

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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4th Saturday after the Epiphany

January 27, 2024

Prelude

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

arr. by Joyce Jones

Welcome, Announcements & Greetings

Opening Hymn

"O Worship the King"
(vs. 1-4)

804

Confession & Absolution

*Jonah 3:2, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29, 31;
Mark 1:15, 17*

Pastor: Hearing the Word of God, we are called to confess our sin, trusting in the one true God who is faithful and just and who will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.)

Pastor: Though Jonah was reluctant when the Lord spoke to him the first time, He spoke to Jonah a second time and told him, "Go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you."

People: **As You, O Lord, have given us the message of the Gospel, we have been reluctant to go bring Your truth and grace to all people. For this we seek Your forgiveness.**

Pastor: Paul reminds the people of God, "The appointed time has grown very short. . . . The present form of this world is passing away."

People: **As You, O Lord, have given us each day and hold all time in Your hands, we have not used our time wisely. For this we seek Your forgiveness.**

Pastor: In today's Gospel, Jesus called to Simon and Andrew, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." Immediately they dropped their nets and followed Him.

People: **As You, O Lord, have called us to follow You, we have instead sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. For this we seek Your forgiveness.**

Pastor: Even to the evil Ninevites, God showed His mercy upon their repentance. "When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that He had said He would do to them, and He did not do it." Jesus proclaimed to the people, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." Though we deserve His present and eternal punishment, God has relented by sending His Son to bear our sin and to be our Savior. Christ has taken our punishment on the cross, paid the price of our sins through His perfect life and sacrificial death, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the grace of God to all of you. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 (NIV)

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: ²"Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you." ³Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. ⁴Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." ⁵The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. ¹⁰When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

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. Mark, the 1st chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

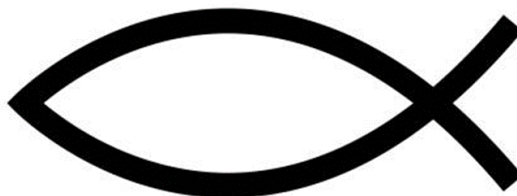
Holy Gospel

Mark 1:14-20 (NIV)

¹⁴After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" ¹⁶As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." ¹⁸At once they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Lector: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day*"Seek Ye First"***712**

Sermon

“The One Who Brings God’s Kingdom Is Jesus”

Pastor Dave Bass

To watch and listen to last week’s sermon online at www.smlcs.org,
click on Church and “Watch the Live Stream.”

Sermon Outline:

Sermon Thought #1: What is the message that _____ brings to Nineveh? It’s the same message that _____ brings, “To proclaim the _____ of the Kingdom of God. _____ and believe the good news.”

Sermon Thought #2: The life we live and the _____ we live out is about living in God’s _____.

Sermon Thought #3: _____ in obedience to _____ will always bring us harmony, _____ and victory.

Apostles' Creed

inside back cover of hymnal

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.
You may also mail your offerings to the church office: 3595 Broadway, Ft. Myers, FL 33901.

Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: Hear our prayer.

Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns	<i>"Take My Life and Let It Be"</i>	784
	<i>"I Love Your Kingdom, Lord"</i>	651

Blessing

Closing Hymn	<i>"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"</i>	733
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Postlude	<i>"Toccata on 'St. Anne'"</i>	<i>arr. by Gordon Young</i>
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