

# St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church



Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m.

December 10, 2023

## Bishop of Ohio

The Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly

## Church Staff

### *Rector*

The Rev. Gayle Catinella

### *Director of Music*

Justin Bays

### *Director of Children & Youth Ministries*

Al Stephens

### *Sextons*

Diane Reeves & Lisa Watson

### *Administrative Assistants*

Michelle Knecht & Kim Schrinel

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Nancy Lehmann

Joe Myers

Donna Wipfli

### *Class of 2025*

David Braun – Senior Warden

Jim Carlisle

Joe Gerhardinger – Junior Warden

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### *Class of 2026*

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# 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.

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Prelude: *Lo! He Comes, With Clouds Descending*

arr. David N. Johnson (1922-1987)

## Lighting of Advent Wreath

*Celebrant:* Jesus Christ is the light of the world

*People:* **A light no darkness can overcome!**

*Celebrant:* Today we light the second candle in our wreath: the candle of light. We are reminded that the light of God's love is more powerful than the darkness of sin.

*People:* **The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who have lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.** (Isaiah 9:2)

*Readers:* God, your stars shine brightly above me, like the Star of Bethlehem. May your brightest star, Jesus, light up my life, and guide me through this Advent season.

In Jesus there is no darkness at all, the night and the day are both alike. Walk with me, God, through times of darkness, and light my path with your love.

This week, reflect on Jesus as the light of the world. O come, O come Emmanuel.

Opening Hymn: *Prepare Ye from Godspell*

Stephen Schwartz

*The congregation is invited to sing along!*

## 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.**

Kyrie eleison (S96)

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, Christ, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

Response: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, \*  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people \*  
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, \*  
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people  
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \*  
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, \*  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Second Lesson: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
 His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
 Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
 All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



*Refrain*  
 Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

The Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

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

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn 65, vs. 3

The Sermon

The Rev. Gayle Catinella

## 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 II

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Anne; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. *[silence]*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace. *[silence]*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble. *[silence]*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him. *[silence]*

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially Dick. Pray for those who have died. *[silence]*

*Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present*

I ask your prayers for Dick, Elmer, Letty, Gayle, Lillian, Didi, Lee, Mary, Kit, Mike, Cris, David, Dan, Diane, Henk, Chris, Nancy, Joan, Matt, Kent, and Bishop Michael Curry.

Are there others you wish to name? *[pause]*

I ask your thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_ . [silence]

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. [silence]

*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 Prayer

*Celebrant:* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory: *Beautiful City from Godspell*

Stephen Schwartz

Justin Bays, soloist

Doxology: Hymn 76, vs. 5

*Winchester New*

5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther



5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

### 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.**

*Celebrant:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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 (S130)*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*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

## Fraction Anthem (S164)

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us." "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us." "Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:" "give us your peace, give us your peace."

*Celebrant:* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

### Communion Music:

Hymn 54

*Savior of the nations, come*

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's  
2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the  
3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing  
4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er

The musical score is a single line of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's" "2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the" "3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing" "4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er"

Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both  
 Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and  
 his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and  
 sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your  
 heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
 Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
 hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.  
 king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

Hymn 75

*There's a voice in the wilderness crying*

*Ascension*

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 2 O ——— Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee  
 3 but the word of our God ——— en - du - reth, the  
 call from the ways un - trod; Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst ——— of  
 high - way, a high - way for our God! The  
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the  
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall  
 val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 flowers of the field they ——— per - ish, like  
 feed his ——— flock like a shep - herd, the  
 lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of  
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll  
 pla - ces where the Lord our ——— God ——— may go!  
 na - tions shall ——— pass like a dream ——— a - way;  
 lead them, and ——— bring them ——— safe to his fold.

*Please stand, as able*

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*People:* O Lamb of God, in union with the faithful at every altar of your Church, my heart offers you praise and thanksgiving. I love you above all things, and I earnestly desire to receive you into my soul. And although I cannot receive you sacramentally, I invite you into my heart spiritually. May my soul be fed by this spiritual food, and may my heart know you more dearly in the breaking of this bread. Amen.

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.

The Blessing

*Celebrant:* The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

### The Dismissal

*Celebrant:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*Response:* Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Recessional on Wake, Awake*

Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

### Assisting with the Service

**Organist:** Nancy Russell  
**Altar Guild:** Charlotte Halloran, Sue Merce  
**Lectors:** Gretchen Rohm, Julia Burtscher,  
Al Stephens  
**Greeters:** Donna Wipfli  
**Ushers:** Joe Gerhardinger, Dave Sturtz

Thank you to the Casey-DeBacker family for  
lighting the Advent wreath today!

### Assisting on December 17

**Organist:** Nancy Russell  
**Altar Guild:** Penny Cobau-Smith  
**Lectors:** Lessons and Carols  
**Greeters:** Carol Nichols  
**Ushers:** Mark Keleher, Nancy Lehmann

### Guests & Visitors:

We would love to hear from you!

Scan the QR code and fill out our  
visitor card online, or reach for a pew card  
available in each row and place your  
completed card in the offering plate.

*We're glad you visited St. Michael's!*

