

5:30 p.m. – Service of the Word and Sacrament

**Order of Service**  
**Saint Michael Lutheran Church**  
**3595 Broadway, Fort Myers, Florida 33901**

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany**

**January 16, 2021**

**Welcome & Announcements & Greetings**

**Opening Hymn**

*"Open the Eyes of My Heart"*

*written by Paul Baloche*

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You  
I want to see You (*repeat*)

I want to see You  
I want to see You (*repeat*)

To see You high and lifted up  
Shinin' in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love  
As we sing holy, holy, holy

To see You high and lifted up  
Shinin' in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love  
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart

Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
I want to see you (*repeat*)

**Confession & Absolution**

*Pastor:* If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People:** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Pastor:* Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People:** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

*Pastor:* In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People:** **Amen.**

**Kyrie**

**168**

**Hymn of Praise**

*"Seek Ye First"*

**712**

## First Reading

Psalm 51:1-4, 7-13, 15-17 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup>Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. <sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. <sup>4</sup>Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

<sup>7</sup>Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. <sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. <sup>10</sup>Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. <sup>11</sup>Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. <sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. <sup>13</sup>Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.

<sup>15</sup>Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise. <sup>16</sup>You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

<sup>17</sup>My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:25-30 (NIV)

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup>Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

<sup>27</sup>"All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Lector: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Apostles' Creed

*Inside back cover of hymnal*

## Hymn of the Day

*"Change My Heart, Oh God"*

*written by Eddie Espinosa*

Change my heart, oh God  
Make it ever true  
Change my heart, oh God  
May I be like You

You are the potter  
I am the clay  
Mold me and make me  
This is what I pray  
*(repeat all)*

## *“The Dance of Grace”*

To watch and listen to last week’s sermon online at [www.smlcs.org](http://www.smlcs.org), scroll down to the bottom and click on “Watch the Live Stream.”

### Sermon Outline:

1. Jesus said we should come to Him and learn from Him a \_\_\_\_\_ way of life.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ that saves, redeems, frees us of our sin and justifies us is the same grace that moves us; it’s how we’re transformed and sanctified.
3. There are four steps in this dance of grace, and the first is sin \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The second step is that God’s grace is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. “It is always a mistake to concentrate our attention on our sins; it is God’s \_\_\_\_\_ on our sins that is the main event.”
6. No matter how dark your past, no matter how frustrating or stuck you might feel in your sin, those things have been “wildly outdone” by the salvation that was won for us by \_\_\_\_\_ on the cross.
7. The third step that we begin to move toward is being granted a \_\_\_\_\_ spirit.
8. We need God’s grace and \_\_\_\_\_ to give us the willingness that we need to change.
9. There is a fourth and final step, and that is to become a \_\_\_\_\_ of grace.
10. We are always in process; we’re never finished; it’s always this dance, and you can find whatever step you need to take, but the dance of grace continues on because our \_\_\_\_\_ in this dance is our Savior Jesus!

*This space is available for you to write any additional notes on the sermon.*

## Offering

*A special stewardship note to our guests: The ministries and work of Saint Michael Lutheran Church are supported by the generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends as they steward God's gifts. You are our GUEST today. Please do not feel compelled or pressured to make a contribution.*

Online contributions and donations can be made by clicking this link: [tinyurl.com/SMLGiving](http://tinyurl.com/SMLGiving)  
You may also mail your offerings to the church office: 3595 Broadway, Ft. Myers, FL 33901

## Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

### Holy Communion

<b>Distribution Hymns:</b>	<i>"Agnus Dei"</i>	<b>180</b>
	<i>"Thank the Lord"</i>	<b>181</b>

## Blessing

### Closing Hymn

*"Your Grace Is Enough"*

*written by Matt Maher*

Great is Your faithfulness, O God  
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart  
You lead us by still waters into mercy  
And nothing can keep us apart

So, remember Your people  
Remember Your children  
Remember Your promise, O God

So, remember Your people  
Remember Your children  
Remember Your promise, O God

Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough for me

Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough for me

So, remember Your people  
Remember Your children  
Remember Your promise, O God

Great is Your love and justice, God of Jacob  
You use the weak to lead the strong  
You lead us in the song of Your salvation  
And all Your people sing along

Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough for me

Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough for me