

# St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church



Holy Eucharist, Rite II

10:00 a.m.

December 8, 2024

## 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 & Charleigh Garcia

### *Administrative Assistant*

Kim Schrinel

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### Class of 2025

David Braun – Clerk

Jim Carlisle

Joe Gerhardinger – Senior Warden

### Class of 2026

Sara Roberts

Ruth Ann Sailstad – Junior Warden

Terri Ward

### Class of 2027

Kate O'Connell

Sam Rumpf

Angela Sturtz

Craig Van Horsten

### *Treasurer*

Laura Randall

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Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9:15 am—2:15 pm

# Welcome to St. Michael's in the Hills!

**We are so glad you have joined us today!**  
**Please take a minute to grab your name tag off the rack before the service.**

Congregational responses are printed in **bold type**. Music is reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714012  
**Children** are welcome and encouraged to share in our worship.

Prelude: Zimbelstern-Prelude on "Prepare the Way, of Zion"

Paul Fey (b. 1998)

## 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 76

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry*

*Winchester New*

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

(Music continues on next page...)

1 for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.  
 2 pare a home where such a mighty guest may come.  
 3 waste a way like flowers that wither and decay.  
 4 light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.  
 5 we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.

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:* St. James Advent Service

arr. Richard Shephard

Ky - ri - e e -  
 le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son,  
 Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

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: Baruch 5:1-9

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

Response: Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah (Luke 1: 68-79)

*Benedictus Dominus Deus*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.

**He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \***  
**born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.

**He promised to show mercy to our fathers \***  
**and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**Free to worship him without fear, \***  
**holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

**To give his people knowledge of salvation \***  
**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \***  
**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

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.

Second Lesson: *Philippians 1:3-11*

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

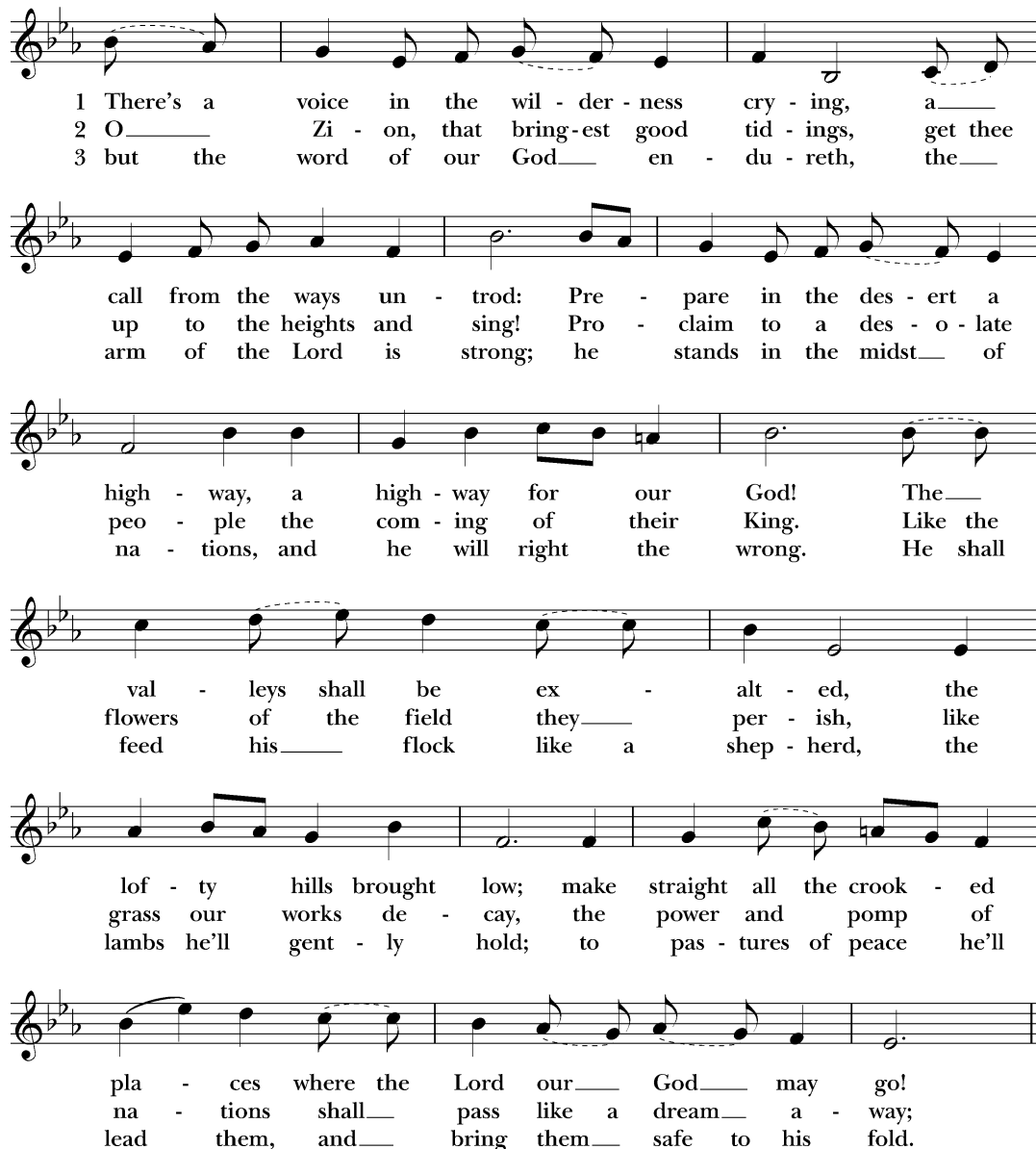
The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence 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.

The Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

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

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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.

Advent Prayers from “*Praying the Scriptures*” by Jeremiah Williamson

*Leader:* I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. Prepare your hearts for his arrival, praying, “Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

*People:* **Come, great Redeemer come!**”

*Leader:* Merciful God, increase your love to overflowing. Make your Church pure and blameless that we may greet with joy the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Silence*

*Leader:* Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

*People:* **Come, great Redeemer come!**

*Leader:* Merciful God, we long for the light of hope to break into our world, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide us into the way of peace.

*Silence*

*Leader:* Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

*People:* **Come, great Redeemer come!**

*Leader:* Merciful God, give us grace to heed the warnings of those calling us to be better stewards of your creation. We thank you for all you have made, especially those things that sustain and better our lives.

*Silence*

*Leader:* Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

*People:* **Come, great Redeemer come!**

*Leader:* Merciful God, you lead us with joy; you delight in our joy. You clothe us in beauty. We give you thanks for your tender care.

*The congregation is invited to add their petitions, followed by silence.*

*Leader:* Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

*People:* **Come, great Redeemer come!**

*Leader:* Merciful God, you remember your children. You do not leave us in sorrow or affliction. Crown your children with glory; clothe them with righteousness.

*The congregation is invited to add their petitions, followed by silence.*

*Leader:* Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

*People:* **Come, great Redeemer come!**

*Leader:* Merciful God, you have raised up for us salvation through your Son. Keep us, with all your saints, in the eternal life of Christ.

*Silence*

Leader: Fill the valleys, make low the hills;

People: Come, great Redeemer come!

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: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of sins.

All: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord 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 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.



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



*Celebrant:* All things come of thee, O Lord,  
*People:* And of thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

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:* St. James Advent Service

arr. Richard Shephard

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r, of  
pow'r\_ and might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in\_ the high - est. Blessed is he, is he who comes  
in the name\_ of\_ the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est, Ho - sa - 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.

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus Christ,  
 in the break - ing of the bread. God of hope and  
 God of pro - mise, you have pre - pared a ban - quet for us;  
 Come, Lord Je - sus, come and cheer, Come and make thine Ad - vent here.

*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: *Share With the Hungry Your Bread*

by Carol Muehlig (b. 1947)

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.

The des-ert shall re-joice and blos-som as a rose:

1. It shall  
2. For the  
3. For the  
4. For the

blos-som a-bun-dant-ly and re-joice with praise and sing-ing.  
ears of the deaf shall hear And the blind, their eyes be o-pened.  
tongue of the mute shall sing and the lame will dance with glad-ness.  
ground will be-come a pool and the dry land springs of wa-ter.

5. The desert shall rejoice  
and blossom as a rose:  
as the ransomed return to God  
and come singing back to Zion.

6. The desert shall rejoice  
and blossom as a rose:  
unto Zion we come with joy,  
for our God has come to save us.

The Dismissal

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

*Response:* Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Prelude in G Major*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)