

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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The 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of Easter

April 20, 2024

### Prelude

*"Meditation on 'Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds'" arr. by Gregg Sewell*

### Welcome, Announcements & Greetings

### Opening Hymn

*"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"*

465

### Invocation

*Pastor:* In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*People:* Amen.

### Confession & Absolution

*Pastor:* Let us now confess our sin to God, our Father.

*People:* O Lord God Almighty, we confess that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not put You first at all times. We have not followed in the ways You have set forth for us. We have not always been thoughtful caretakers of Your creation and have not shared its bounty on all occasions. We have not kept our thoughts, words and deeds fully pure and honorable. We have sinned in ways we know and in ways we do not even recognize. We have not honored those in authority and have not without reservation encouraged them. We have not completely put the best construction on all things and on all people. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Forgive us all our sins, and finally by Your grace bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

*(Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.)*

*Pastor:* The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness and remission of all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*People:* Amen.

### Hymn of Praise

*"Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"*

782

## The First Reading

Acts 2:22-24, 36-39 (NIV)

<sup>22</sup>“Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. <sup>23</sup>This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. <sup>36</sup>“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.” <sup>37</sup>When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” <sup>38</sup>Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

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.**

## Hymn of the Day

*“God Is Our Strength and Refuge”*

*see insert*



# Sermon

## *“Redeeming Rest: Jesus’ Great Invitation”*

*Pastor Dave Bass*

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

## Sermon Outline:

**Sermon Point #1:** When we rest, we set an \_\_\_\_\_ for others. (Mark 6:31)

**Sermon Point #2:** When we take Jesus up on His invitation to \_\_\_\_\_, we are making \_\_\_\_\_ to explore how wonderfully God has created \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ around us.

**Sermon Point #3:** As we take Jesus up on His invitation to rest, you’ll discover that You get \_\_\_\_\_ done in \_\_\_\_\_ time.

**Sermon Point #4:** As you take Jesus up on His invitation to rest, you’ll have time to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Apostles' Creed

*inside back cover of hymnal*

## Offering

*"Come to Jesus, Rest in Him"*

*see insert*

*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

*Pastor:* Lord, in Your mercy,

*People:* Hear our prayer.

## Holy Communion

### Distribution Hymns

*"Lamb of God"*

**550**

*"Jerusalem, My Happy Home"*

**673**

### Blessing

### Closing Hymn

*"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"*

**576**

### Postlude

*"Trumpet Flourish"*

*arr. by S. Drummond Wolff*

