

A Meditation for ADVENT III

Practicing the Way of Love in the Pattern of Jesus

Pray the Collect for This Sunday

Read the Scripture together: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Reflection: Stir Us Up

The Prophet Isaiah envisions a holy community where all people flourish and seek the good for each other, and it all begins with the anointing of the Holy Spirit. How often do we pause in our efforts and ask God to stir, anoint, and equip us for the journey? Remember that we are always learning and practicing the way of Jesus, who blesses and teaches us to live his way of love.

In the Labyrinth: Practicing the Way of Love in the Pattern of Jesus

Loving our neighbor takes formation, practice, and commitment. How will each of us learn to be reconcilers, healers, and justice-bearers in Jesus' name? How could we practice sharing stories, growing relationship across dividing walls, and seeking Christ in the "other"?

SOME DEFINITIONS OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas is the **light** that burns eternally. It is a glow that warms the hearts of people wherever the message of "Peace on earth to men of goodwill" is believed.

Christmas is **peace** in a world where people have been alienated from each other by hatred and jealousy.

Christmas is **love** that flows from one heart to another.

Christmas is the **joy** of brotherhood, of giving, of sharing, of lifting, of caring, and of being what Christ wants us to be.

Christmas is **forgiveness**, the time for fresh beginnings, a time to right the wrongs of yesterday.

Christmas is **giving** to those who cannot give to us. It is visiting the neglected, lifting the fallen, giving hope to the hopeless, assuring victory to the defeated, living the spirit of good will to all mankind.

Christmas is **surrender** of one's life to Christ in renewed dedication, making Christ the Lord of our lives.

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Ministers of the Church

The People of St. Michael

Our Vestry & Staff

J. Byron Greene, **Senior Warden**
850-591-9285

Charlie Clark, **Junior Warden**
850-631-0780

Candice Billups

Delois Brown

Ama Erefah

Dawn Freeman

John M. Grayson

Neil James

Sharal Jugger

Delores B. Lawson

Sam Oliver

Edith Onyeozili

Laureatte Scott, **Treasurer/Vestry Clerk**

Kathleen Rodgers, **Financial Secretary**

Monique Alleyne and Ivana Kenny Carmola

Organists

Chris White, **Drummer/Choral Director**

Sam Oliver, **Verger**

Elizabeth Humes, **Admin. Assistant**

James Crowell, **Sexton Emeritus**

Our Clergy

The Right Reverend John Howard
Bishop – Diocese of Florida

The Reverend Hugh Chapman, **Rector**
340-513-1123

Frhugh_chappy63@yahoo.com

Sunday, December 17, 2017

10:00 am

Third Sunday of Advent

Advent Lessons and Music



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Phone: (850) 681-0844

Office Hours: Monday to Friday

8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Email: office@stmichaelandallangels.org

Website: www.stmichaelandallangels.org

Find us on Facebook as well!

Follow us on Twitter @SMAA_Tally

From the Rector's Desk

Stir up Sunday

The Collects for the Advent Season are particularly instructive, if we closely examine them. For instance, on the First Sunday of Advent, we were invited to petition God's grace, (seek his strength) in order that we be able to separate ourselves from the besetting sins that ensnare our lives so instead we could put on the amour of light. The implication is unmistakable. We are being reminded that the Body of Christ faces the threat of spiritual warfare and all of us must of necessity make an attitudinal change

The Second Sunday's offering was somewhat different in that we were invited to listen (heed) the declared warnings found in sacred scripture. We must make the time therefore to listen, in order that the prophetic utterances and various exhortations found in the lectionary could inform our response. It was no coincidence then that the gospel reading was from Mark in which John-the-Baptist forcibly challenged his hearers to make that all important decision to change their lives.

Today's collect (Stir up your power) is something of an acknowledgement that despite our best efforts, we have failed miserably to effect the change we sought for our lives. So the collect for today pleads that the Lord will stir up his power (share his power with us) as he hastily comes to deliver us from that iron grip sin has on my life and yours.

Let me encourage you to continue to use these collects on a daily basis as you make petition before the Lord of your life.

