

Welcome to

**St. Michael's University Church**

An inclusive and caring community  
in the heart of Isla Vista



Sunday, January 23, 2022

PRELUDE

RINGING OF ISAIAH THE BELL

COLLECT

God is with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. (The celebrant says the collect, to which the people respond **Amen.**)

WELCOME

SONG: "Rivers of Babylon"

By the rivers of Babylon/ where we sat down  
and there we wept/ when we remembered Zion

Oh, how the wicked/ carried us away in captivity  
and required from us a song!

How can we sing our Lord's song in a strange land?

So let the words of our mouth  
and the meditation of our heart  
be acceptable in thy sight  
Adonai

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and there we wept/ when we remembered Zion

Oh, how the wicked/ carried us away in captivity  
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## READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 19 (Read antiphonally by verse)

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

- 7 The law of the Lord revives the soul;  
the testimony of the Lord is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth  
and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight,  
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

GOSPEL HYMN: "Bless The Lord My Soul"  
Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name  
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life

### **GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21**

Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because God has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
God has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

GOSPEL HYMN: "Bless The Lord My Soul"

SERMON

DIALOGUE

SONG "I Shall Be Released"

They say everything can be replaced  
Yet every distance is not near  
So I remember every face  
Of every man who put me here

CHORUS:

I see my light come shining  
From the west unto the east  
Any day now, any day now  
I shall be released

They say everyone needs protection  
They say everyone must fall  
Yet I swear I see my reflection  
Some place so high above this wall  
CHORUS

Standing next to me in this lonely crowd  
Is a man who swears he's not to blame  
All day long I hear him shout so loud  
Crying out that he was framed  
CHORUS

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

With new life and hope, we turn our hearts to God in prayer.

For all victims of poverty, violence, desperation, and other forms of suffering, we pray.

**God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.**

For leaders and nurturers of many kinds, that they may lead with character, kindness, and compassion.

**God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.**

For the expansive beauty of your creation and our renewed care for this planet, we pray.

**God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.**

For the good work of this community.

May we bring God's healing to Isla Vista and beyond.

**God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.**

For what and for whom else would we like to pray today?  
(Pause)

For all of these, we pray to God,  
God of Love, hear the prayers of your people.

## **Prayer Collect**

And now, as Christ has taught us, we pray:

Our God, 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

THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SONG

“Glory, Glory”

Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Since I laid my burden down. (REPEAT)

I feel better, so much better,  
since I laid my burden down. (REPEAT)

When I'm feeling tired and weary,  
help me lay my burden down (REPEAT)

SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE



**ST. MICHAEL'S**  
**UNIVERSITY CHURCH**