



St. Michael and All Angels  
Episcopal Church

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: PROPER 17**  
**SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 AT 9:00AM**

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|--|-------------|
| <b>Opening:</b> Freedom is Coming                | Gather #814 |
| <b>Offertory:</b> All Who Hunger Gather Gladly   | Gather #925 |
| <b>Communion Hymn:</b> Bread of Life from Heaven | Gather #943 |
| <b>Closing Hymn:</b> O God of Every Nation       | Gather #825 |

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**A READING OF THE BOOK OF SONG OF SOLOMON**      Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Listen! It's my lover: here he comes now, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag. Here he stands now, outside our wall, peering through the windows, peeking through the lattices. My lover spoke and said to me, "Rise up, my dearest, my fairest, and go. Here, the winter is past; the rains have come and gone. Blossoms have appeared in the land; the season of singing has arrived, and the sound of the turtledove is heard in our land. The green fruit is on the fig tree, and the grapevines in bloom are fragrant. Rise up, my dearest, my fairest, and go.

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

A most mar - vel - ous word has stirred my heart As I  
men - tion my work to the Ru - ler. For my tongue is the pen of a nimble scribe.

You are the most handsome of men.  
Grace has been poured out on your lips.  
No wonder God has blessed you forever.

Go and succeed in your grandeur.  
Ride on behalf of truth, humility, and righteousness.  
Let your strong hand perform awesome deeds.

### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JAMES

James 1:17-27

Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all. He chose to give us birth by his true word, and here is the result: we are like the first crop from the harvest of everything he created. Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry. This is because an angry person doesn't produce God's righteousness. Therefore, with humility, set aside all moral filth and the growth of wickedness, and welcome the word planted deep inside you—the very word that is able to save you. You must be doers of the word and not only hearers who mislead themselves. Those who hear but don't do the word are like those who look at their faces in a mirror. They look at themselves, walk away, and immediately forget what they were like. But there are those who study the perfect law, the law of freedom, and continue to do it. They don't listen and then forget, but they put it into practice in their lives. They will be blessed in whatever they do. If those who claim devotion to God don't control what they say, they mislead themselves. Their devotion is worthless. True devotion, the kind that is pure and faultless before God the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their difficulties and to keep the world from contaminating us.

*Reader*  
**People**

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

# THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK

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

Mark 7:1-8,14-15, 21-23

The Pharisees and some legal experts from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus. They saw some of his disciples eating food with unclean hands. (They were eating without first ritually purifying their hands through washing. The Pharisees and all the Jews don't eat without first washing their hands carefully. This is a way of observing the rules handed down by the elders. Upon returning from the marketplace, they don't eat without first immersing themselves. They observe many other rules that have been handed down, such as the washing of cups, jugs, pans, and sleeping mats.) So the Pharisees and legal experts asked Jesus, "Why are your disciples not living according to the rules handed down by the elders but instead eat food with ritually unclean hands?" He replied, "Isaiah really knew what he was talking about when he prophesied about you hypocrites. He wrote, This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far away from me. Their worship of me is empty since they teach instructions that are human words. You ignore God's commandment while holding on to rules created by humans and handed down to you." Then Jesus called the crowd again and said, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing outside of a person can enter and contaminate a person in God's sight; rather, the things that come out of a person contaminate the person. It's from the inside, from the human heart, that evil thoughts come: sexual sins, thefts, murders, adultery, greed, evil actions, deceit, unrestrained immorality, envy, insults, arrogance, and foolishness. All these evil things come from the inside and contaminate a person in God's sight."

*Gospeler*      The Gospel of our Savior.

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

## SERMON

The Rev. Mike Angell

*Please be seated at the invitation of the Preacher.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*More information on upcoming events can be found at [stmichaelsabq.org/info](http://stmichaelsabq.org/info)*

**OPEN MEETING OF THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE TODAY** As we did back in April, the Worship Committee will meet in an open session during the 10:15am forum time. We will ask for your feedback about the worship changes from this summer (Bible translations, bulletin format, inclusive language discussions). We will also talk about how we will honor Hispanic Heritage month and other worship possibilities for the fall. Join us!

**NEWCOMERS CLASS BEGINS SEPTEMBER 11** Our Fall newcomers class will meet on Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. We will begin on September 11 with a potluck dinner. All are welcome! This is a great class for folks who are new to St. Michael's, those who are considering confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation, those who love to learn, and those who wonder why we do what we do! If you have any questions, please talk to Mike. Sign up is available online and in the Narthex. If you are interested in participating on the newcomers ministry support team this fall, please be in touch with Mike ([mangell@stmichaelsabq.org](mailto:mangell@stmichaelsabq.org))

**THE CLASSICS SENIOR MINISTRY** will be holding its September get-together off-site, on Thursday, September 12 at 12:30 pm. This will take place at the "Albuquerque Downs Turf-Club – 3rd Floor at the Race Track (just show-up....no reservation needed & there is a \$10 admission fee). Bruce Thesenga is heading up this event, so if you have any questions or need additional information....please contact him at: [brucethesenga@msn.com](mailto:brucethesenga@msn.com).

**EUCHARIST FOR THE HOMEBOUND** This Fall we are relaunching our Lay Eucharistic Ministry, and we are compiling a list of home-bound persons who wish to receive Holy Eucharist. If you know of anyone in need of this ministry, please contact the church office at 505-345-8147 or Jim Leonard, LEM Coordinator, at 505.217.5539 (voice /text).

**FOOD PANTRY REQUESTS DONATIONS** As you are able, please pickup peanut butter, canned vegetables, or canned fruit and leave it in the baskets in the Narthex on Sundays, or in the box marked "food pantry" in the front office Monday through Thursday from 9am to 3pm. Paper grocery bags and egg cartons are always still welcome, as are new volunteers. Thanks to all for the help this summer season as we feed an average of 235 people per week!

**ENNEAGRAM COURSE** There are still spots available for the course "Spiritual Growth and the Enneagram." If you're interested contact Paul Hanneman at [pahcnc1949@gmail.com](mailto:pahcnc1949@gmail.com)