Fr. Hugh+

Activities soon Upcoming

Ministry Exploration Weekend (January 12-14, 2018).

The Bishop's Institute for Ministry and Leadership (housed at Camp Weed) is about to offer an opportunity to those who are seeking to discern whether the Lord is calling them to either Lay or Ordained Ministry in his church. If you feel so called, do let us know so we can assist with the registration for this Ministry Exploration Weekend at the Camp Weed & Cervený Conference Center.

Happening #136 (January 19-21, 2018)

Happening is a renewal weekend for high school aged young people in grades 10-12. The purpose of Happening, is to renew the spiritual life of high schoolers who attend so that they may take their places in the ministry and leadership of the parishes and missions that sponsor them. Candidate registration dead line is January 7, 2018.

Suggested daily Readings for the week of the Third Sunday of Advent Dec 18 – Dec.23

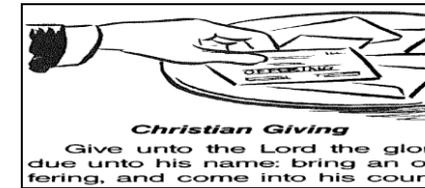
Mon.	Isa. 8:16 – 9:1	Psalm 44	2 Pet. 1:1-11
Tue.	Isa. 9:1-7	Psalm 47, 48	2 Pet. 1:12-21
Wed.	Isa. 9:8-17	Psalm 49, (53)	2 Pet. 2:1-10a
Thurs.	Isa. 9:18 –10:4	Psalm 59, 60	2 Pet. 2:10b-16
Fri.	Isa. 10:5-19	Psalm 51	2 Pet. 2:17-22
Sat.	Isa. 10:20-17	Psalm 138,139:1-17	Jude 17-25

Financial Summary:

December 10, 2017 – Pledge: \$3,336.00

Other: \$523.26

Attendance: 56



Summer Camp 2018 Dates and Fees

Session	Ages	Dates	Cost*
Senior Session: Color Wars	15-18	June 10-16	\$560
Session 1: Pirates	7-14	June 17-23	\$550
Session 2: Nickelodeon	7-14	June 24-30	\$550
Session 3: Wild, Wild West	7-14	July 8-14	\$550
Session 4: Harry Potter	7-14	July 15-21	\$550
Mini Camp: Under the Sea	6-10	June 7-10	\$300
Stayover Session	7-14	July 14-15	\$75

Register by Jan. 1 to get \$25 off! (\$35 off Senior Session)

Scholarships are available through the Diocese of Florida.

Children's Ministry Day (February 10, 2018)

A workshop will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church next year. Topics to be covered include:- A Sunday School Curriculum, Adventures in VBS, teaching the whole family Faithfulness and how to incorporate mission and service into children's programs

And now, summing up these petitions, let us pray in the words which our Lord Christ himself has taught us, saying:

Our Father....

May God the Father bless us with his grace, find us receptive to goodness and mercy in his Son our Lord, and bring us all in the power of his Holy Spirit to the joy of his everlasting Kingdom. *Amen*

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON Genesis 2:4b-9 and 15-25 Margaret Edwards
God creates man and woman to live in obedience to him in the Garden of Eden.

Silence to be observed

H398, I Sing the Almighty Power of God *Forest Green*

SECOND LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11 Kathleen Rodgers
God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.

Silence to be observed

H65, Prepare the way, O Zion *Bereden vag for Herran*

THIRD LESSON Jeremiah 31:31-34 Joann Robinson
God promises a new covenant which will be written upon the hearts of the people

Silence to be observed

H653, Dear Lord and Father of Mankind *Repton*

FOURTH LESSON Micah 5:2-4 Winston Bogan
The one who is to rule Israel will be born in Bethlehem

Silence to be observed

H110, Snow Lay on the Ground *Venite Adoramus*

FIFTH LESSON Zephaniah 3:14-18 Simone Hruda
The Lord will be among us, we are summoned to rejoice and sing.

