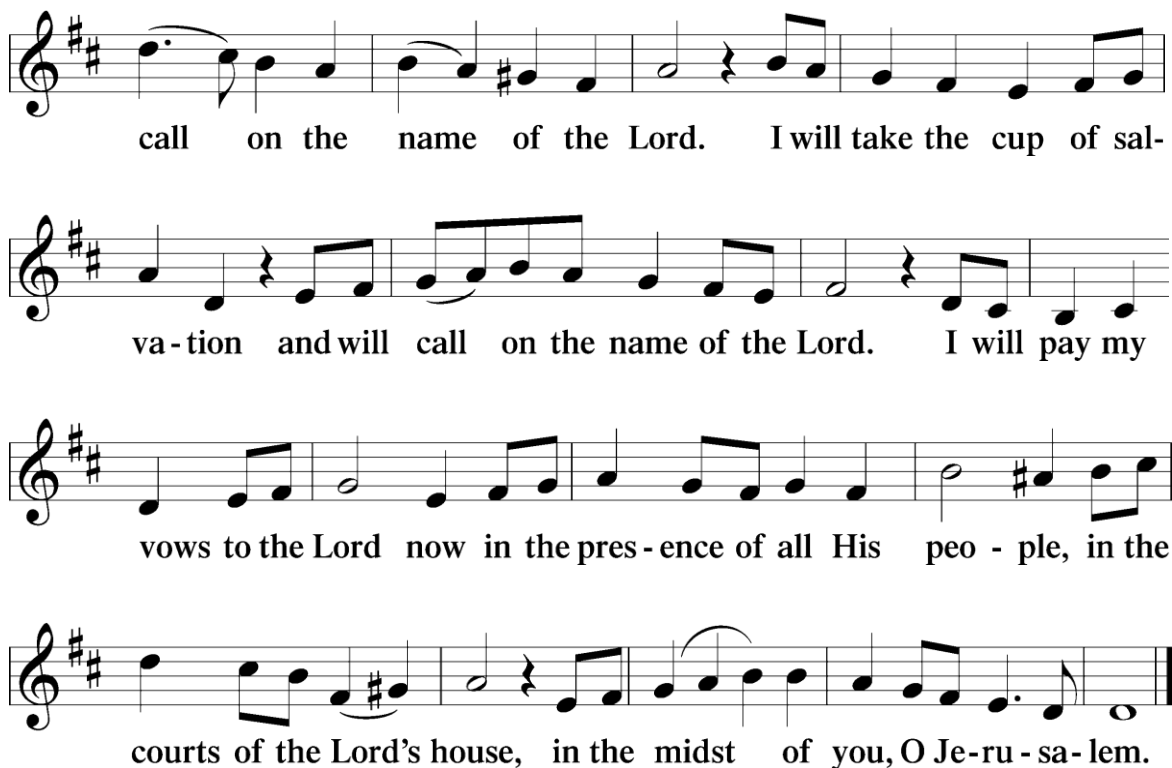


## **Offertory**

*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*

Musical notation for the Offertory song, consisting of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody is written on a five-line staff with various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, along with rests. The lyrics are written below the staff. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

**C**     What shall I    ren - der to the Lord for all His    ben - e-fits to  
me?    I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing    and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

*For those unfamiliar with our congregation's practice regarding the Lord's Supper, please refer to "Important Information about Holy Communion Today" located at the beginning of the bulletin.*

### Preface



**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*



**C** And al-so with you.

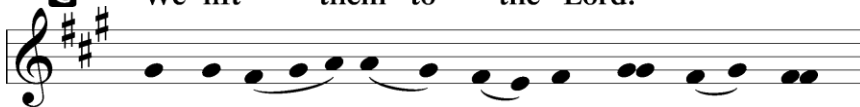


**P** Lift up your hearts.

*[Colossians 3:1]*



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*[Psalm 136]*



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.

