

Welcome to
St. Michael's University Church

An inclusive and caring community
in the heart of Isla Vista



Sunday, August 23, 2020

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE ISAIAH 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 “In My Hour of Darkness/Every Grain of Sand”

CHORUS:

In my hour of darkness

In my time of need

Oh, Lord—grant me vision

Oh, Lord—grant me speed

At the time of my confession, in the hour of my deepest need

When the pool of tears beneath my feet

Floods every newborn seed

There's a dying voice within me reaching out somewhere

Toiling in the danger and darkness of despair

CHORUS

Oh, the flowers of indulgence and the weeds of yesteryear

Like criminals, they have choked the breath

Of conscience and good cheer

In the fury of the moment I can see the Master's hand

In every leaf that trembles and in every grain of sand

CHORUS

The Sun beat down upon the steps of time to light the way

To ease the pain of idleness and the memory of decay

Then onward in my journey I come to understand

That every hair is numbered like every grain of sand

CHORUS

READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

People: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM: 138 (Read antiphonally by verse)

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
I will sing your praise.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your Name,
because of your love and faithfulness;
- 3 For you have glorified your Name
and your word above all things.
- 4 When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.
- 7 Though you are high, you care for the lowly;
you perceive the haughty from afar.
- 8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.

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: Matthew 16:13-20

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

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

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL HYMN: "Bless the Lord My Soul"

SERMON

MUSTARD SEED

SONG

“The Maker”

Oh, oh deep water
Black and cold like the night
I stand with arms wide open,
I've run a twisted line
I'm a stranger in the eyes of the Maker

I could not see for the fog in my eyes
I could not feel for the fear in my life
And from across the great divide
In the distance I saw a light
I saw John Baptist walking to me with the Maker

My body is bent and broken
By long and dangerous sleep
I can't work the fields of Abraham
And turn my head away
I'm not a stranger in the hands of the Maker

Brother John, have you seen the homeless daughters
Standing there with broken wings
I have seen the flaming swords
There over east of Eden
Burning in the eyes of the Maker
Oh, river, rise from your sleep

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, & bring them the joy of your salvation.
God of love, hear the prayers of your people.

For the good earth and for the wisdom to live into our interdependence with all of God's creation.

God of love, hear the prayers of your people.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute,
for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them.
God of love, hear the prayers of your people.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice
and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.
God of love, hear the prayers of your people.

For the good work of this community.
May our roles be uplifted by one another,
as we do healing work in 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

The Celebrant continues

And now, as Christ has taught us, we 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
For ever and ever. Amen**

BLESSING

SONG

“We Are All Children of the Lord”

We are all children here in God's kingdom
We are all children of the Lord
Some are small winners
Some are big losers
We are all just children of the Lord

As we grow older, as we live younger
We are all children of the Lord
Some are fast movers
Some are slow changers
We are all just children of the Lord

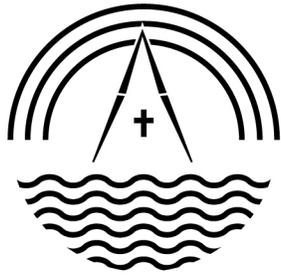
We are all children here in God's kingdom
We are all children of the Lord
Some are cold turkeys
Some are hot doggies
We are all just children of the Lord

We are all children here in God's kingdom
We are all children of the Lord
Some are hard hitters
Some are soft servers
We are all just children of the Lord

SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!!!



ST. MICHAEL'S
UNIVERSITY CHURCH