

SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
DECEMBER 24, 2023

11 AM
JOY: A CHILDREN'S SERVICE
CHURCH



Christmas Plate Offerings

MISSION & OUTREACH

Each year at Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, as part of our Christmas celebrations, we have a lovely tradition of giving 100% of our undesignated offerings to outreach projects supported by our parish. This year the Mission and Outreach Committee has chosen to honor seniors in our local community. Our Christmas Offering Plate will be shared by the following ministries:

North Dallas Shared Ministries



Support for seniors: food, medical care, dental care, rental assistance and utility assistance to local seniors.

Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) Palliative Care



Providing spiritual and medical support at end of life for clients in need.

The Senior Source Ombudsman Program



Helps ensure that older adults in nursing homes live out their lives with respect in a safe environment.



Thank you for giving generously to the needs of seniors this Christmas season.

SaintMichael.org/ChristmasGiving

Welcome to SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

"The angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people!'"

Luke 2:10



Welcome to Christmas at Saint Michael and All Angels!

I'm so glad you've joined us for worship. Today we celebrate the birth of Jesus—the greatest gift to us all!

Together, we are called to become the good news of Jesus. We are called to become the hands and feet of God's love in the world. We'd love to get to know you better, so please take a moment to fill out the welcome card, either physically or digitally, that can be found on the opposite page or in the pew back in front of you.

With God's help, we can make the great promise of living a life of hope and love a reality. When we commit to one another in this church, the work we do at Saint Michael is more than good. The work we do at Saint Michael, the relationships we build, and the vision we carry bring us all closer to God's kingdom on Earth, now. God's promise is for you: God came to be with us and God walks with us each day.

As we celebrate the beauty of Christmas and prepare to move into a new year, I invite you to take a moment and center yourself on God's presence. In this new year, I pray renewed strength and energy upon you. I pray that our passion will spread, and that together, we will inspire our world. May God bless you today and every day, and I hope to see you again very soon!

With the greatest hope,

Chris+

The Rev. Dr. Christopher D. Girata

Rector

We extend our gratitude to the hundreds of people who have given generously of themselves to make this Advent/Christmas season of Saint Michael and All Angels such a joy. We are grateful for those who have made special contributions for the adornment of church and chapels, in memory and/or in thanksgiving of their beloved.

THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Standing

The Lighting of The Christ Candle

“The Light Of Christ”

The light of Christ has come into the world.

The light of Christ has come into the world.

Public Domain

Opening Song

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

come and behold him, born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee be glory given;

Word of the Father now in flesh appearing.

O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1780); tr. Frederick Oakeley Music: Adeste fideles, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade; harm. The English Hymnal, 1906

Opening Sentences

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

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

The Collect

Father in heaven, today we celebrate the coming of Jesus into the world.

Strengthen us to honor him in every person we meet. Amen.

The Gospel Procession

“I Have Decided To Follow Jesus.”

I have decided to follow Jesus.

I have decided to follow Jesus.

I have decided to follow Jesus.

No turning back, no turning back.

Song continues on the next page.

Other verses:

Though none go with me, still I will follow.

The cross I'll carry 'til I see Jesus.

The cross before me, the world behind me.

The Bible Story

Seated

The Song After The Story

“Away In A Manger”

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.**

**The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me for ever, and love me I pray.**

**Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

*Words: Traditional carol Music: Cradle Song, melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838–1921);
harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)*

The Children's Creed

Standing

I believe in God the Father, who has made me and all the world.

I believe in God the Son, who has loved me and saved me.

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, who is in me and all creation.

Celebrant and People

The Sunday School Prayer

God be in my head.

God be in my heart.

God be in my left hand.

God be in my right hand.

God be in my whole life.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Celebrant and People

Additional Prayers and Silence

Reader Let us thank God for our families, friends, and our pets.

We pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader Let us praise God for God's love and goodness and for our blessings. We pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader Let us pray to God to help others. We pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader Let us ask God for the things we need; may we enjoy the food we eat, the home we live in, the health that we have, and when we are sick that we may be well soon. We pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

The Children's Confession

Priest For the times we have hurt others.

People Forgive us, God.

Priest For the times we have acted selfishly.

People Forgive us, God.

Priest For the times we have been slow to forgive others.

People Forgive us, God.

Priest For the times we have not remembered your love for us.

People Forgive us, God.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

*Please be seated for the
Announcements.*

The Offertory Hymn

"Go Tell It On The Mountain"

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Song continues on the next page.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

*Words: Afro-American spiritual, 19th Century; adapt. John W. Work
Music: Afro-American Spiritual, 19th century arr. Horace Clarence Boyer*

The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Prayers Over The Bread and Wine to Thank God For Jesus

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.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Standing

*Hymn permission used by Rite
Song, a one-time use reprint license
for congregational use.*

*All baptized persons of any age
regardless of their denomination
and tradition are welcome to share
in the banquet of the Lord's Supper.*

The Eucharistic prayer continues

*Members of the congregation
may come forward to
receive Communion from
the Celebrant.*

*Please join in the singing of the
Communion Hymns*

The Breaking of the Bread

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.