*Matthew 6:9-13*

## The Words of Our Lord

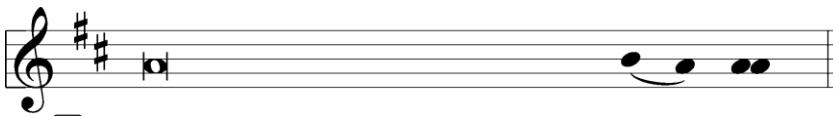
**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24;  
 Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

## Pax Domini

*John 20:19*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

*John 1:29*



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of  
God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Distribution Hymns

*“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”*

LSB #623

*“We Know That Christ Is Raised”*

LSB #603


*“Hear Us, Father, When We Pray”*

LSB #773

## Nunc Dimittis

*Luke 2:29-32*


Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre -




pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;

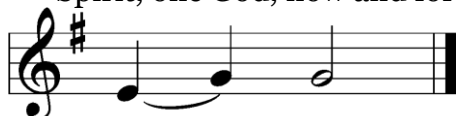


as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

### Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.

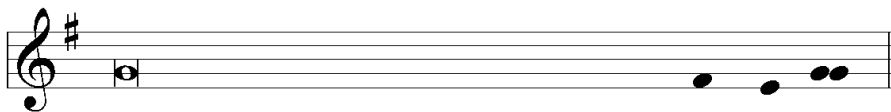
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



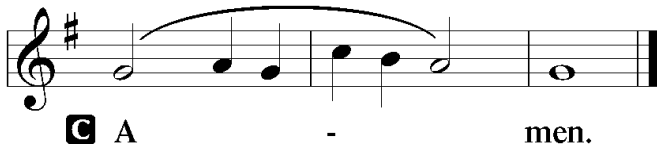
**C** A - men.

## Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A - men.

## Reflections from Our National Youth Gathering Participants

### Announcements

Pastor

**Closing Hymn** “Lord Jesus Christ, the Church’s Head”

LSB #647

### Postlude

Selected Music

## **PRAYERS AT SAINT MICHAEL’S**

### **MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:**

- Melinda Bennett – *Bill Karisch’s Friend*
- Delvin Boriack – *Laverne Schulze’s Brother-in-Law*
- Kourtney Burton
- Sandy Carlson – *Leann McClain’s Sister-in-Law*
- Luis Chávez – *Travis and Katrina Miertschin’s Friend*
- Charlene Franke
- Vance Garvey – *Roland Zoch’s Friend*
- Nellie Gonzalez
- Glenda Herzog
- Douglas Hirsch – *Greg Roeber’s Brother-in-Law*
- YooMi Lee Hougham – *Katrina Miertschin’s Friend*
- Denise James – *Doug Teinert’s Niece*
- Amy Jefferis – *Karen Robbins’ Coworker*
- Delores Karisch
- Morgan Ray Karisch
- Evelyn Kasper – *Bill Karisch’s Mother*
- Thelma Kieschnik
- Bea Kilian
- Cannon Martin – *Kolton Montgomery’s Friend*
- Karen McDougall – *Mark McClain’s Sister*
- Debbie McDylan – *Laverne Schulze’s Friend*
- Dianna Mitschke
- Jeanette Mitschke
- Laura Oeser – *Laverne Schulze’s Friend*
- Deborah Penny – *Pat Karisch’s Sister*
- Lillian Pietsch
- Victoria Pope – *Mark McClain’s Friend*
- Haylee Reiley – *Tori Thornton’s Student*
- Tom Rohde – *Tara Murphy’s Grandfather*
- Craig Sample – *Laverne Schulze’s Godson*
- Marie Schulz
- Raymond Schulz
- Laverne Schulze
- Ruth Siegmund – *Amanda Hart’s Aunt*
- Dana Srubar – *Trish Herzog’s Sister-in-Law*
- Ken Stistare – *Bobby Miertschin’s Friend*
- Kirt Watts – *Jordan Davis’ Father*
- John Yerg – *Nellie Gonzalez’ Brother-in-Law*

### **SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES:**

- Christopher Brand – US Navy – Great Lakes, Illinois
- Warren Evans – US Army – Fort Bragg, North Carolina
- Jake Hagood – US Army – Fort Hood, Texas
- Gavin Noak – USMC – Cherry Point, North Carolina
- Kaleb Pyle – US Army – Fort Bliss, Texas
- Dylan Robbins – USMC – Cherry Point, North Carolina
- Ryan Spray – US Air Force – San Antonio, Texas
- Erik Vallejo – Texas National Guard – United States Border

### **MISSIONARIES:**

- Abba’s House – LCMS Ministry to Refugees – Cypress, TX

### **SEMINARIANS:**

- Kurtis Hankemeier – Concordia Seminary – St. Louis, MO

**ALTAR FLOWERS THIS MORNING:** are given to the glory of God by Mary Ann Liebscher in memory of family who are now in heaven.

