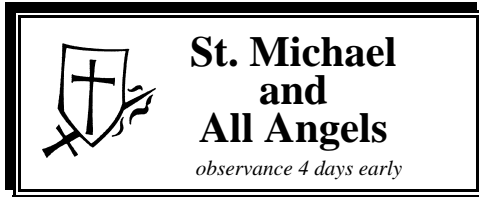


Worship bookmark and guide
for the



September 25, 2016

Service of the Word

This bookmark complements the worship instructions in the order of service.

Congregation actions are in bold, on this bookmark and in the hymnal.

i **Opening Hymn:** (197)

Start on page 38

Prayer of the Day (page 39)

i **Be Seated**

First Lesson - on the back bulletin cover

M: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Turn to page 100

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 91

Sing the verses as directed.

All sing the Refrains & Glory be to the Father.

Return to page 40

Second Lesson - on the back bulletin cover

M: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

i Verse of the Day - Read by the minister
All sing: These words are written .. p. 40

Gospel - on the back bulletin cover

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.
All sing: Praise be to you, O Christ! p. 40

i Children's Blessing - on the back of this bookmark - Children come forward

Hymn of the Day: (726)

Sermon

i **Return to page 41**

The Apostles' Creed (page 41)

i Offering

i Offering Hymn : (241) v. 4

Return to page 42

Prayer of the Church (page 42)

LORD'S PRAYER - left column (page 43)

Closing Hymn: (196)

Silent prayer

Announcements

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

It is the custom on the Festival of St. Michael and All Angels to celebrate Jesus' tender loving care for our little one. Parents are invited to bring their young children forward and have them blessed by the Lord – confident of Jesus' promise to send his holy angels to protect His children.

M: Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ said, "See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven" *Matthew 18:10-11*. Mindful of our Father's care of the young, we offer prayer on behalf of the young children gathered with us on this festival of St. Michael and All Angels' Day.

Parents are now invited to bring their young children forward for prayer and the laying on of hands.

Parents and children come forward

Hear these words from the Gospel according to St. Mark:

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was displeased. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who does not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.



Let us pray: Father in heaven, bless these parents that they may cherish the children entrusted to them. Make them wise and understanding, enable their children to grow in grace and knowledge of you, and surround their families with the light of your truth, the protection of your holy angels and the warmth of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The minister then blesses each of the children in turn.

M: (*Name of child*), the Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, strengthen in you the gift of the Holy Spirit and bring you safely into his heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray: Almighty God, look with favor upon these children; grant that, being nourished with all goodness, they may grow in faith and life until they come to the full stature of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.