

God's Service for September 29, 2024

Michael and All Angels

WOV Holy Communion Setting Five: Bread of Life



WELCOME

The archangel Michael is pictured as a prince and a general of the heavenly army, defeating the dragon (the ancient serpent, the devil, Satan). It is important, though, to see in Revelation 12:11 that God's victory ultimately comes by Jesus' death and the testimony of his followers. The power of God's truth gives us confidence in the face of evil on earth, even in the face of our own death. Let us now prepare our hearts and minds for God's Service as we listen to our prelude.

PRELUDE "Jesus Shall Reign" arr. by Hebble

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GREETING (WOV p. 28)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE (WOV p. 29)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,**

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

**glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (WOV p. 30)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you have wonderfully established the ministries of angels and mortals.

Mercifully grant that as Michael and the angels contend against the cosmic forces of evil, so by your direction they may help and defend us here on earth, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God whom we worship and praise with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3

Daniel trembles in the presence of an angel. That angel tells the prophet about the good and terrible future when the dead will be resurrected and the archangel Michael will usher in the deliverance of the nation.

A reading from Daniel.

¹⁰A hand touched me and roused me to my hands and knees. ¹¹He said to me, “Daniel, greatly beloved, pay attention to the words that I am going to speak to you. Stand on your feet, for I have now been sent to you.” So while he was speaking this word to me, I stood up trembling.

¹²He said to me, “Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. ¹³But the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me twenty-one days. So Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I left him there with the prince of the kingdom of Persia, ¹⁴and have come to help you understand what is to happen to your people at the end of days. For there is a further vision for those days.

^{12:1}“At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.

²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22

¹Bless the LORD, ¹O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his ¹holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, ¹O my soul,
and forget not ¹all his benefits. R**

³He forgives ¹all your sins
and heals all ¹your infirmities;

⁴**he redeems your life ¹from the grave**

and crowns you with mercy and lovingkindness;
⁵he satisfies you with good things,
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
²⁰**Bless the LORD, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding,
and hearken to the voice of his word. R**
²¹Bless the LORD, all you his hosts,
you ministers of his who do his will.
²²**Bless the LORD, all you works of his, in all places of his dominion;
bless the LORD, O my soul. R**

SECOND READING: Revelation 12:7-12

Armed with the power of God, Michael and the angels of God fight those armed with the power of evil, the devil and the devil's angels. The "blood of the Lamb," our crucified Lord Jesus, gives Michael the power to force the devil from a place in heaven.

A reading from Revelation.

⁷War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,
"Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah,

for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night before our God.

¹¹But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony,
for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.

¹²Rejoice then, you heavens
and those who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down to you
with great wrath,
because he knows that his time is short!"

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (WOV p. 31)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 10:17-20

The missionary church ("the seventy-two") is given magnificent power. Greater than this gift of power over the enemy, however, is the gift of salvation: their names are written in heaven.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 10th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!"

¹⁸He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "On Eagle's Wings" (WOV 779)

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear;
under God's wings your refuge,
with faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

3 You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

4 For to the angels God's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Final refrain

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand;
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

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THE PRAYERS

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

We pray for the church and its leaders: for council members and music ministers, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Make us faithful messengers of your love in a world hungry for good news. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the flourishing of all that you have made, for birds and squirrels, spiders and whales, oak trees and humble grasses. Renew prairies and forests, tundra and wetlands, that they sustain all who make their home there. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the peoples of the world and for their leaders. Where conflict and violence reign, bring peace; wherever there is oppression or discrimination, bring liberation. Guide all in power to protect those who are most vulnerable. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who are suffering this day (*especially Shirley, Anna, Kay, Carolyn, Cheryl, Gene, Lars, Darla, Jim, Carol, and these we name now in our hearts and with our voices... (pause for names to be spoken)*). Accompany people fleeing from danger and encourage all who help them on their journeys. Abide with all who are in prison or detention centers. Reassure them of your steadfast love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who question their faith. Fill our dry wells with your living water and reassure all who doubt of your boundless grace. Let us accompany all in discernment with open hearts and tender care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer thanksgiving for our beloved dead. At the close of our earthly pilgrimage, gather us with Michael and all the saints and angels into everlasting life in you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE (WOV p. 34)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Peace be with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

SHARING GOD'S ABUNDANCE

We are forever stewards of God's great creation. All that we have, all that we are is from God. As God gives abundantly let us be bold in giving back a portion of the abundance that God has first given us, that we might help mend the world and re-align our hearts with the God who is love.

If you have abundance to share today raise your hand and our ushers will come by to collect. If you are joining us online you may give at landerlutherans.org, or even mail a check to the church. However, you decide to steward and share the abundance of our God – thank you and God bless you.

OFFERING MUSIC “Jesus Shall Reign” arr. by Powell

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS (WOV p. 35)

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

**Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God,
source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives,
help us to serve one another and all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE (WOV p. 36)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE (WOV p. 36)

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (WOV p. 36)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy God,

our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,

you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.

You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,

and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

You sent your Son to eat with sinners

and to become food for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,

his life given for us

and his rising from the grave,

we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:

strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,

and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (WOV p. 39)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Receive who you are; Become what you receive. Come to this table, you who are strong in faith and you who seek building up. You who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for some time. You who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who bids us to meet him here and there is a place set just for you at his table.

COMMUNION (WOV p. 39)

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN (WOV p. 39)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

COMMUNION MUSIC "Blessed Assurance" arr. by Hebble

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (WOV p. 40)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.
Send us with your promises, O God, and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us to join God's mission in the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (WOV p. 28)

BLESSING

And now as you go on your way, may Christ go with you.
May he go before you to lead you,
behind you to encourage you,
beside you to befriend you,
above you to watch over you,
and always, always within you to give you his peace.
In the name of the Father, +the Son and the Holy Spirit, amen.

SENDING HYMN *Blessed Assurance* (WOV 699)

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior, all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

- 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*
- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Commemorations

Michael and All Angels

Sunday, September 29, 2024

Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts, is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels. The word "angel" means messenger, and in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, these beings have a fully spiritual nature and no physical body.

Jerome, translator, teacher, died 420

Monday, September 30, 2024

Jerome was a biblical scholar and translator, but rather than translating the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures into classical Latin, he worked in the commonly-spoken Latin of the day, creating a version called the Vulgate.

Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, died 1226

Friday, October 4, 2024

Born into the family of a wealthy merchant, Francis gave up his inheritance to serve poor people. He formed the Order of Friars Minor (called Franciscans), who took on poverty and the task of preaching "using words if necessary." Francis had a spirit of gratitude for all of God's creation.

Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, died 1864

Friday, October 4, 2024

Fliedner helped to bring about a revival of the ministry of deaconesses among Lutherans. He was influenced in this by Moravian deaconesses he had met. The motherhouse he founded in Kaiserswerth, Germany, inspired many around the world to take up this ministry.

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