

8:00 a.m. – Service of the Word and Sacrament

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

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**Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

**January 26, 2025**

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**Divine Service Setting I**

**Prelude** *"The Heavens Declare Your Glory, Lord"* *arr. by Phil Lehenbauer*

**Welcome, Announcements & Greetings**

**Opening Hymn** *"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"* **528**  
(verses 1-3, 5)

**Confession** **151**

**Kyrie** *"Lord, Have Mercy"* **152**

**Absolution** **151**

**Hymn of Praise** *"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"* **528**  
(verses 4, 6-7)

**Old Testament Reading** Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (NIV)

All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel. So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read. Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

**Lector:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a (NIV)

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. And yet I will show you the most excellent way.

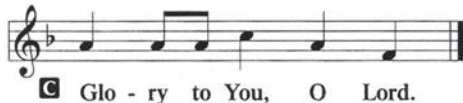
Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the fourth chapter.

People:



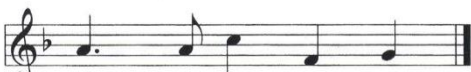
## Holy Gospel

Luke 4:16-30 (NIV)

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked. Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’” “Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.” All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove

him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

Lector: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People:   
Praise to You, O Christ.

## Children's Message

## Hymn of the Day

*"Preserve Your Word, O Savior"*

**658**

## Sermon

*Pastor Jon Zehnder*

To watch and listen to last week's sermon online at [www.smlcs.org](http://www.smlcs.org), scroll down to the bottom and click on "Watch the Live Stream."

## Sermon Outline:

*This space is available for sermon notes.*

## Offering

*"We All Believe in One True God"*

**953**

*A special stewardship note to our guests: the ministries and work of Saint Michael Lutheran Church are supported by the generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends as they steward God's gifts. You are our GUEST today. Please do not feel compelled or pressured to make a contribution.*

Online contributions and donations can be made by clicking this link: [tinyurl.com/SMLGiving](http://tinyurl.com/SMLGiving).  
You may also mail your offerings to the church office: 3595 Broadway, Ft. Myers, FL 33901.

## Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

### Service of the Sacrament

<b>Preface</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>Sanctus</b> ~ <i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i>	<b>161</b>
<b>The Words of Institution</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Agnus Dei</b> ~ <i>Lamb of God</i>	<b>163</b>
<b>Distribution</b>	<b>164</b>

### Distribution Hymns

*"O Christ, Our True and Only Light"* **839**

*"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"* **398**

### Blessing

### Closing Hymn

*"The Heavens Declare Your Glory, Lord"*

*see insert*

### Postlude