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**THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL'S:**

**Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:00am – Divine Service – *Sanctuary*
- 10:30am – Sunday School/Bible Study – *Education Building*
- 1:00pm – 4-H Meeting – *Education Building*

**Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup>**

- 5:30pm – Board of Finance – *Education Building*

**Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30am – Bible Class – *Education Building*
- 7:00pm – Voters' Meeting – *Education Building*

**Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

- 9:00am – Divine Service – *Sanctuary*
  - 10:30am – Sunday School/Bible Study – *Education Building*
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**Beautification Watering:** For the week beginning on July 28<sup>th</sup>, Evelyn Parker will be in charge of watering. If you notice that something needs to be watered, please contact the person of the week that is monitoring. If the week does not work for you, please work it out with someone else.

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**Sunday School:** This week's Bible lesson is "A Trusting Widow." Jesus sits in the temple, observing people depositing money into the offering box. But one offering stands out: a widow brings two small copper coins. Jesus commends this offering to His disciples because He knows her offering is everything she has to live on.

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**Thank You!** Dear Members of St. Michael's, Simple words cannot begin to express my deepest appreciation and thanks for the recognition of my 25 years as music director at the congregation which you surprised me with last Sunday. I am deeply humbled by the kind words and comments expressed to me, and for the generous gift I received, along with the delicious goodies served. I am thankful for being able to work with Pastor Nate, who is not only a devoted servant of the Word, but a wonderful friend. And...I am thankful for my dear wife, Leann, who kept this surprise from me and helped by playing the postlude. She has been a strong support over the years in my music ministry. I am truly blessed. God's peace to all of you.

In Christian love,  
Mark McClain

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## **Education Building Renovation – Fundraising Update**

Since launching our fundraising efforts a couple of months ago, we are pleased to announce that we have collected **\$177,615.00 or over 71% of our high-end goal!** This project estimated to cost \$200,000–\$250,000 will bring much-needed updates and upgrades to our classrooms, office space, kitchen, restrooms, and shared spaces—all helping us better serve our congregation and community for years to come.

As we approach our next Voters' Meeting on July 30<sup>th</sup>, **we encourage and invite all members to prayerfully consider making a donation to support this important project.** Donations will be accepted through the completion of the project, but donations received before the Voters' Meeting will help the congregation decide on how quickly we can move forward with this renovation.

### **Ways to Give:**

- Place your donation in the church offering plate with “*Renovation Fund*” in the memo line of your check or written on the outside of a cash envelope
- Mail your donation to the church office with the same memo note
- Give online at our website under the **Giving** tab—select “*Ed Building Renovations*”
- If you're age 70 or older, consider a **qualified charitable distribution (QCD)** from your retirement account—a tax-free giving option. Speak to **Ron Kaiser** for more information about this.

Let's work together to renew this vital ministry space!



♦ CAMP ♦  
LONE STAR

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JOIN US FOR OUR

# ANNUAL BARBECUE & AUCTION FUNDRAISER

WORSHIP • BARBECUE LUNCH • SILENT & LIVE AUCTION

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SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025

10:30 AM - 3:00 PM

2016 Camp Lone Star Road, La Grange, TX 78945  
[www.camplonestar.org](http://www.camplonestar.org) | (979) 968-1657 | [info@camplonestar.org](mailto:info@camplonestar.org)



# BACK-TO-SCHOOL BINGO

SUNDAY, AUG. 3rd @ 4-6 PM

St. Michael's Lutheran Park  
310 Frio Street, Winchester

POPCORN, DRINKS, & PRIZES!  
COME CELEBRATE!

Adults, EYOB

**FREE COMMUNITY EVENT!!!**  
**No RSVP needed.**

St. Michael's Lutheran Church  
979.242.3444 - [stmichaelswinchester.org](http://stmichaelswinchester.org)