

Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School
St. Michael & All Angels
September 29, 2024 - 10:30 am Worship Service

Welcome to Worship!

We're not alone! Look around the sanctuary as you prepare for the service. What do you see? Probably a fair number of people, probably some empty space. But do you see everything? 2 Kings 6 tells us the story of Elisha praying that they eyes of his companions would be opened, and then they saw a great army of angels all around them. Look around the sanctuary. You can't see them, but we're here to worship God, and that's what angels love to do. There are angels here with us, praising God and worshiping. Which is why we pray, "With angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, let us magnify and sing..."

Information about the Worship Service.

- ✠ *Out of respect for our Lord, His house and those worshipping here today, please silence your cell phones and limit the use of your smart phones to something that will not distract those around you. Looking up a Bible passage is always welcomed!*
- ✠ *We welcome communicant members and confirmed Lutheran guests (or those who have received instruction in the Lord's Supper) to examine their faith and receive Jesus' body and blood in the Lord's Supper. We invite you to read and agree with the statement on Holy Communion printed on the attendance cards. Please speak with one of the pastors or any elder if you have questions. We invite all non-communing guests, especially children, to come to the communion rail and cross your arms to receive a blessing.*
- ✠ *We have gluten free communion wafers available. Request some from an Elder or Usher.*

Pre-Service Music

Ringling of the Bell & Welcome

Please rise and face the Processional Cross as it is carried to the chancel.

Opening Song

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P Let us pray.
O Merciful Lord whose love invites us, though our hearts and hands are unclean, cleanse and renew us by Your grace, for You are the God of our salvation and it is Your joy and gift to grant us forgiveness and new life: through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Our Lord Jesus Christ said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" and "Love your neighbor as yourself." This is both what the Law demands and what our Christian lives seek. Consider now how your lives have reflected these commands.

Silence for meditation and reflection

P Holy and gracious God,

C I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that my heart may know peace. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Characters in God's Word

#1 Michael

P God's Word instructs us "we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses" (*Hebrews 12:1*)

C We are encouraged to grow in our faith in Jesus Christ.

P God, we thank You for examples in Your Holy word of faithfulness to You

C We thank You for the example of the archangel Michael.

P You sent him to defend your people from the assaults of the Devil.

C Let us, like Michael, look always to You for our strength and victory.

P Give us courage and perseverance to run the race of life,

C With eyes firmly fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

P Who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God the Father Almighty (*Hebrews 12:2 adapted*)

C And now intercedes for us that we might grow in our faith in Him.

Old Testament Reading

Daniel 10:10–14; 12:1–3

¹⁰And behold, a hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. ¹¹And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly loved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for now I have been sent to you." And when he had spoken this word to me, I stood up trembling. ¹²Then he said to me, "Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. ¹³The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia, ¹⁴and came to make you understand what is to happen to your people in the latter days. For the vision is for days yet to come. . . ."

¹"At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. ²And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Revelation 12:7–12

⁷Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸but he was defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹And the 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. ¹⁰And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. ¹²Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:1–11

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, "Truly, I say to

you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.
⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Message Song

Message

“Michael”

Daniel 12:1-3

(See back page of bulletin announcements for message notes)

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary

**and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

Offering Song



You may place your offering in the plate as it is passed through your pew. If you prefer you may also place it in the back of church after the service. If you would like to be part of our online giving community, feel free to scan this QR code for access to our app and giving portal. You may also text "Suburbanbc" to 833-418-8983.

Please rise as the offering is brought to the Lord's altar.

Prayer of God's People

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 forever and ever. Amen.

Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Communion Distribution

Distribution Songs

Dismissal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessing

Closing Song

Entering the Mission Field

- P** Go in peace; serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Post-Service Music

Acknowledgments

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