



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Christ-Centered Community of Practice Awaking to the Abiding Presence of God

February 23, 2025

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

"Adoration"

Florence Price

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Announcements, a period of silence is kept. Please stand when you hear the music for the first hymn.

HYMN IN PROCESSION

The Hymnal, 390

Hymn printed on next page

Descant

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -
 1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with
 a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend - thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound — from his
 health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.
 or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971). Descant, Copyright © 1953, Novello and Company Limited. Used by permission.

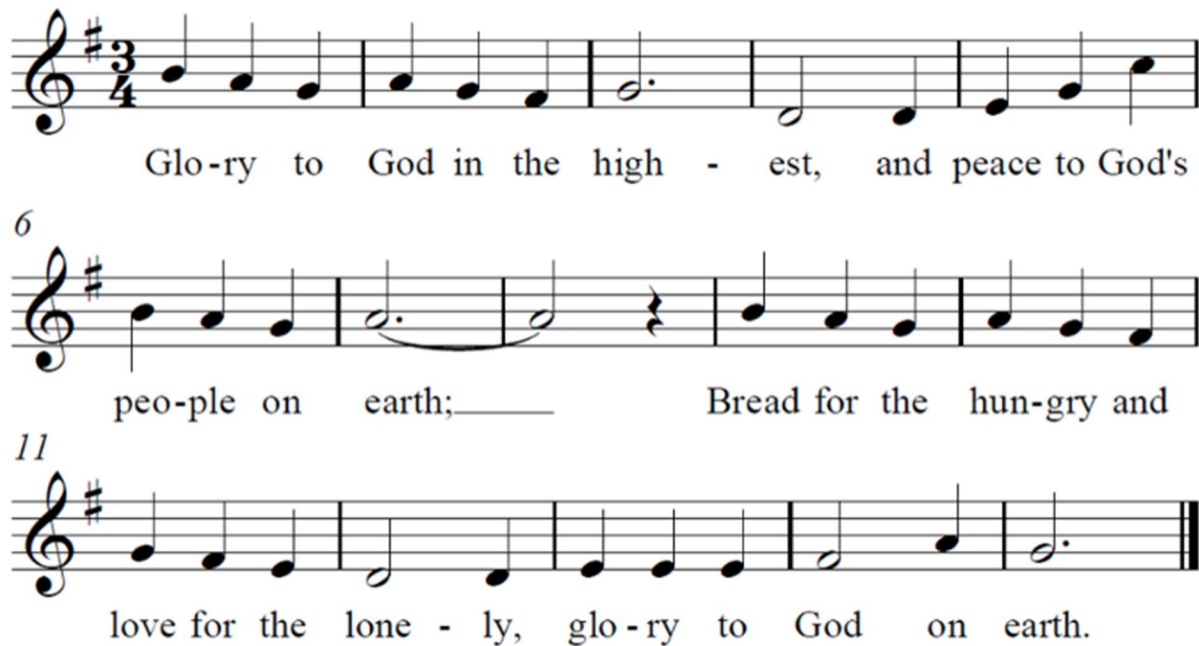
ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen

COLLECT FOR 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.**

SONG OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's
6
peo-ple on earth; Bread for the hun-gry and
11
love for the lone - ly, glo - ry to God on earth.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WE PROCLAIM AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Genesis 45: 3-11, 15

Following the Lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 37: 1-12, 41-42

1

Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

2

For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.

3

Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

4

Take delight in the LORD, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.

5

Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.

6

He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.

7

Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.

8

Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

9

Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

10

For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.

11

In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.

12

But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.

41

But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

42

The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.

A READING FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Following the Lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
Thanks be to God.

1 Fa - ther all lov - ing, who rul - est in ma - jes - ty,
 2 Bless - ed Lord Je - sus, who cam - est in pov - er - ty,
 3 Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, cre - ate in us ho - li - ness,
 4 Ho - li - est Trin - i - ty, per - fect in u - ni - ty,
 judg - ment is thine, and con - demn - eth our pride;
 shar - ing a sta - ble with beasts at thy birth,
 lift up our lives to thy stand - ard of right;
 bind in thy love ev - ery na - tion and race;
 stir up our lead - ers and peo - ples to pen - i - tence,
 stir us to work for thy jus - tice and char - i - ty,
 stir ev - ery will to new ven - tures of faith - ful - ness,
 may we a - dore thee for time and e - ter - ni - ty,
 sor - row for sins that for ven - geance have cried.
 tru - ly to care for the poor of the earth.
 flood the whole Church with thy glo - ri - ous light.
 Fa - ther, Re - deem - er, and Spi - rit of grace.

