



A Liturgy of the Word Twenty Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Date: 26 November 2022

The full service or the sermon can be viewed on the website.

Processional Hymn

**Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.**

**Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;
no angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends their burning eye
at mysteries so bright.**

**Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.**

Author: Matthew Bridges (1821)

Call to Worship

**The LORD is king! Let the earth rejoice;
The heavens proclaim his righteousness;
and all the peoples behold his glory.**



Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Gathering Prayer

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

Collect for Purity

Almighty God

to whom all hearts are open

all desires known

and from whom no secrets are hid:

cleans the thoughts of our hearts

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit

that we may perfectly love you

and worthily magnify your holy Name;

through Christ our Lord. Amen

The Penitence

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Let us confess together:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father

in penitence we confess

that we have sinned against you

through our own fault

in thought, word, and deed

and in what we have left undone.



**For the sake of your Son, Christ our Lord
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name.**

Absolution

May the God of all mercy and love,
make known to you his forgiveness and salvation,
may he cleanse, restore, and revive you;
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The Collect

Most High God,
majestic and mighty,
our beginning and our end:
rule in our hearts and guide us to be faithful,
worshipping the One who comes as Saviour and Sovereign;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

The Word of God

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 100

Ephesians 1:15-23

Gospel Reading

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

The Sermon

Sermon: The Revd Sharmain James

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in the words of the Apostles' creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
And born of the Virgin Mary.**



He suffered under Pontius Pilate
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit
the Holy Catholic Church
the Communion of Saints
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

Sovereign Lord, on this the feast of Christ the King, we praise your wonderful and holy name; we exult you forever together with all the saints, as we come to you with hearts and hands open in a time of prayer.

Today, Lord Jesus, we declare together with the whole Church that you are king. In our world, may all who occupy positions of leadership, authority and influence, in all humility, submit to your rule and reign and be guided by your Holy Spirit for the service of your people. We pray for political leaders, especially those of countries currently at war, and for those countries supporting them. We pray for a cessation of conflict in Israel-Palestine, in Ukraine, in Sudan, in Ethiopia, amongst others. We pray for leaders of world bodies like the UN, the IMF, and the ICC, that they would be convicted to implement your justice and peace in the world.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Today, Lord Jesus, we declare together with the whole Church that you are king. In our country, may all who occupy positions of leadership, authority and influence, in all humility, submit to your rule and reign and be guided by your Holy Spirit for the service of your people. As we begin to prepare for upcoming elections next year, we pray for free and fair elections; we pray that each eligible voter may be guided by their conscience; we pray for current and future leaders, that they would not serve for their own self-aggrandizement and enrichment but for the benefit of the people whose mandate they hold. Protect the poor and vulnerable and help us work together for the upliftment of all people.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Today, Lord Jesus, we declare together with the whole Church that you are king. In our Church, may all who occupy positions of leadership, authority and influence, in all humility, submit to your rule and reign and be guided by your Holy Spirit for the service of your people. We pray for Steve, our Bishop, and Thabo, our Archbishop, as well the leaders of all our sister churches as well as those of other faiths. We pray through you, Holy Spirit, that all denominations and faiths would share a sense of unity and common purpose in recognising the inherent dignity of all human beings.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Today, Lord Jesus, we declare together with the whole Church that you are king. In our community, may all who occupy positions of leadership, authority and influence, in all humility, submit to your rule and reign and be guided by your Holy Spirit for the service of your people. We pray for the community of St Michael's, as well as the larger community of Bryanston of which it is part. We pray for our various portfolios and ministries, as well as our outreach projects which serve the community. We pray for all leadership, lay, ordained, and administrative. May you shape and mould our church to conform to the image of your Son.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**



Today, Lord Jesus, we declare together with the whole Church that you are king. In our families and in our workplaces, may all who occupy positions of leadership, authority and influence, in all humility, submit to your rule and reign and be guided by your Holy Spirit for the service of your people. We pray for single parents, for those struggling to find adequate employment. We pray for those who are ill, especially those in our pew leaflet. We pray too for the recently bereaved and those whose year's mind occurs this week. May your hand of peace be upon them.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Compassionate and caring God, you know our needs before we ask for them. Grant to us and the whole Church what is best for us; in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.

Amen

Prayer for Offering

Faithful Father, thank you that you give the gift of abundant, eternal life. You have said that you are a Good Father who gives us good gifts. Your generosity overflows to us. Everything we have is a gift from you. As we bring our offerings to you, we give back to you from the abundant blessings you have given us. May our gifts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord our God. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honour, and power and strength, be unto you our God forever and ever. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your Name
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen**

Final Hymn

**We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour's name:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

**Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,
not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim:
the Word made flesh, a light for all.**

**Tell of his death at Calvary,
hated by those he came to save;
in lonely suffering on the cross**



for all he loved, his life he gave.
Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
empty the tomb, for he was free;
he broke the power of death and hell
that we might share his victory.

Tell of his reign at God's right hand
by all creation glorified;
he sends his Spirit on his church
to live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
this gospel-message we proclaim:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

— Edward J. Burns (1968)

Final Blessing

This day and always, may Christ, Sovereign Lord of the universe,
reign in your hearts and minds, such that your thoughts, words,
and deeds, are directed according to his will.
And the blessing of God Almighty,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
be with you and those you love,
now and always. Amen

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Giving

Thank you for your continued financial contribution
to the church at this time so as to enable St Michael's
to meet its obligations in mission and ministry.

E.F.T
St Michael's Church Bank
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 Account Name: Bryanston St Michael

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