“O Little Town Of Bethlehem”

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.**

**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835–1893) Music: St. Louis, Lewis H. Redner (1831–1908)

“What Child Is This”

**What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are
keeping?**

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

**Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.**

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

Song continues on the next page.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837–1898) Music: Greensleeves, English melody; harm Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871

“Hark The Herald Angels Sing”

Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus our Emmanuel!

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we may no more die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

Public Domain

“The First Nowell”

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields
as they lay; in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s
night that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and
to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Text: English Carol, 17th C. Tune: The First Nowell, English melody, harm by David Willocks (1919-1961)

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love’s pure light radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792–1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820–1885) Music: Stille Nacht, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787–1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824–1910)

Standing

A Thanks to God For Our Time Together

Celebrant and People

Thank you, Jesus, for this Holy Meal. Thank you for giving us this Holy Food that gives each of us the gift of life. And thank you for caring for us. Amen.

A Blessing

Closing Hymn

“Joy To The World!”

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of
his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748), alt. Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685–1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792–1872)

*Song permission granted by
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unless otherwise noted*

*The foregoing text of the worship service
contained in this order of worship is taken from
the Book of Common Prayer 1979.
The Book of Common Prayer alone is of
authority in the worship of the
Episcopal Church. This program is provided
for convenience of use on this occasion.*

Dismissal

Celebrant
People

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:11

BUILDING *our* FUTURE

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



This is a unique time in Saint Michael's history—a time that urges us to think boldly! We have launched an unprecedented capital campaign to support the decades-long, overdue revitalization and expansion of our church facilities. It is a brave step to reinvigorate our campus, unite our community, and invest in education.

saintmichael.org/buildingourfuture

Together, we continue the journey of *Building our Future*, each of us serving as a valuable member of the body of Christ. We seek to stretch beyond our launch goal and raise

\$65 Million

to address increased construction costs. Join us as we build upon the vibrant history entrusted to us.

WAYS TO GIVE

Caroline Moore
Director of Advancement

For further information, contact Caroline Moore at cmoore@saintmichael.org or visit SaintMichael.org/Give.



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Building the Kingdom

Annual Giving Campaign

Giving to our annual stewardship campaign, Building the Kingdom, is an essential practice that supports Saint Michael's shared mission and ministry, including our growing staff, campus, and programs. While essential to our operations, giving annually is an incredibly important spiritual discipline. An annual gift represents our stewardship of the time, talents, and treasures that God gives freely to each one of us. Giving back to God's work through Saint Michael is a sign of gratitude and a key part of deepening our discipleship identity.



It's our turn to invest in our future. As you evaluate your annual stewardship gift, we also ask you to please join us in Building our Future.

JOIN US!



Martha Hellman Bogdon, Director of Stewardship
mbogdon@saintmichael.org | 214.692.3015

For further information, contact Martha Hellman Bogdon
or visit SaintMichael.org/Give.

EPIPHANY LESSONS & Carols

Sunday, January 21 | 4 p.m. in the Church



A special evening of music and lesson readings: the Contemporary and Traditional music departments will perform selections of Epiphany hymns and original arrangements to observe the Light of the World given to all.

SAINTMICHAEL.ORG/EPIPHANYLC

ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 14

7 AM | Saint Michael Chapel
Ash Wednesday Liturgy

12 PM | Church
Ash Wednesday with Holy Communion

12:30 PM | Preston Center
Ashes To-Go

5 PM | Saint Michael Chapel
Joy Ash Wednesday Family Service

7 PM | Church
Ash Wednesday with Holy Communion

**A
WORK
OF
HEART**

WOMEN OF SAINT MICHAEL

PARISH PARTY

2.2.2024

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024

ARTS DISTRICT MANSION
2101 ROSS AVENUE, DALLAS

7-11 P.M.

THE PICTURES BAND
FROM AUSTIN, TX

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
SAINTMICHAEL.ORG/PARISHPARTY

SAINT MICHAEL 101

Sunday, January 21 | 12:15-1:30 PM | Parlor

Led by the Rev. Dr. Christopher D. Girata
and the Rev. Mary Lessmann



If you are new to Saint Michael or just visiting and want to learn more about membership then SM101 is for you! Meet members of our clergy and vestry, and hear about many ministries and opportunities to connect and engage with others inside and outside our parish. Also, learn more about the exciting future of Saint Michael! Register, today, we look forward to meeting you! Lunch will be served, and childcare will be available with advance registration.



Scan the code for more info
or contact Rob Springer-Kyle,
rspringer-kyle@saintmichael.org
with questions and/or RSVP.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES...

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES ARE LIVE ONLINE! saintmichael.org/construction-impact





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