

St. Michael's in the Hills

Church Staff

 ${\it Clergy} - \hbox{The Rev. Foster Mays}$

Director of Music — Justin Bays

Organist — Dr. David Saunders

Sextons — Diane Reeves & Lisa Watson

Administrative Assistants — Michelle Knecht & Kim Schrinel

Financial Administrator — Gretchen Rohm

4718 Brittany Poad Toledo Ohio 43615 2314

4718 Brittany Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615-2314

Phone: (419) 531-1616

E-mail: office@lovelearnserve.org

Website: www.lovelearnserve.org

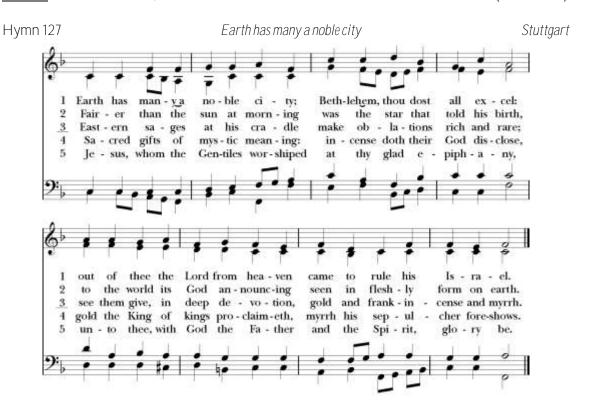
Welcome to St. Michael's in the Hills!

Congregational responses are printed in bold type.

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Children are welcome and encouraged to share in our worship.

Prelude: Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her Johann Pachelbel (1653 - 1706)



The Opening Acclamation

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

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



Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day (Celebrant and People)

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Response: Psalm 84:1-8 Quam dilecta!

How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; * by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! * they will always be praising you.

- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! * whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, * for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, * and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; * hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; * and look upon the face of your Anointed.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

The Word of the Lord. *People*: Thanks be to God.



The Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn 124, vs. 3 (See previous page.)

The Sermon The Rev. Dan Knaup

The Nicene Creed

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 Form IV

Leader. Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live

together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace;

that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader. Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources

rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for those in harm's way, especially

Michael, Ian, John, Scott, and Russell, and all essential workers. Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, especially Kay, Al, Dick, Elmer, Letty, Carol, Dennis, Gayle, Jackie, John, Marilyn, Lindsay, Lillian, Didi, Dixie,

Evelyn, Lee, Jean, Karen, Lexi, Sandra, Nancy, Bill, Rod, Joan, Ginger, Edward, Shirley, Annette, Ginger, Dick, and Chris. We also pray for all those infected with COVID-19

and their caregivers.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now

and for ever. Amen.

The Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: 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.

Celebrant: 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 Peace and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Offertory

Organ Voluntary: Greensleeves

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958)

Doxology: Hymn 124, vs. 5

Puer nobis



Eucharistic Prayer B

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.

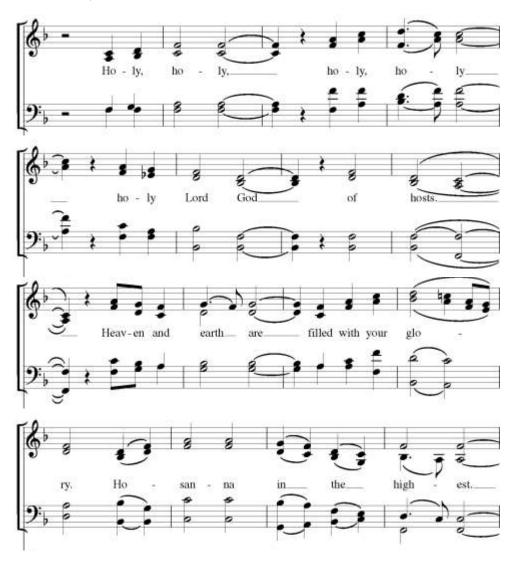
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

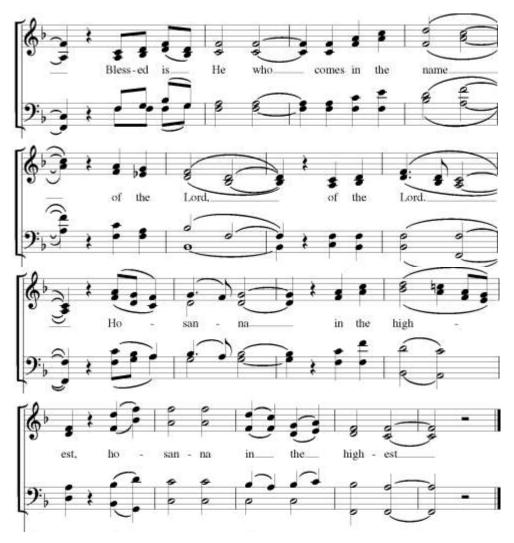
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to Celebrant: you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore we praise you, joining

our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for

ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus & Benedictus qui venit (LEVAS 255)





Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People: We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 for ever. AMEN.

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

The Lord's Prayer

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

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Agnus Dei (WLP 878)





Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.





Prayer after Communion

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: 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.

The Blessing

Celebrant: May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.



The Dismissal

Response: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Dix (As with Gladness) Wayne L. Wold (b. 1954)

Assisting with the Service

Altar Guild: Terri Ward, Sara Roberts

Lectors: Al Stephens, Dani Zoorob,

Anne Morris

Greeters: Joan O'Connell, Donna Wipfli

Ushers: Mike Ward, Kyle Randall

Assisting on Jan. 9

Altar Guild: Laura Randall, Jano Nolette

Lectors: Penny Cobau-Smith, Joe

Gerhardinger, Debbie Carlisle

Greeters: Sarah Schendel.

Cheryl & Laurel Volk

Ushers: Ron Volk, Al Stephens