



# ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, RIDGECREST

*Where All Souls Are Welcome*

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## OFFICIANT

Richard Hendricks.

## ALTAR GUILD

Renée-Westra-Lusk.

## READER

Aimee Bryan.

## EVENING PRAYER RITE TWO WITH COMMUNION

*The Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary. (April 8)*

*April 10, 2024, 6:00 p.m.*

*Please stand as able.*

### OPENING ANTHEM

*Officiant* If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! *(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Officiant says to the people:*

Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

*The Priest alone stands and says:*

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.**

### THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

*Please stand as able.*

*Officiant* God, be not far from us.

*People* **Come quickly to help us, O God.**

**Glory 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.**

### LIGHT OF THE WORLD

*PHOS HILARON*

*Officiant and People together, all standing:*

**Light of the world, in grace and beauty,**

**Mirror of God's eternal face,**

**Transparent flame of love's free duty,**

**You bring salvation to our race.**

**Now, as we see the lights of evening,**

**We raise our voice in hymns of praise;**

**Worthy are you of endless blessing,**

**Sun of our night, lamp of our days.**

## THE PSALM

PSALM 45

OFFICIANT

THE PSALM APPOINTED FOR TODAY IS PSALM 45.

<sup>1</sup> My heart is stirring with a noble song; let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; \*  
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.

<sup>2</sup> **You are the fairest of men; \***  
**grace flows from your lips, because God has blessed you for ever.**

<sup>3</sup> Strap your sword upon your thigh, O mighty warrior, \*  
in your pride and in your majesty.

<sup>4</sup> **Ride out and conquer in the cause of truth \***  
**and for the sake of justice.**

<sup>5</sup> Your right hand will show you marvelous things; \*  
your arrows are very sharp, O mighty warrior.

<sup>6</sup> **The peoples are falling at your feet, \***  
**and the king's enemies are losing heart.**

<sup>7</sup> Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, \*  
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;  
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.

<sup>8</sup> **Therefore God, your God, has anointed you \***  
**with the oil of gladness above your fellows.**

<sup>9</sup> All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, \*  
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.

<sup>10</sup> **Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; \***  
**on your right hand is the queen, adorned with the gold of Ophir.**

<sup>11</sup> "Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely; \*  
forget your people and your father's house.

<sup>12</sup> **The king will have pleasure in your beauty; \***  
**he is your master; therefore do him honor.**

<sup>13</sup> The people of Tyre are here with a gift; \*  
the rich among the people seek your favor."

<sup>14</sup> **All glorious is the princess as she enters; \***  
**her gown is cloth-of-gold.**

<sup>15</sup> In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king; \*  
after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.

<sup>16</sup> **With joy and gladness they are brought, \***  
**and enter into the palace of the king.**

<sup>17</sup> "In place of fathers, O king, you shall have sons; \*  
you shall make them princes over all the earth.

<sup>18</sup> **I will make your name to be remembered from one generation to another; \***  
**therefore nations will praise you for ever and ever."**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \***  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## THE READINGS

### THE FIRST READING

HEBREWS 10:4-10

READER

A READING FROM THE LETTER TO HEBREWS.

It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

### CANTICLE 15

### THE SONG OF MARY

*Luke 1:46-55*

*Officiant and People together, all standing:*

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \***

**for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed: \***

**the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.**

**He has mercy on those who fear him \***

**in every generation.**

**He has shown the strength of his arm, \***

**he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

**He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \***

**and has lifted up the lowly.**

**He has filled the hungry with good things, \***

**and the rich he has sent away empty.**

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \***

**for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

**The promise he made to our fathers, \***

**to Abraham and his children for ever.."**

*Please be seated.*

### THE SECOND READING

LUKE 1:26-38

READER

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible

with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **CANTICLE C**

## **THE SONG OF HANNAH**

*1 Samuel 2:1-8*

*Officiant and People together, all standing:*

**My heart exults in you, O God; \***

**my triumph song is lifted in you.**

**My mouth derides my enemies, \***

**for I rejoice in your salvation.**

**There is none holy like you, \***

**nor any rock to be compared to you, our God.**

**Do not heap up prideful words or speak in arrogance; \***

**Only God is knowing and weighs all actions.**

**The bows of the mighty are broken, \***

**but the weak are clothed in strength.**

**Those once full now labor for bread, \***

**those who hungered now are well fed.**

**The childless woman has borne sevenfold, \***

**while the mother of many is forlorn.**

**God destroys and brings to life, casts down and raises up; \***

**gives wealth or takes it away, humbles and dignifies.**

**God raises the poor from the dust; \***

**and lifts the needy from the ash heap**

**To make them sit with the rulers \***

**and inherit a place of honor.**

**For the pillars of the earth are God's \***

**on which the whole earth is founded.**

## **SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION**

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*Officiant and People together, all standing:*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS**

