

# ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

September 27, 2020 10:30 am

PRELUDE

Nun lob, mein Seel, den Herren, BuxWV 214 D. Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707)  
("Now praise, my soul, the Lord,"  
a Lutheran hymn-paraphrase of today's Psalm)

Nun lob, mein Seel, den Herren, BuxWV 213 D. Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707)

*The Complete Organ Works of Dietrich Buxtehude: VI*

HYMN 282

Christ, the fair glory of the holy angels

Tune: *Caelites plaudant*



1 Christ, the fair glo - ry of the ho - ly an - gels,  
2 Send thine arch - an - gel Mi - chael to our suc - cor;  
3 Send thine arch - an - gel Ga - bri - el, the might - y;  
4 Send from the hea - vens Ra - phael thine arch - an - gel,  
5 May the blest mo - ther of our God and Sa - vior,  
6 Fa - ther Al - might - y, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit,



1 ma - ker of all things, ru - ler of all  
2 peace - ma - ker bless - ed, may he ban - ish  
3 her - ald of hea - ven, may he, from us  
4 health - bring - er bless - ed, aid - ing ev - ery  
5 may the ce - les - tial com - pa - ny of  
6 God ev - er bless - ed, hear our thank - ful



1 na - tions, grant of thy mer - cy un - to us thy  
2 from us striv - ing and hat - red, so that for the  
3 mor - tals, drive ev - ery e - vil, watch - ing o'er the  
4 suf - ferer, that, in thy ser - vice, he may wise - ly  
5 an - gels, may the as - sem - bly of the saints in  
6 prais - es; thine is the glo - ry which from all cre -



1 ser - vants steps up to hea - ven.  
2 peace - ful all things may pros - per.  
3 tem - ples where thou art wor - shipped.  
4 guide us, heal - ing and bless - ing.  
5 hea - ven help us to praise thee.  
6 a - tion ev - er a - scend - eth.

Words: Rabanus Maurus (776-856); ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.  
Music: *Caelites plaudant*, melody from *Antiphoner*, 1728; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse 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.**

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals: Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your appointment they may help and defend us here on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All sit for the lessons*

## FIRST LESSON

Genesis 28:10-17

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 103:19-22 (S-413)

Simplified Chant: Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)

*In this style of chanting, the slashes in the text indicate when to change notes in the chant.*



19     **The Lord has set his throne in / heaven, \***  
           **and his kingship has dominion over / all.**

20     **Bless the Lord, you angels of / his,**  
           **you mighty ones who do his / bidding, \***  
           **and hearken to the voice of his / word.**

21     **Bless the Lord, all you his / hosts, \***  
           **you ministers of his who do his / will.**

22     **Bless the Lord, all you works of his,**  
           **in all places of his do-/minion; \***  
           **bless the Lord, O my / soul.**

## SECOND LESSON

Revelation 12:7-12

A reading from the Revelation of John.

War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death. Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!"

The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

1 Round the Lord in glo - ry seat - ed cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim  
 2 Heaven is still with glo - ry ring - ing, earth takes up the an - gels' cry,  
 3 "Lord, thy glo - ry fills the hea - ven, earth is with thy full - ness stored;  
 filled his tem - ple, and re - peat - ed each to each the al - ter - nate hymn;  
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," sing - ing, "Lord of hosts, the Lord Most High."  
 un - to thee be glo - ry giv - en, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord."  
 "Lord, thy glo - ry fills the hea - ven, earth is with thy full - ness stored;  
 With his ser - aph train be - fore him, with his ho - ly Church be - low,  
 Thus thy glo - rious Name con - fess - ing, with thine an - gel hosts we cry  
 un - to thee be glo - ry giv - en, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord."  
 thus u - nite we to a - dore him, bid we thus our an - them flow:  
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," bless - ing thee, the Lord of hosts Most High.

Words: Richard Mant (1776-1848) Music: *Rustington*. Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Plainsong*

The cantor introduces the Alleluia, and then all join.

The cantor sings the verse below, and then all repeat the Alleluia.

*Cantor* *All*  
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

V: Bless the Lord, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding, \*  
 and hearken to the voice of his word. (Psalm 103:20)

*All*  
 Al - le - lu - ia.

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE HOMILY

Fr. Bruce Walker

*Silence may be kept after the homily.*

*All stand, as able*

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM III  
*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest, remembering especially Linda Long and David Trulove;  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. Saying together **Roscoe, Josephine, Larry, Bill, Gisela, Catherine, James, John, Susan, Betty, Corwin, Beth, David, Janet, Bob, Burtchus, Dickinson, Oscar, and all those on our long term prayer list.** Are there others? (Please add the names of others either silently or aloud)

In thanksgiving we pray for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in the coming week, especially **Tamarah Hill (27), Judy Scott (28), Elizabeth Morgan (30), Bud Quinley (2), Beth Revis (3).**

We pray for all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad especially those listed on our military prayer list. We pray also for their families, friends, and neighbors who await their safe return.

