



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, RIDGECREST

Where All Souls Are Welcome

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OFFICIANT
Cassidi Reese.

ALTAR GUILD
Renée Westa-Lusk.

READER
Rev. Jorge Pallares.

EVENING PRAYER RITE TWO WITH COMMUNION

Saint Philip and Saint James

Fifth Wednesday of Easter

May 1, 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 119:33-40

OFFICIANT

THE PSALM APPOINTED FOR TODAY IS A PORTION OF PSALM 119.

33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, *
and I shall keep it to the end.

34 **Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, *
for that is my desire.

36 **Incline my heart to your decrees *
and not to unjust gain.**

37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
give me life in your ways.

38 **Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.**

39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgments are good.

40 **Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.**

**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

ISAIAH 30:18-21

READER

A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH.

The Lord waits to be gracious to you; therefore, he will rise up to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him. Truly, O people in Zion, inhabitants of Jerusalem, you shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when he hears it, he will answer you. Though the Lord may give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself anymore, but your eyes shall see your Teacher. And when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."

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

JOHN 14:6-14

READER

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN.

Jesus said to Thomas, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

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

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE G

A SONG OF EZEKIEL

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Officiant and People together, all standing:

**I will take you from among all nations; *
and gather you from all lands to bring you home.
I will sprinkle clean water upon you; *
and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.
A new heart I will give you *
and a new spirit put within you.
I will take the stone heart from your chest *
and give you a heart of flesh.
I will help you walk in my laws *
and cherish my commandments and do them.
You shall be my people, *
and I will be your God.**

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 Standing Committee, 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, Meagan, 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 thanksgivings silently or out loud now.

Officiant Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask; Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

SAINT PHILIP AND SAINT JAMES

(BCP p. 240)

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

Almighty God, who gave to your apostles Philip and James grace and strength to bear witness to the truth: Grant that we, being mindful of their victory of faith, may glorify in life and death the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and 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 Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *(Hebrews 13:15-16)*

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.

Through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

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

(2003 BOS p. 18 – Ant. 5)

Celebrant Alleluia! Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them.

People **My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord. Alleluia!**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ has been risen for us and let us feed on him in our 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, Meagan, Suzie and the students at Mesquite High School & 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

Food Ministry Dates

- The Thrift Store Co-Op is normally open every Wednesday, 10 am-1 pm.
- Monday, May 13 (Second Monday of the Month) - CAPK Senior Box Day, 10:30-11:30 am
- Tuesday, May 21 - Food Pantry is open 9-11 am

Next Bishop's Committee Meeting: Wednesday, May 29, at 7:00 pm.

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.

Pentecost Potluck: After 10:00 am Service we will have Potluck in the Parish Hall. Church Members of both services will gather in fellowship. Please, come and sign in the Sign-Up Sheet to bring food to share. Let us make community in our Church.

LESSER FEASTS AND FASTS – 2018 BOOK

Saint Philip and Saint James

The two apostles commemorated on this day are among those about whom little is known, except for their mention in the Gospels. James the Less is so called to distinguish him from James the son of Zebedee and from James “the brother of the Lord,” or perhaps to indicate youth or lack of stature. He is known to us from the list of the Twelve, where he is called James the son of Alphaeus. He may also be the person referred to in Mark’s Gospel as James the younger, who, with his mother Mary and the other women, watched the crucifixion from a distance.”

Philip figures in several important incidents in Jesus’ ministry as reported in John’s Gospel. There we read that Jesus called Philip soon after calling Andrew and Peter. Philip, in turn, found his friend Nathanael, and convinced him to come and see Jesus, the Messiah. Later, when Jesus saw the hungry crowd, he asked Philip, “How are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” (John 6:5). Philip’s practical response, “Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little” (John 6:7), was the prelude to the feeding of the multitude with the loaves and fishes. In a later incident in John’s Gospel, some Greeks came to Philip asking to see Jesus. At the Last Supper, Philip’s request, “Lord, show us the Father, and we shall be satisfied,” evokes the response, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you do not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:8,9).

GUIDELINES FOR READINGS’ DISCUSSION

Isaiah 30:18-21

Here is a song to God who is always willing to accept the conversion of his people. But the poetic verses are interrupted by a great passage of promise; God will bind up the wounds he inflicts. Jerusalem will cry no more. Grace, not judgment, is closest to God's heart!

Together with forgiveness, the divine blessing is announced that guarantees the presence of God, fertility in the fields and harmony in nature.

John 14:6-14

Jesus emphasizes his unity with the Father and promises that Jesus will continue to work in answer to his disciples’ prayers.

The work God accomplishes through us will be **“greater than what I have been doing.”**

God will be performing his new works on earth through weak and fallible human beings, rather than the sinless Son of God!