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ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
118 State Street ♦ Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 12, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *Aubade* Edward Broughton
GATHERING HYMN
O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come ELW 610
HYMN OF THE DAY
There Is a Balm in Gilead ELW 614
CHOIR ANTHEM *We Are Called* David Haas
COMMUNION HYMN *Come, Let Us Eat* ELW 491
SENDING HYMN
Go, My Children, with My Blessing ELW 543
POSTLUDE *Peace to all Nations* Humphrey Turner

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister The Reverend Larry Hawkins
Director of Music Daniel W. Deitzel III
Assisting Minister Guy Kehler
Eucharistic Minister Floyd Eberly
Cantor Sue Will
Acolyte Louise Palmer
Lector Karyl Hawkins
Bannerbearer Les Van Dam
Greeters Lloyd and Shirley Kramer
Ushers Greg Darr and Clair Gunnet
Altar Guild John and Susan Wesley
Offering Counters Mike Ennis and Elizabeth Parker



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP

Divine Physician, healer of bodies and souls, stretch out your hand and touch us. Cleanse our hearts from the sin that separates us from you and one another. Recreate us in your own image, and restore us in Christ, so that we may run the race and receive the prize of everlasting life. Amen.

We come to you in prayer, rejoicing in your sovereignty, faithfulness and love. Inspire us to always strive for spiritual excellence as an athlete trains and competes for less enduring laurels. Lift before us the values which will truly endure forever. Give us courage and strength to make your values the priority of our lives. Amen.

WORSHIP NOTES

The leper is confident in Jesus' power to heal. Naaman, on the other hand, is comically hard to convince that he can be healed by such an unlikely foreigner as Elisha, who directs him to wash in such a sorry excuse for a river as the Jordan. Jesus' healing power is here among us in the ordinary water of the font, in the ordinary bread, in the ordinary people who make up the body of Christ. We would be well-advised to take the advice of the least powerful among us (like the servant girl in Naaman's household) if we want to find the one who will heal us.

Persons with impairments - St. Michael offers to those with any type of hearing difficulty a small, remote personal speaker which provides the user an amplified, high quality audio of the entire service. We invite our guests who may have the need for such an accommodation to ask an usher for a personal speaker. (They are available upon entering the Nave.) We welcome any comments concerning St. Michael's efforts to accommodate persons with impairments or disabilities.

As part of our stewardship of the earth God has created for us, we are using our worship bulletins for a complete season of the church year. Please remove the worship service section and place it in the basket provided in the narthex. You may take this cover and the readings insert. Thank you for helping to conserve our natural resources and allowing the cost of paper to be redirected to other areas of ministry.

An enlarged copy of the bulletin is available. Please see an usher if you would like to use one.

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27

²⁴Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. ²⁵Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one. ²⁶So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; ²⁷but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

GOSPEL

MARK 1:40-45

⁴⁰A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, "If you choose, you can make me clean." ⁴¹Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, "I do choose. Be made clean!" ⁴²Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. ⁴³After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, ⁴⁴saying to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." ⁴⁵But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

PSALM

PSALM 30

The refrain is sung by the choir, repeated by the assembly. The psalm is sung antiphonally by the cantor and assembly, beginning with the cantor. The assembly sings the refrain where marked.



¹I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lift-¹ed me up
and have not let my enemies triumph¹ over me.

²**O LORD my God, I cried¹ out to you,
and you restored¹ me to health.**

³You brought me up, O LORD,¹ from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down¹ to the grave.

⁴**Sing praise to the LORD,¹ all you faithful;
give thanks in ho-¹ly remembrance. R**

⁵God's wrath is short; God's favor¹ lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes¹ in the morning.

⁶**While I felt se-¹cure, I said,
"I shall never¹ be disturbed.**

⁷You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong¹ as the mountains."
Then you hid your face, and I was¹ filled with fear.

⁸**I cried to¹ you, O LORD;
I pleaded with¹ my Lord, saying,**

⁹"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down¹ to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or de-¹clare your faithfulness?

¹⁰**Hear, O LORD, and have mer-¹cy upon me;
O LORD,¹ be my helper." R**

¹¹You have turned my wailing¹ into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed¹ me with joy.