Silence to be observed

L2, Behold Your God *Louis*

The Episcopal Church Women Nominating Committee announces the following persons who were invited to serve as the new officers for 2018: President—Dawn Dawson-Freeman, Vice President—Herma Watson-Taylor, Financial Secretary—Cassandra J. Grayson, and Secretary (Recording)—Tresia Mongerie. These officers will assume office effective January 1, 2018 for a term of one year. **All women of St. Michael's are also encouraged to become active in the ECW's three committees: In-Reach, Out-Reach and Fund Raising.**

Potted poinsettias are being requested to adorn the altar and church for the 10 p.m. Christmas Eve/Christmas service. Plants should be placed on the Parish Hall breezeway on Sunday 12/24/17 no later than 12 noon. Thanks Altar Guild.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT – Bible Study Group will be in recess for the remainder of the year. Junious Brown.

GOOD NEWS OUTREACH MINISTRY – Please remember to bring a food item from the following list: boxed pasta, grits, oatmeal, snacks, broths, soups, spices, baking mixes, flour, sugar, canned fruits & fruits cups. Place food in food gift box in Parish hall. We will bring forward the parish's gifts of food at the offertory the first Sunday each month giving thanks and asking God's blessing upon those who will receive them.

CHRISTMAS HANDBAGS OF HOPE – For two years, the Women of St. Michael's have assembled and donated dozens of handbags filled with essential items and prayers of hope to women in our community. As we approach Christmas, the season of giving, we would like to assemble a dozen more handbags, one for each day of Christmas. Your donations of new or gently used handbags, and items to fill them, would be greatly appreciated. The following articles (travel size or small) are needed: personal hygiene items (shampoo, soap, comb, brush, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, disposable wipes, hand sanitizer, and small, non-perishable snack foods (cheese and crackers, chips, tuna). You may drop off your donations at any time to the church office.

CHOIR NEWS – There will be no choir rehearsal next week. The choir will meet at 9:30 pm on Christmas Eve for a carols program before the service begins at 10 pm. Thanks to the choir for all their time and talent this season.



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR PEACE AND HEALING:



Jean-Hyche-Jackson, JoAnn Robinson, Ophelia and Robert Scarbough, Dorothy and Eugene Wesley, Rosalyn Greene, Rose Douglas, Jewel Robinson, Verona Satchell, Joseph Wiley, Carl Murray, Rudolph Hinds, Cynthia Hinds, Dorothy Williams, Alexes Parker. Robert Roulac, Karen Hardy Clark, Ella Woodbury, Charles Daniels, Mark Richardson, Brandi Leland, Randolph Laurel, Joseph Gentle, Wayne Hawthorne, Glendon Niewenkirk, Lisi Goodlett, Quincy Boy, Kenrick Baynes, Jessie Laurel, Hattie Olivia Scott, Rev. Canon Dr., David J. Weidner, Ella Brown Albright, Catherine Rand, Darnell Thorpe, Richard Corpening, Tyrone Gayle and Clifford Willabu.

SPECIAL PRAYERS

Father, you have made all people with eyes to see you at work in the world, ears to hear you cry out when right suffers wrong, when justice is brought low. Give to the people of our nation courage to stand up for goodness and right-doing in the face of an oppressive spirit, and courage to believe that we may restore, in accordance with your gracious will, a light to enlighten the nations and the people with your truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Prayer for those in the Military/Military Contractors

Linzie Bogan II and Clark Bogan

Almighty God, we command to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THANK YOU –Fellowship hour is hosted by the Douglas Family in loving memory of Fr. Vernon A. Douglas’s birthday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Acolytes rehearsal today after Service.

Said Mass – Tuesday, December 19 at 12:15 pm.

During the season of Advent, we shall omit from our services the Glorias and Alleluias

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 1:5-25

Fr. Cal Goodlett

An Angel tells Zechariah that his wife, Elizabeth, will bear a son.

Silence to be observed

Solo by: Eugenia Chapman

Mary, Did You Know?

