

St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church



December 17, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Bishop of Ohio

The Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly

Church Staff

Rector

The Rev. Gayle Catinella

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Director of Children &

Youth Ministries

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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.

Festival of Lessons and Carols

Prelude: IIIe Dimanche de l'Avent (The Third Sunday of Advent) Charles-Alexis Chauvet (1837-1871)

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Celebrant: Jesus Christ is the light of the world

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


Celebrant: Today we light our third candle, the pink one: the candle of Love. We are reminded of God's great love for us, and how we are to share that love in the world.

People: **Sing to the Lord, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.
Declare His glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.** *(Psalm 96:2-3)*


Readers: Come to us quickly, God of Love, and fill us with your grace and mercy. Help us to turn from the consumerism and busyness of this season, and rest in your love alone.

Bind us together in your love, O God, that we might show the world all the blessings that you give us, and in our generosity, bring people to know your abundant love.

This week, reflect on how you show the love of God in the world.
O come, O come Emmanuel.




1 Re - deem - er of the na - tions, come;
 2 From hu - man will you do not spring,
 3 You came forth from the e - ter - nal God,
 4 With God the Fa - ther you are one,



1 re - veal your - self in vir - gin birth,
 2 but from the Spi - rit of our God;
 3 and you re - turned to that same source.
 4 and one with us in hu - man flesh.



1 the birth which a - ges all a - dore,
 2 O Word of God, come; take our flesh
 3 You suf - fered death and har - rowed hell,
 4 Oh, fill our weak and dy - ing frame



1 a won - drous birth, be - fit - ting God.
 2 and grow as child in Ma - ry's womb.
 3 and reigned once more from God's high throne.
 4 with god - ly strength which nev - er fails.

The Bidding Prayer

The Rev. Gayle Catinella

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

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.

Officiant: The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above, may the King of Angels bring us all.
Amen.

The man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, You shall not eat of it", cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Senior Choir Carol

Adam lay ybounden

arr. Peter Warlock

*Adam lay ybounden, Bounden in a bond
Four thousand winter, Thought he not too long.
And all was for an apple, An apple that he took.
As clerkes finden, Written in their book.
Ne had the apple taken been, The apple taken been,
Ne had never our ladie, A been heav'ne queen.
Blessed be the time, That apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen. Deo gratias!*

The Second Lesson: Genesis 22:15-18

A Youth
Max Braun

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

Bell Choir Carol

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Barbara B. Kinyon

The Third Lesson: Isaiah 9: 2; 6-7

A Lay Reader
Diane Braun

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Hymn 65

Prepare the way, O Zion

Bereden väg för Herran



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.



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

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. With righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Hymn 66

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

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." 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.

Senior Choir Carol

Deck the Halls

arr. McKelvy

Deck the halls with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la la la!

'Tis the season to be jolly, Fa la la la la la la!

Don we now our gay apparel, Fa la la la la la la!

Troll the ancient Yuletide carol, Fa la la la la la la!

See the blazing yule before us, Fa la la la la la la!

Strike the harp and join the chorus, Fa la la la la la la!

Follow me in merry measure, Fa la la la la la la!

While I tell of Yuletide treasure, Fa la la la la la la!

Fast away the old year passes, Fa la la la la la la!

Hail the new, ye lads and lasses, Fa la la la la la la!

Sing we joyous all together! Fa la la la la la la!

Heedless of the wind and weather, Fa la la la la la la!

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn 69

What is the crying at Jordan

St. Mark's, Berkeley



1 What is the cry - ing at Jor - dan? Who
2 Who then shall stir in this dark - ness, pre -
3 Lord, give us grace to a - wake us, to
4 Now comes the day of sal - va - tion, in



hears, O God, the pro - phe - cy? Dark is the
pare for joy in the win - ter night? Mor - tal in
see the branch that be - gins to bloom; in great hu -
joy and ter - ror the Word is born! God gives him -



sea - son, dark our hearts and shut to mys - ter - y.
dark - ness we lie down, blind - heart - ed, see - ing no light.
mi - li - ty is hid all heaven in a lit - tle room.
self in - to our lives; O let sal - va - tion dawn!

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Hymn 62

"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us

Wachet auf



1 "Sleep - ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the shout of ram-part
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her heart with joy - ful
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let saints and an - gels



guards sur-rounds us: "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"
 hope is spring - ing, she wakes and hur - ries through the night.
 sing be - fore you, as harps and cym - bals swell the sound.



Mid - night's peace their cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum-mons
 Forth he comes, her Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in
 Twelve great pearls, the ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to



clear - ly spo - ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 truth vic - to - rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
 join the im - mor - tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.



Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in sight.
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate Word,
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de - light:

Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and has - ten there,
 Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and heed your call
 Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to greet our King;

that you the wed - ding feast may share."
 to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
 for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

The Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2: 1-12

The Senior Warden
 David Braun

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.

Senior Choir Carol

Still, Still, Still

arr. Norman Luboff

*Still still still one can hear the falling snow.
 For all is hushed the world is sleeping,
 Shining star its vigil keeping.
 Still still still one can hear the falling snow.
 Sleep sleep sleep. The night is peaceful all around you.
 Close your eyes let sleep surround you
 Sleep sleep sleep. Dream dream dream of the joyous day to come.
 While guardian angels without number,
 Watch you as you sweetly slumber.
 Dream dream dream of the joyous day to come.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Descant

2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par-don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last-ing Spi - rit while un - end-ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for-given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last-ing Spi - rit while un - end-ing a - ges run.

Officiant: As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Christmas Offering: Family House

Mandy Phillips

Sermon

The Rev. Gayle Catinella

Offertory Prayer:

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

Offertory Anthem: *Song of Mary*

Harold Friedell

The Collect and Blessing

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

The Dismissal

Officiant: Keep awake, for the Lord is coming.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Postlude: Bereden Vag For Herran

arr. Rachel Spry Lammi (b. 1977)

Assisting with the Service

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

Thank you to the Braun family for lighting the Advent wreath today!

Assisting on December 24, 10am

Organist: Nancy Russell
Altar Guild: Susan Hendricks
Lectors: David Braun,
Diane Braun,
Joe Gerhardinger
Greeters: Cheryl & Laurel Volk
Ushers: Ron Volk, Dave Sturtz

Assisting on December 24, 4pm

Organist: Dennis Blubaugh
Altar Guild: Jano Nolette,
Sue Pokorney
Lectors: Gretchen Rohm,
Donna Wipfli,
Julia Burtscher
Greeters: Larry Nichols
Ushers: Mark Keleher

Assisting on December 25, 10am

Organist: Nancy Russell
Altar Guild: Kay Gerhardinger
Lectors: Mary, Will and
Joe Gerhardinger

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!

