

September 29, 2024
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
St. Michael's and All Angels Sunday

Pastor: Guard our children with your guardian angels as they venture into life without us and bring them to faith in the Christ who received the little children.

Congregation: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Send holy Michael, the archangel, great defender of the faithful, to be our defender in times of trouble and temptation.

Congregation: **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Pastor: Send your archangel Gabriel, holy bearer of glad tidings, to bring us your word and to help us to understand it.

Congregation: **Good Lord, redeem us.**

Pastor: Send your archangel Raphael, great healer of your people, to bring healing and health to all our diseases and distresses.

Congregation: **Good Lord, heal us.**

Pastor: And at our last breath, send forth your trumpeting angels to waken us from our sleep of death, and take us to your heavenly kingdom.

Congregation: **Good Lord, save us.**

Pastor: Holy God, king of the universe, in your goodness and by your grace, you show favor to your people by giving us your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and by sending your holy angels to minister to us as they ministered to him in the wilderness. Thank you. We humbly ask that you heed our prayers, so that we might praise your holy name in one voice with all the host of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray, saying:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.*

Resources

- The liturgy for today's service were adapted from a vast array of St. Michaels and All Angles Sunday services from the following denominational resources: The Church of England, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and Episcopal Church.
- All music copied with CCLI#1528365; One License 733911-A; CCLI Live Streaming License #20990115

PREWORSHIP MUSIC

Mr. Kevin Crone, Music Director

INTRODUCTION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Laura C. Baker

PRELUDE & CANDLELIGHTING

Acolyte

CENTERING WORDS

God will put the angels in charge of you to protect you wherever you go. (Psalm 91:11, NLT)

(Please stand in body and/or spirit)

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 103 and Revelation 5:11-14)

Pastor: Listen! God's ancient story reverberates in and through our lives.

It's quite a story –

full of the promises God makes and our struggles to trust.

Congregation: **The story is full of mystery with angels who bring surprising news! It is full of hard endings and unexpected new beginnings.**

Pastor: Come! Hear the story and pay attention to the angels' message!

Congregation: **The angels gather to give God honor and glory and blessing!**

Pastor: Let us join the myriads upon myriads of angelic voices to praise the eternal God; the Word made flesh in Jesus Christ.

All people: *Let all that is within us – body, emotions, mind, and will – join the myriads of angels, who from the realms of glory, praise God's holy name! We pray together:*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

All people: *Everlasting God, you have wonderfully established the ministries of angels and humans. 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 hearth, 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 the angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, now and forever. Amen.*

HYMN

Angels From the Realms of Glory

Blue Hymnal, #149

CALL TO CONFESSION

Liturgist: Like the angels, we are called to lift up our souls to God. Often, we would prefer only to lift up the parts of our souls of which we are proud. But it is equally important that we lift up to God our sins as well. Trusting in God's unfailing grace let us tell the truth about ourselves, first in a moment of silent confession, then in a corporate litany of confession

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Pastor: Lord, you come to us, but we do not recognize you.
You call, but we do not follow.
You command, but we do not obey.
You bless us, but we do not thank you.

All people: *Holy, holy, holy are you, Lord God Almighty.
Have mercy upon us.*

Pastor: Lord, you accept us, but we do not accept others.
You forgive us, but we do not forgive those who wrong us.
You love us, but we do not love our neighbors as ourselves.

All people: *Holy, holy, holy are you, whom all the saints and angels adore.
Have mercy upon us.*

Pastor: Lord, you showed us how to carry out your mission,
but we still insist on our own way.
You identified yourself with the outcasts, the needy and the poor,
but we would rather ignore their plight today.
You suffered and died for the sake of all,
but we prefer to not sacrifice any of our comforts for others.

All people: *Holy, holy, holy are you, Merciful and Mighty God.
Have mercy upon us.*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Based on Psalm 103)

Pastor: Hear again the Good News: the Everlasting God has ordained and established the ministries of angels and humans in a wonderful order! The angels serve at God's command to help and defend us on earth.

All people: *Bless the Lord, O my soul! All that is within me blesses God's holy name! Bless the Lord, O you angels, who are obedient and do God's bidding. Bless the Lord, O my soul! All that is within me blesses God's holy name!*

HYMN OF PRAISE

Holy, Holy, Holy

Blue Hymnal, #4

(The congregation may be seated, as the children & youth come forward)

JESUS SAID, "LET THE CHILDREN COME"

HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

Blue Hymnal, #155

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 28:10-17

SUNG RESPONSE

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

RED Hymnal, #9

EPISTLE READING

Revelation 12:7-12

SUNG RESPONSE

Christ the Lord is Risen Today (Verse 1, only)

RED Hymnal, #167

GOSPEL READING

John 1:47--51

ANTHEM

Bless the Lord, O My Soul (Ippolitof-Ivonof)

Chancel Choir

SERMON

Angel's Work

Rev. Laura C. Baker

PRAYER AND LITANY OF THE ANGELS

Pastor: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth and all the orders of creation. He created humankind to have dominion upon the earth, and he created the angels to serve as guardians and messengers of his holy word of love and salvation. Let us pray to the Lord of the angels for all our needs and the needs of people everywhere.

Almighty God, we thank you for the wonder of your creation and the variety of orders within it. We thank you for your servants, the angels, whom you send to us on our behalf. Above all we thank you for your Son, enthroned above the cherubim, for the salvation which he bought us by his blood.

Congregation: **We praise you, O God.**

Pastor: As you sent angels in dreams to visit Jacob and Joseph with messages of your will, help us also to know your will for our lives and lead us to do it.

Congregation: **Lord, send us your holy angels.**

Pastor: As you sent angels to rescue Lot and his family in Sodom and to save Hagar and Ishmael in the wilderness, so rescue us in our times of need and adversity.

Congregation: **Lord, send us your holy angels.**

Pastor: As the angel of the Lord stood between the people of Israel and the Egyptians at the Red Sea, so stand between us and our enemies, and lend us your guard and protection.

Congregation: **Lord, send us your holy angels.**

Pastor: As the angel went before the Israelites to lead them through the wilderness into the promised land, so send an angel before us that we might follow your path of righteousness into your promised kingdom.

Congregation: **Lord, send us your holy angels.**

Pastor: Make us as welcoming of strangers as Abraham and Sarah, who received and entertained angels unaware.

Congregation: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Give us eyes that are as open as Balaam and his donkey to see the wonder of your angels standing before us.

Congregation: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: In gratitude to God for all our blessings, let us bless others with a portion of all we have been given. Let us present our offerings to God, with a song and prayer.

(Please stand in body and/or spirit)

DOXOLOGY *We Give Thee But Thine Own* **RED Hymnal, #258**
(All 4 verses)

(An Offering Collection Box is located on the table in the back of sanctuary, by the exit door)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All people: As the angels in heaven bring prayers and offerings before your holy alar, so we offer ourselves, our time and our financial resources. May Christ the Holy Lamb who was slain, commend them to you that they may be acceptable. Amen.

HYMN *Onward Christian Soldiers* **RED Hymnal, #292**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the Lord of heaven and earth shower his grace and favor upon you.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: May the Lord always send his holy angels to minister to you in your times of need.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: May you stand with the saints and all the angels of heaven before Christ's eternal throne.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: And may God Almighty: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and *forevermore.*

All people: Amen.

POSTLUDE & CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

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