We pray for our sister church St. Gabriel's. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for our own church of St. Francis. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan.

We pray for our missionaries and their work in the world, for **Russ and Heidi Smith in Chile, John and Zsófi Wilson in Hungary, Daniel & Rachel Aytes in Thailand, and Jim & Jennifer Bowers in Mali.**

We pray for St. Francis Day School, and for its students and teachers and their families, that they may grow in stature and wisdom, and in the knowledge and love of your grace and truth.

A Prayer for our Time of Transition

**O God, as we proceed through this interim time, we confidently rely upon your Holy Presence to guide us, and we are thankful for the many blessings you have bestowed upon the parishes of St. Francis and St. Gabriel's.**

**May we use this time well to discern your will for us in our reading of Sacred Scripture, in our celebration of the Holy Eucharist, through our sensitivity to one another, in our personal meditation and prayer, and**

**through our sharing with others in fellowship.**

**We ask this, Lord of our lives, through your son Jesus, and through your Holy Spirit, who teaches us how to pray, and how to live together in peace forever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,**

**we confess that 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 are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**have mercy on us and forgive us;**

**that we may delight in your will,**

**and walk in your ways,**

**to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*The ministers and people greet each other in the name of the Lord.*

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY

Nun lob, mein Seel, den Herren, BuxWV 215 D. Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707)

*The Complete Organ Works of Dietrich Buxtehude: VI*

THE DOXOLOGY

Tune: *Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - Prayer A

*The people remain standing.*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

PROPER PREFACE

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS (S-129)

Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to pray,  
*People and Celebrant*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

***People:* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

AGNUS DEI (S-163)

Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS *(The minister and the people receive communion at this time.)*

*A spiritual Communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive holy communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion. Please note elements are being made available, prior to the liturgy, for use at this time. Details can be found in the Lych Gate.*

INVITATION TO THE EUCHARIST FOR THOSE AT HOME (may be said during communion)

**In union with the faithful of every generation and especially with those present at Saint Francis Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer my own thanks and praise to You, my Lord and my God. I present my mind, soul and body towards heaven with the earnest intention of being present in spirit with those who call You, Lord of all. I remember Your death and resurrection and I await Your coming in glory. I unite myself with those gathered at your altar and embrace You with all my heart, knowing that nothing can ever separate Your love from me. May I live, move and have my being in Your loving presence. Amen** (prayer adapted from the Armed Services Prayer Book by Fr. Walker+)

1 An - gels and min - is - ters, spi - rits of grace, Friends of the  
 2 Mes - sen - gers clad in the swift-ness of light, Sub - tle as  
 3 Earth's myr - iad crea - tures live af - ter their kind, Dumb, in the  
 4 You do God's bid - ding, un - sha-ken and strong; We are dis -  
 5 We too shall join you as com-rades in grace, Here but a

chil - dren, be - hold-ing God's face, Mov - ing like thought to us  
 flame, and cre - a - tive in might, Helmed with the truth and with  
 life of the bo - dy con - fined; You are pure spi - rit, but  
 traught 'twixt the right and the wrong; Yet would we soar as the  
 lit - tle be - low you in place; Then, when we climb from our

through the be - yond, Mold - ed in beau - ty, and free from our bond!  
 cha - ri - ty shod, Wield - ing the wind of the pur - pose of God!  
 we here be - low, Linked in both or - ders, are tossed to and fro.  
 bird from the mesh, Freed from the weak-ness and won - der of flesh.  
 low - ness in worth, We too shall her - ald good will up - on earth.

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## THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Book of Common Prayer p. 365

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God,**  
**we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food**  
**of the most precious Body and Blood**  
**of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;**  
**and for assuring us in these holy mysteries**  
**that we are living members of the Body of your Son,**  
**and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**  
**And now, Father, send us out**  
**to do the work you have given us to do,**  
**to love and serve you**  
**as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.**  
**To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,**  
**be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

HYMN 539

O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling

Tune: *Tiding*

O Zi - on, haste, thy mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,  
 Pro - claim to ev - ery peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion;  
 Send her - alds forth to bear the mes - sage glo - rious;  
 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere thou meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is Light;  
 that God, in whom they live and move, is Love;  
 give of thy wealth to speed them on their way;  
 make known to ev - ery heart his sav - ing grace;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing  
 tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion,  
 pour out thy soul for them in prayer vic - to - rious  
 let none whom he hath ran - somed fail to greet him,

one soul should fail to know his love and might.  
 and died on earth that all might live a - bove.  
 till God shall bring his king - dom's joy - ful day.  
 through thy ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

*Refrain*  
 Pub - lish glad ti - dings: ti - dings of peace,  
 ti - dings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion and re - lease.

