

The Parish Church of St Faith, Great Crosby

The Eucharist on the Feast of St Michael and All Angels



The Gathering

Hymn: 163: Angel Voices

+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

There may be words of welcome, followed by a period of silent reflection.

Prayer of Preparation:

All say:

Almighty God, **to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: 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.

Prayers of Penitence

We have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to myriads of angels, to God, the judge of all, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

A period of silent reflection may follow.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Woe is me, for I am lost;
I am a person of unclean lips.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Our guilt is taken away,
and our sin is forgiven.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

The president pronounces God's love and forgiveness:

May the God of love bring you back to himself,
+forgive you your sins, and assure you of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All sing: The Gloria (Tune: Jerusalem)

**Glory to God in highest heav'n;
Let all creation sing his praise:
Peace to his people on the earth;
Justice and peace are all his ways.
Almighty Father, and our God,
Lord God of hosts, our heav'nly King,
We worship you, we give you thanks,
And to your glory here we sing.**

**Jesus the Father's only Son,
O Lamb that takes our sin away,
Seated beside the Father's throne,
Hear us and save us, as we pray.
For you alone are Lord most high;
You, Jesus Christ, the Holy One;
Now and for ever glorified,
Thrice holy Father, Spirit, Son.**

The Collect

Everlasting God,
you have ordained and constituted
the ministries of angels and mortals
in a wonderful order:
grant that as your holy angels
always serve you in heaven,
so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

All sit

New Testament Reading: Revelation 12:7-12 (War in Heaven)

And 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!'

At the end of the Reading:
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 148

***Response: Praise the Lord from the heavens
and praise him in the heights***

Alleluia.

Praise the Lord from the heavens; •
praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all you his angels; •
praise him, all his host.

***Response: Praise the Lord from the heavens
and praise him in the heights***

Praise him, sun and moon; •
praise him, all you stars of light.

Praise him, heaven of heavens, •
and you waters above the heavens.

***Response: Praise the Lord from the heavens
and praise him in the heights***

Let them praise the name of the Lord, •
for he commanded and they were created.

He made them fast for ever and ever; •
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

***Response: Praise the Lord from the heavens
and praise him in the heights***

Praise the Lord from the earth, •
you sea monsters and all deeps;

Fire and hail, snow and mist, •
tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;

***Response: Praise the Lord from the heavens
and praise him in the heights***

Mountains and all hills, •
fruit trees and all cedars;

Wild beasts and all cattle, •
creeping things and birds on the wing;

***Response: Praise the Lord from the heavens
and praise him in the heights***

Kings of the earth and all peoples, •
princes and all rulers of the world;

Young men and women,
old and young together; •
let them praise the name of the Lord.

***Response: Praise the Lord from the heavens
and praise him in the heights***

For his name only is exalted, •
his splendour above earth and heaven.

He has raised up the horn of his people
and praise for all his faithful servants, •
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Alleluia.

***Response: Praise the Lord from the heavens
and praise him in the heights***

Epistle: Hebrews 1: 5-14 (The Son superior to all the angels)

For to which of the angels did God ever say,
'You are my Son;
today I have begotten you'?

Or again,
‘I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son’?
And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,
‘Let all God’s angels worship him.’
Of the angels he says,
‘He makes his angels winds,
and his servants flames of fire.’
But of the Son he says,
‘Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever,
and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom.
You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.’
And,
‘In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;
like a cloak you will roll them up,
and like clothing they will be changed.
But you are the same,
and your years will never end.’
But to which of the angels has he ever said,
‘Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet’?
Are not all angels spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake
of those who are to inherit salvation?

At the end of the Reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia,
Bless the Lord, all you his hosts,
you ministers of his who do his will
Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
(John 1:47-end) (*The Angels of God Ascending and Descending on
the Son of Man*) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

At the end of the Gospel:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

All stand for:

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.

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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who 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.

The Prayers

Prayers of intercession and thanksgiving are offered.

The prayers may end in the following way:

Father in heaven,

the angels sing by day and night around your throne:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty.’

With Michael, prince of the angels, who contends by our side,

with Gabriel, your herald, who brings glad tidings,

with Raphael, the protector, who ministers your healing,

and with the whole company of heaven,

we worship you, we give you glory,

we sing your praise and exalt you for ever.

Amen.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Hear again the song of the angels:

‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.’

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn: 321: Christ, the Fair Glory

Preparation of the Table and Taking of the Bread and Wine

God of glory,

as you appointed angels

to minister in your presence,

so may all our worship bring you worthy praise:

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks,

Lord, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

you reveal your wise purpose for the salvation of the human race by assigning to the angels and archangels the ministry of your steadfast love and protection.

While they contemplate your glory, standing before you and singing your praise, they keep a faithful vigil for us, guarding us along the way that leads to life, and guiding us towards the kingdom of your light.

In joyful gladness we unite our voices with theirs and sing the ageless hymn of your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup
and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:

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.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and
looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we
bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the

Blessed Virgin Mary, St Faith, Michael, prince of the angels, who
contends by our side, Gabriel, your herald, who brings glad

tidings, Raphael, the protector, who ministers your healing, all the angels and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

All kneel or sit for:

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread saying:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei

All sing:

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us;
Jesus, Bearer of our Sins, have mercy on us;
Jesus, Redeemer of the World; grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

I heard a great multitude crying, Alleluia!

The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.

**Blessed are those who are called to the supper of
the Lamb.**

Communion Hymn: 246: Just as I am

*At the distribution of communion, the minister says to each
communicant:*

The Body of Christ

The Blood of Christ *and each responds: **Amen.***

After Communion, silence is kept and then the Angelus is rung.

Prayer After Communion

All stand.

Lord of heaven, in this Eucharist, you have brought us near to
an innumerable company of angels

and to the spirits of the saints made perfect:

as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage

we have shared their fellowship, so we may come to share
their joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

Hymn: 532: Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

Blessing:

God keep you in the fellowship of his saints;
Christ protect you by the ministry of the angels;
the Spirit make you holy in God's service;
and the blessing of God almighty,
+the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia
Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia

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