

# St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church



Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m.

December 24, 2023

## Bishop of Ohio

The Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly

## Church Staff

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The Rev. Gayle Catinella

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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.

Prelude: *Chorale Prelude on "Veni Emmanuel"*  
*Creator of the Stars of Night*

John H. Schaffner (1945-1995)  
arr. Michael McCabe (b. 1941)

## Lighting of Advent Wreath

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

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

*Celebrant*: This week we light the fourth candle: the candle of hope. We are reminded that God's gift of hope is with us at all times.

*People*: **We wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.** *(Titus 2:13)*

*Readers*: Jesus, Child of God, we wait in hope for your coming. May we be completely ready for you in mind, heart and spirit; ready for you to dwell in us.

Take away any fears or doubts in us, God of Hope. Help us to rest in the certainty of your coming to bring joy and mercy into our world.

This week, reflect on how your life is a life of hopeful anticipation!  
O come, O come Emmanuel.

Hymn 444

*Blessed be the God of Israel*

*Thornbury*



1 Blessed be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free;  
2 He from the house of Da - vid a child of grace has given;  
3 On pri - son - ers of dark-ness the sun be - gins to rise,



he vis - its and re - deems us, he grants us lib - er - ty.  
a Sa - vior comes a - mong us to raise us up to heaven.  
the dawn - ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes.



The pro - phets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease;  
Be - fore him goes his her - ald, fore - run - ner in the way,  
He guides the feet of pil - grims a - long the paths of peace.



God shall ful - fill his prom - ise and bring his peo - ple peace.\_\_\_\_  
the pro - phet of sal - va - tion, the har - bin - ger of Day.\_\_\_\_  
O bless our God and Sa - vior, with songs that nev - er cease.\_\_\_\_

### 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.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord,  
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, 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:* Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### First Lesson: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The Word of the Lord.

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

Response: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

- 1 Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; \*  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \*  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \*  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 ‘I will establish your line for ever, \*  
and preserve your throne for all generations.’”
- 19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: \*  
“I have set the crown upon a warrior  
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- 20 I have found David my servant; \*  
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21 My hand will hold him fast \*  
and my arm will make him strong.
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him, \*  
nor any wicked man bring him down.
- 23 I will crush his foes before him \*  
and strike down those who hate him.
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him, \*  
and he shall be victorious through my Name.
- 25 I shall make his dominion extend \*  
from the Great Sea to the River.
- 26 He will say to me, ‘You are my Father, \*  
my God, and the rock of my salvation.’”

Second Lesson: Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

1 Ga - briel's mes - sage does a - way Sa - tan's curse and  
 2 He that comes de - spised shall reign; he that can - not  
 3 Weak - ness shall the strong con - found; by the hands, in  
 4 Art by art shall be as - sailed; to the cross shall

Sa - tan's sway, out of dark - ness brings our Day:  
 die, be slain; death by death its death shall gain:  
 grave clothes wound, Ad - am's chains shall be un - bound:  
 Life be nailed; from the grave shall hope be hailed:

*Refrain*

so, be - hold, all the gates of heaven un - fold.

The Gospel: *Luke 1:26-38*

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

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn 270, vs. 4

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. 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, Greg, 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:* *The Birthday of a King*

William H Neidlinger

Grace Wipfli, soloist



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

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "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". The score consists of six systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The lyrics are placed below the vocal lines.

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 image shows a musical score for the phrase "give us your peace, give us your peace." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and repetitive, with the words "give us your peace" written below the notes. The bass line provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

*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 56, vss. 1, 6, 7, 8

*O come, O come, Emmanuel*

*Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us  
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the  
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som

1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 6 by thy draw - ing night; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions  
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.  
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O come, O come, Emmanuel". It consists of four staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some lines numbered to correspond to specific verses of the hymn. The melody is simple and repetitive, with the words "O come, O come, Emmanuel" written below the notes. The bass line provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

*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.

*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:* 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 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.

### The Dismissal

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

*Response:* **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland*  
 (Savior of the Nations, Come)

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

**Assisting with the Service**

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

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

**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, Jeff Smith

**Assisting on December 25, 10am**

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

**Assisting on December 31, 10am**

**Organist:** Nancy Russell  
**Altar Guild:** Nancy Lehmann,  
Terri Ward  
**Lectors:** Susan Hendricks,  
Donna Wipfli,  
Scott Hendricks  
**Greeters:** Jano Nolette  
**Ushers:** 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!*