¹²**Therefore my heart sings to you¹ without ceasing;
O LORD my God, I will give you¹ thanks forever. R**

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Executive Committee Meeting	Today at 11:15 a.m.
Lunch and Theater	Today at 12:30 p.m.
Helping Hands Ministry	Today at 4:00 p.m.
Candy Making	Monday at 10:00 a.m.
Congregation Council Meeting	Monday at 6:00 p.m.
Candy Making	Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.
Deadline for <i>Archangel</i> news for March	Wednesday
Candy Making	Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.
Helping Hands Ministry	Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal	Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Pastor Hawkins' Day Off	Thursday
Helping Hands Ministry	Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m.

By water and the Spirit we are baptized into the body of Christ and made members of his church. We remember and rejoice with those who celebrate their baptismal anniversaries this week: Alison Bell on February 12; and Brianna Cobough on February 14.

Readings for the *Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 19*, are:

- 2 Kings 2:1-12
- Psalm 50:1-6
- 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
- Mark 9:2-9

There will be a brief meeting of the Executive Committee immediately after worship. Committee members should plan to stay for this meeting.

Office hours this week will be Monday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. The office will be closed on Friday, February 17 and Monday, February 19. Office hours next week will be Tuesday and Friday (9:00—2:00).

Next Sunday, February 19, is the *Transfiguration of Our Lord*. On this day, the *Alleluia* Banner will be removed from our nave until Easter. Households are needed to care for the *Alleluia* banner during Lent. If you would like to keep the *Alleluia* hidden, but safe, in faith, please sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

On *Ash Wednesday*, February 22, St. Michael will host the Downtown Lutheran Churches for the 7:00 p.m. service. At 6:00 p.m. we will serve a light supper of soup and dessert. If you can donate home made soup or dessert, contact Lindsay at 234-6644 or lmills266@comcast.net. The offering from the Ash Wednesday service will go to the food pantry at Messiah Lutheran Church.

The Lenten midweek lite suppers (6:00 p.m.) and evening prayer (7:00 p.m.) will begin on Wednesday, February 29. If you would like to provide the meal for one of the Lenten Wednesdays, please sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

The book study, Making Sense of the Cross, will begin at *Soul Food* on Sunday, February 26 and continue each Wednesday evening of Lent. A limited number of books are available for the study. Cost is \$13.00. You are encouraged to get a copy of the book and read each chapter before the session.

Please join the Ministry To Society Committee on Sunday, March 25th, for a bowling party at ABC East located on Eisenhower Blvd. Bowling begins at 1:00 and includes three games with shoes for \$10.00/person. Good news to all ... there's a snack bar and lounge available so nobody has to worry about cooking or bringing snacks. Just bring yourself. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. The afternoon is sure to be fun as well as entertaining. For questions please see Cheryl Smith or Susan Wesley.

There is a new Helping Hands Ministries sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Please offer your time to do what Jesus tells us—*"feed my sheep"*. Sundays and Wednesdays from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Please see Mike Ennis or Lindsay Mills with any questions about this congregational ministry.

Helping Hands Ministries has posted a "wish list" on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Please consider donating some of these items to help feed the hungry.

There is still time to order Girl Scout Cookies from the troop sponsored by St. Michael. An order form is on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Orders placed after January 20 will be available for pick up after February 17. Shirley Morales, Girl Scout Leader, says the cookies will be brought to St. Michael's on Girl Scout Sunday, March 11.

Altar flowers and bulletins are sponsored to the Glory of God and in memory of Helen Holman Kehler by Guy Kehler and Lindsay Mills.

Fellowship hour is sponsored to the Glory of God and in honor of Valentine's Day by Keni Atticks and Jackie Harm.

We remember the following members and friends of St. Michael in prayer this week: Monserrate Garcia (Maria Archer's mom), Pat Ennis Groeninger (Mike Ennis' sister), Pat Harm and Diana Pate.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY February 12, 2012

FIRST READING

2 KINGS 5:1-14

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. ²Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." ⁴So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵And the king of Aram said, "Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. ⁶He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy." ⁷When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

⁸But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." ¹¹But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean?'" ¹⁴So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.