### **SUFFRAGE A**

*Officiant* Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*People* **And grant us your salvation.**

*Officiant* Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*People* **Let your people sing with joy.**

*Officiant* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*People* **For only in you can we live in safety.**

*Officiant* Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
*People* **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
*Officiant* Let your way be known upon earth;  
*People* **Your saving health among all nations.**  
*Officiant* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*People* **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
*Officiant* Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*People* **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

*Officiant* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation: For the Episcopal Church of Saint John the Baptist in Lodi, for Michael our Presiding Bishop and David our Bishop. We also pray for Joseph our President, Gavin our Governor, and Eric our Mayor. For our sick, for Stan, Rita, Sandy, Bob, Dick, Suzie and the students at Mesquite High School and Burroughs High School, and for all the members of Saint Michael's, and their ministries.

*Officiant* We all can make prayers, petitions, and thanksgiving silently or out loud now.

*Officiant* Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit, you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

THE ANNUNCIATION

(BCP p. 240)

*Officiant* Hear our cry, O God.  
*People* **And listen to our prayer.**  
*Officiant* Let us pray.

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*Officiant* The Peace of Christ be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*Celebrant* Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all. *(1 Chronicles 29:11)*

*People may remain seated or standing. during the preparation. Please stand as able for the Eucharistic Prayer.*

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

*(BCP p. 367-369)*

*Celebrant* The Lord 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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord 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 he 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:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

*People and Clergy pray together:*

**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**

*Anthem at the Breaking of Bread*

*(Psalm 40:9)*

*Celebrant* In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: \*

*People* **'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.'**

*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ has been risen for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## **COMMUNION**

*In the Episcopal Church all baptized people are welcome to our Lord's Table to eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**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 your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **EASTER BLESSING**

*(2008 BOS p. 27)*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

*Officiant or Deacon* Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## OUR MISSION

The people of Saint Michael's welcome all those who seek a deeper understanding of God's love for ALL God's children. Our congregation is "intentionally inclusive," welcoming all persons without regard to age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or developmental disability.

## CHURCH PRAYER LIST

We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop and David our Bishop. We also pray for Joseph our President, Gavin our Governor, and Eric our Mayor. *Please remember in your prayers Stan, Rita, Sandy, Bob, Dick, Suzie and the students at Mesquite & Burroughs High School.*

## PLEASE GIVE

Mail your pledges and offerings to: St. Michael's Episcopal Church,  
200 W. Drummond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Contribute to the church online at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z9KQ/home>

## NEWS AND EVENTS

**Weekly Services:** Services in English: Sundays at 10 am and Wednesday Evenings at 6 pm  
Services in Spanish: Sundays at 12 Noon.

**Cathedral Livestream:** As an alternative for those unable to attend our Sunday services in person, St. James Episcopal Cathedral offers a livestream of their service. Link:  
[www.youtube.com/@StJamesEpiscopalCathedral/streams](http://www.youtube.com/@StJamesEpiscopalCathedral/streams)

## Food Ministry Dates

- The Thrift Store Co-Op is normally open every Wednesday, 10 am-1 pm, but due to volunteer staffing, will be closed on 7 and 14 February.
- Monday, April 15 - CAPK Senior Box Day, 10:30-11:30 am
- Tuesday, April 23 - Food Pantry is open 9-11 am

**Church Game Night:** Please join us on Thursday, April 11, at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall for some fun and fellowship over classic board and card games. Feel free to bring a snack/treat to share and your favorite game to play, or just come as you are. Drop by for a short round or stay for a whole campaign. Games will include Pandemic, Monopoly, Exploding Kittens, and others.

**Next Bishop's Committee Meeting:** Wednesday, April 17, at 7:00 pm.

**April 28 is Alms Sunday.** On the last Sunday of the month, all undesignated loose cash is deposited into the Parish Discretionary Fund.

**Tutu Desk Program:** Students in South Africa, especially children, do not have desks in their classrooms. Therefore, Canon Anna Carmichael invites us to support the program to provide them Portable Desks. The cost of each portable desk is \$20.00. Please, donate. We will raise funds through the Day of Pentecost (May 19, 2024). Then our Church will send a check to the Diocesan Office at due time with our contributions. Let's make the difference in the life of children in Africa.

## SERVICES AND EVENTS

**Pentecost Sunday Service:** May 19 at 10:00 am. Please come dressed in Red. It is the Birthday of the Church.