Words: Patrick Robert Norman Appleford (b. 1925), alt. By permission of The United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.
 Music: *Was lebet*, melody from *Choral-Buch vor Johann Heinrich Reinhardt*, 1754; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

Preceding the Gospel...

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6: 27-38

Following the Gospel...

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Mary Lindquist

After the sermon a period of silence is kept

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:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

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 worshiped 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

WE PRAY FOR GOD'S CREATION, FOR THE WORLD, AND FOR THE CHURCH

The Leader bids us to pray for the sick and suffering, for those who have asked for our prayer, for those who rejoice in life events and for those who have died.

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

THE CONFESSION

Silence may be kept.

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 Priest stands and says

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

THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Following the Peace, the Celebrant recites a sentence from Holy Scripture; all prepare for the Holy Eucharist.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION TOGETHER

ANTHEM

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

arr. Elliot Schenck

All stand to sing

OFFERTORY HYMN

Hymn is printed on next page.

The Hymnal, 304

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near and to
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

OFFERING

During the hymn, ushers pass the offering plates. Representatives from the parish bring the people's offerings of food bread and wine for the Eucharist, and money for mission and ministry to the Altar. You may also make a donation online at www.stmichaelsvermont.org under "Give" & "Give Online." Our ministry at St. Michael's depends on your generosity. Please consider making a donation or a pledge.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people remain standing. The Celebrant says

May God 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 our thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe,
 you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you forever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar

space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The Presider praises God for God's creation and love. Then all sing the Sanctus together:

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. _____

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and give it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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

Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.

Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

The Presider asks the Holy Spirit to consecrate the bread and the wine to be God's holy food.

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

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.

BREAD IS BROKEN

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread, and all sing



The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Like bread in the de-sert, You nour-ish our lives, We". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "sing your praise, al - le - lu - ia!". The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

Celebrant: Behold what we are.

People: **May we become what we receive.**

BREAD AND WINE ARE SHARED

Invitation to Receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion

At St. Michael's, we believe that God's love is unconditional. We welcome all people and we affirm the worth, dignity, and gifts of every person as a beloved child of God. In our celebration of the Eucharist, there is no one here who is ineligible or unwelcome; no one who has too many doubts or too few beliefs. This is the table of a loving God set for all creation through the power of Jesus Christ.

You, who are part of that creation, are welcome.

Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. If you would like either, please indicate that preference to the liturgical minister.

Receive the Bread in your open palm followed by the Common Cup, taking the cup by its base and guiding it to your lips. You may also receive the Bread only, with arms folded over your chest afterwards. Or if you wish to come to the Altar for a blessing only, please fold your arms over your chest.

WE ARE SENT AND GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
You have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
And grant us strength and courage
To love and serve you
With gladness and singleness of heart;
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

HYMN

The Hymnal, 657

Hymn is printed on next page.

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

DISMISSAL

Response: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

"Jubilate"

Fela Sowande

PARTICIPANTS TODAY

10: 15 The Rev. Mary Lindquist, preacher; *The Rev. adwoa Wilson*, celebrant *The Rev. Lars Hunter*, deacon; *Annie Landenberger*, lay assistant; *Paul Gallagher* and *Ann Ely*, readers and element bearers; *Carol Hesselbach*, intercessor; *Craig Irvine* and *Ricky Davidson*, chalice; *Elizabeth Freese* and *Sherry Stimmel*, ushers; *Margit Lilly*, healing minister; *Alan and Judith McBean*, coffee hour host; *Rebecca Olmstead* and *Lindsey Boss*, Altar Guild.

Altar flowers today are in honor of Bruce and Marie Lawrence's children and grandchildren.

At St. Michael's we believe that God's love is unconditional. We welcome all people and we affirm the worth, dignity, and gifts of every person as a beloved child of God.

All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.

- **WELCOME TO VISITORS!** All are welcome at this table. If you have any questions about the liturgy, location of the bathrooms, or anything else, please ask one of the ushers or greeters. Thank you for joining us today.
- **TO RECEIVE THE RITE OF HEALING:** Trained lay healing ministers are available in the chapel to pray with you individually before or after you receive communion. A healing minister will say prayers, lay her or his hands upon you, and anoint you with consecrated oil. You can come for yourself, for another person, for a need or for a thanksgiving. Please ask ushers for assistance if you have questions.
- **GLUTEN FREE WAFERS AND GRAPE JUICE** are available for Communion at both 8:00 am and 10: 15 services. Please make yourselves known to the priest when you come up for Communion.
- **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE!** There are clipboards with paper and crayons, as well as activity bags with coloring books at the back of the Sanctuary for children who are interested in coloring or drawing during the service. Feel free to come in and out of the worship area as needed with your children! Please ask an usher if you need assistance.