Lowry

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:6-8 and 19-28

The Reverend Hugh Chapman

Homily

The Reverend Hugh Chapman

The Nicene Creed

326

Confession of Sin and Absolution

330-332

The Peace

May the Peace of the Lord

Nolan

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Selection

Presentation Hymn

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hatton

The Great Thanksgiving

333-336

Sanctus

The Lord’s Prayer

L264, The Lord’s Prayer

Malotte

The Breaking of the Bread

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn 1

L4, Better Be Ready

Spiritual

Communion Hymn 2

L7, I want to be ready

Spiritual

Post Communion Prayer

339

Birthday, Anniversary, Travel Prayers

Announcements

Benediction

Recessional Hymn

L14, Soon And Very Soon

Crouch

Dismissal

H=1982 Hymnal (blue)

L=Lift Every Voice and Sing Hymnal (black, green &.red)



WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL

We extend a warm welcome to our guests. Thank you for worshipping with us today. If you are without a church home, we invite you to join our church family. Please sign the guest register, **include your home address, phone number and, if you would like to receive the monthly newsletter, news of special events and other happenings, please also add your e-mail address.**

OUR VISION is to be a cornerstone for serving the spiritual needs of the greater Tallahassee community, extending an eternal invitation to join our caring parish and to enrich the spiritual life of all people as we journey with Christ.

OUR MISSION is to experience the Gospel of Jesus Christ by feeding the mind, body and spirit of our community in fellowship and service.

HOLY COMMUNION: All baptized Christians are encouraged to receive the real and  living presence of Christ in Holy Communion. To receive the Bread, extend your hands upward, palms crossed. When receiving the Wine, please guide the chalice as it is offered. If you prefer, you may leave the Bread on your palm for the person administering the chalice to dip into the Wine and place on your tongue. All persons are welcome to give thanks for God's blessings at the altar rail, simply crossing your arms at the wrist with fingertips extending upward towards your shoulders.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY!



Joseph Sams (12/18), Prokop Hruda (12/21), Pennela Chapman (12/23), David & Anne Powell (12/22), James & Pamela Fort (12/23)

Birthday Prayer

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace, which passeth understanding, abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Anniversary Prayer

God our Father, who made men and women to live together in families: we pray that marriage may be held in honor; that husbands and wives may live together faithfully, according to their vows; and that members of every family may grow in mutual love and understanding, in courtesy and kindness, so that they may bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ; for His name's sake. *Amen*

Serving today Sunday, December 17

Acolytes:

Pro Hruda, Crucifer
Charles Hruda, Torch Bearer
Hollis Sams, Torch Bearer
Tyler Sams, Gospel Book Bearer

Chalice Bearers: John Grayson, Pro Hruda

Lectors: Margaret Edwards, Kathleen Rodgers,
JoAnn Robinson, Winston Bogan, Simone Hruda,
Fr. Cal Goodlett

Greeters: Sharal Jugger, Elizabeth Humes

Ushers: Sharal Jugger, Elizabeth Humes

Vestry: Delois Brown

Serving next Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 am

Acolytes:

Daniel Erefah, Crucifer
Quinton Laurie, Torch Bearer
Sam Oliver III, Torch Bearer
Jalen Oliver, Gospel Book Bearer

Chalice Bearers: Alexis McMillan, Laureatte Scott

Lectors: Alexis McMillan, JoAnn Robinson,
Tresia Mongerie

Greeters: Edith Onyeozili, Doruest Robinson

Ushers: Dawn Freeman, Linda Billups

Vestry: Dawn Freeman

Serving next Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 pm

Acolytes:

Pro Hruda, Crucifer
Charles Hruda, Torch Bearer
Colton Wasson, Torch Bearer
Hollis Sams, Gospel Book Bearer

Chalice Bearer: Zollie White, James Fort

Lectors: Cassandra Grayson, Joseph Sams,
Kathleen Rodgers,

Greeters: Lauren Sapp, Akachi Anwuri

Ushers: Delores Lawson, Al Lawson

Vestry: John Grayson

NOTE: If you are unable to serve on the Sundays assigned, please ask someone else to serve in your place.

December Altar Guild:

Tangy Williams	Melanie Martin	Kate Wasson	Natalie Payne
Cassandra J Grayson	Pamela Greene	JoAnne Robinson	Delores Lawson
Dawn Freeman	Dorothy Wesley	Karen Goodlett	Lauren Sapp
Delois Brown	Shonna Laurie	Delores Grayson	Anna White