Words: Mary Ann Thomson (1834-1923), alt. Music: *Tidings*, James Walch (1837-1901)

THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

***People:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

Nun lob, mein Seel, den Herren, BuxWV 212 D. Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707)

*The Complete Organ Works of Dietrich Buxtehude: VI*

*The flowers on the altar are  
given to the Glory of God  
and in loving memory of David Restivo  
by Ed, Pat & Sophie Jenson.*

#### MUSIC NOTES

This week begins our week-long celebration of both the parishes of St. Gabriel's and St. Francis. This Sunday, we are observing the feast of Saint Michael and All Angels, and the next Sunday, we'll observe the feast of Saint Francis. The feast of Saint Michael and All Angels, sometimes called "Michaelmas," is a celebration of the entire host of angels, include the archangel Gabriel. The actual date of Michaelmas is September 29, but we are "transferring" it to Sunday.

All of our hymns will talk about the mysteriousness and beauty of angels, and the opening hymn will even talk about Gabriel, the great herald of Jesus' birth: "Send thine archangel Gabriel, the mighty; herald of heaven, may he, from us mortals, drive every evil, watching o'er the temples where thou art worshiped."

On feast days (Michaelmas, St. Francis Day, All Saints', Christmas, etc.), we'll use both a hymn and the "Alleluia" before the Gospel. The text of the sequence hymn, Round the Lord in glory seated, beautifully articulates the song of the angels before the throne of God — "holy, holy, holy" — and depicts our longing to join the angels in their eternal praise. And the tune ain't bad either!

At communion, we'll sing a brilliant little hymn from The Hymnal, 1940, the predecessor to our current hymnal. The tune, Slane, is well-beloved and beautifully simple — we know this Irish folk tune to the texts Be thou my vision and Lord of all hopefulness. But the text of Angels and ministers, spirits of grace is anything but simple. It unpacks the profundity of this mysterious order of angels. It's a shame that we can't find it in The Hymnal, 1982, but I think that's because we don't celebrate feast days like this one as often as we could. So, I hope you enjoy it as we celebrate the patron saint of our sister parish!

The closing hymn is a favorite, but it isn't necessarily connected to Michaelmas. However, as we think of Saint Gabriel and of our own mission as Christians, I can't think of a better hymn. Check out the third verse: "Send heralds forth to bear the message glorious; give of thy wealth to speed them on their way; pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious till God shall bring his kingdom's joyful day. Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace, tidings of Jesus, redemption and release."

We continue into our sixth week of the complete organ works of Dietrich Buxtehude. At first glance, all four (yes, four!) of Sunday's organ pieces look like they're the same piece. Indeed, they all have the same name, but notice that their numbers are each different. They are four different pieces, but they're all based on the same hymn tune, a Lutheran paraphrase of Psalm 103, a jubilant Psalm in praise to God's majesty. Buxtehude's settings are equally jubilant and joyful. At one point, Psalm 103 praises the angels: "Bless the Lord, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding." (Psalm 103:20). For this reason, Michaelmas' appointed Psalm is a portion of Psalm 103. I'll play two of these settings as the prelude, one of them at the offertory, and one as the postlude. Enjoy, and happy Michaelmas!

- Thomas Alexander

#### COMMUNION NOTES

*A spiritual Communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive holy communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion. Please note elements are being made available, prior to the liturgy, for use at this time. Details can be found in the Lych Gate.*

#### LONG TERM PRAYER LIST:

Addison, Zoey, Courtney, Tom, Harper, Emmanuel, Kimberly, Maureen, Edmonds, Diana, Michael, Tony, Becca, Brian, Christine.

#### **"THE WAY OF ST. FRANCIS: A PERSONAL RETREAT FOR INNER PEACE AND JOY"**

*(in the Midst of the seeming Impossible)"*

**Saturday, October 3, 2020**

**9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

This retreat provides a time of quiet and reflection midst unsettling times.

Come, *experience* the simple, strong Way of St. Francis and learn about the life and experience of a man *in his own words*—rather than those who wrote *about* him.

Please call the church office if you would like to attend. The cost for the retreat is \$10 which covers a bag lunch. Please let the church office know if you have any dietary restrictions.

Dr. Mattie Decker will be leading the retreat and has been practicing the Way of St. Francis for many years—more recently as professor, an educator, a learning specialist and now as a Nature and Forest Therapy Guide working with Conserving Carolina. Mattie is an Oblate with the Community of the Transfiguration in Cincinnati, and now has her home base on the Transfiguration Preserve in Bat Cave, NC. Since coming to western NC from Morehead, KY where she taught for almost 20 years at Morehead State University, she has led retreats at St. Phillip's in Brevard, St. James in Lenoir, and St Andrews in Canton, for the Daughters of the King. She is a member of the Church of the Transfiguration in Bat Cave.