ST. MICHAEL'S WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Morning Prayer, 8-8:30 am, Monday-Friday, on Zoom, Tuesday-Thursday in-person the Chapel

Bible Study, 8:30-10 am, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays at The Works, Main St, Brattleboro

Centering Prayer, 11:30-11:55 am, Wednesday in the Chapel

Centering Prayer, 4-5 pm, Wednesday in the Chapel

Eucharist with the Saints, 12 noon-12:30, Wednesday in the Chapel

Contemplative Worship, 5:30-6:00 pm, Thursday in the Chapel, in-person and on Zoom

Centering Prayer, 8 am, Saturday in the Chapel

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to *Judy Davidson*, today; *Paul Love* and *Charlene Kemp*, Wednesday; *Leigh Marthe*, Friday; *Asa Taggart*, February 29 (Leap day!).

ADULT FORUM TODAY: The Forum meets on Sunday morning from 9-10 in the Meeting Room. All are welcome to join in the learning opportunity.

- **Today:. Beginnings**
What are the ways in which our spiritual life does/doesn't start in our childhood? Come reflect and learn from each other and give voice to our early experiences. Lead by Janet Cramer and John Daly.

- **Next Sunday, February 23: Approaching Our Final Years**

To what do we need to pay attention as we enter the final years of our lives? What can we do now that will make it easier for our loved ones when we die? Led by **Rob Szpila**, founder of “The Passing On,” a consulting service working with people as they look at the end of their lives. Rob lives in Brattleboro, is theologically trained and has worked with people of all ages including: Brattleboro Retreat, Turning Point. Brattleboro Area Hospice and Big Brother and Big Sisters.

RESPONDING IN FAITH TO CURRENT EVENTS: TODAY after the 10:15 service

Last week a good sized and energetic group met on Zoom to begin discussing how St Michael's can and should engage with the increasing threats against our faith. We will continue the discussion this week after the 10:15 in the Meeting Room. Please join the conversation and planning. Jeff Lewis and Judy Davidson.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AVAILABLE

In response to recent requests to make our worship materials a bit easier to read for those who need it, we have begun producing a small number of large-print bulletins for Sunday mornings. We have tried this before and it has not always been obvious how many are needed. As we experiment with font size and numbers to print, please let us know what is working or not working for you! It'll be a bit of trial and error at first, but we'll get it right with your patience! Email Susie Webster-Toleno with your feedback as it occurs to you.

parishadmin@stmichaelsvermont.org

GETTING TO KNOW THE PIPE ORGAN: MARCH 2

You hear the pipe organ played every Sunday at the 10:15am worship service, but have you ever wondered how it works? What do all those buttons do? Why do you have to wear special shoes to play it?

On **Sunday March 2 after the 10:15am service** after you've grabbed a bite to eat at coffee hour, meet at the organ in the back of the sanctuary (around 11:50am or so) for a demonstration of how the organ works with our Director of Music, Keane Southard. You can also ask any questions you might have and even try pressing some buttons and playing some notes yourself! No musical experience needed, all ages welcome!

SKYBERRY HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY UPCOMING EVENTS

Food and Thought, Fridays 12-1 Join us in our learning as a community while breaking bread together. These intimate gatherings are open to the greater community. If you or a friend is curious about being a **skyberry Host**, this is a great way to begin a relationship with our work and volunteers. We will explore a variety of themes including hospitality, culture care, peace, prayer, and local action with the unhoused community facilitated by a different thought-filled leader each week. A simple lunch will be provided.

Feb. 28th: Spirituality for an Anxious Age

RSVP houseskyberry@gmail.com by the Thursday before the Friday you are interested in joining us for Food and Thought. **Cocoa and Tea: Sunday's at the Brattleboro Transit Center with our unhoused neighbors.** Volunteer with us to make and share warm drinks alongside a long standing meal distribution. **Sunday afternoons 2:30-4:00.** Prep to take place before distribution.

TAG SALE NEWS Donations are open for many items for the St. Michael's Terrific Tag Sale, scheduled for Sat., May 3. This year we will be raising funds to support Loaves and Fishes and the Family Fund at the Prouty Center for young children.

The following items will be accepted starting on Feb. 16th: clothing and shoes, jewelry, linens, housewares, books (NO TEXTBOOKS!), and puzzles (no furniture or large items until April). All items should be clean and in good condition. Donations may be left inside the Tag Sale donation closets, which are located in the downstairs back hallway near the parking lot.

One closet is for clothing and linens, the other is for housewares. Books should be placed in the Undercroft under the tables and bookshelves at the back, next to the stage. Please be sure to read our donation guidelines which are also posted on the donation closet doors.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Liz Vick at 802-579-5536 or ebethvick@gmail.com. Thank you!