

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

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

"Printed music licensed under and copyright permission granted from one of the following: CCLI 3029154, OneLicense A716035, LSB Hymn License 100010088 or CPH 10000830, unless noted otherwise."

Fifth Saturday after Pentecost

July 12, 2025

Prelude

"Violin Concerto in G Major"
(I. Allegro)

by Antonio Vivaldi
Rachel Cox, violin

Welcome, Announcements, & Greetings

Opening Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

by Eleanor Hull & Mary Byrne

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
save that Thou Art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven,
my treasure Thou art.

Be Thou my wisdom,
and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;

Great God of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession & Absolution

167

Hymn of Praise

"Wonderful, Merciful Savior"

by Dawn Rodgers & Eric Wyse

Wonderful, merciful Savior,
Precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb
Could rescue the souls of men?
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way.
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

chorus

Chorus: You are the One that we praise,
You are the One we adore.
You give the healing and grace
Our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Almighty, infinite Father,
Faithfully loving Your own;
Here in our weakness You find us
Falling before Your throne.
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,
Spirit we long to embrace;

chorus

First Reading

James 1:2-4 (NIV)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

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 fifth chapter.

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

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:10-12 (NIV)

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Lector: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn of the Evening *"O for a Heart to Praise My God"*

*by Charles Wesley &
Lowell Mason*

O for a heart to praise my God,
a heart from sin set free,
a heart that always feels Thy blood
so freely shed for me.

A heart resigned, submissive, meek,
my great Redeemer's throne,
where only Christ is heard to speak,
where Jesus reigns alone.

A humble, lowly, contrite heart,
believing, true, and clean,

which neither life nor death can part
from Christ who dwells within.

A heart in ev'ry thought renewed
and full of love divine,
perfect and right and pure and good,
a copy, Lord, of Thine.

Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart;
come quickly from above;
write Thy new name upon my heart,
Thy new best name of Love.



Sermon

The Bible Doesn't Say That "Suffering Always Comes from Sin"

Pastor Dave Bass

To watch and listen to last week's sermon, visit tinyurl.com/smlcslive.

Sermon Outline

Sermon Thought #1: The threaded narrative of humanities' story from _____ to _____ includes suffering. It can become easy to look at _____, suffering, and _____ and lump it all together into one theological statement: _____ always comes from _____.

Sermon Thought #2: The _____ work of Jesus on the cross and in the tomb and His resurrection from death is the _____ for the _____ of the entire creation.

Sermon Thought #3: Suffering is a _____ of living in a _____ world, but how we respond to it is our choice. No matter what the _____ of our trials may be, God will use suffering to _____ and _____ us as we walk with Him through it.

Apostles' Creed

inside back cover of hymnal

Offering

"Come, Ye Disconsolate"

*arr. by Ben Ball
Rachel Cox, violin*

Text for Meditation:

*Come, you disconsolate, where'er you languish;
Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel.
Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;
Earth has no sorrows that heaven cannot heal.*

As stewards of God's abundant gifts, we are called to use our time, talents and treasures to further His kingdom and serve one another in love. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

Let us continue to grow in faith and generosity, trusting that God will provide for all our needs as we faithfully serve Him.

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.

National Youth Gathering Commissioning

Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

770

"Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

610

Blessing

Closing Hymn

*"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
(verses 1 & 3)*

809

Postlude

