Service Insert

for the Festival of Michael & All Angels September 29, 2024

THE INTROIT (after the Absolution)

Psalm 103:20-21; Psalm 103:1

(Antiphon) BLESS THE Lord, you His angels who excel | in strength, *

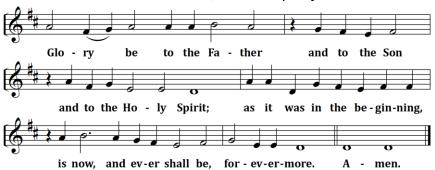
Who do His word, heeding the voice | of His word.

Bless the Lord, all you | His hosts, *

You ministers of His, who do | His pleasure.



Bless the Lord, O | my soul; *
And all that is within me, bless His | holy name!



P (Antiphon)

THE GRADUAL & VERSE (after the Epistle)

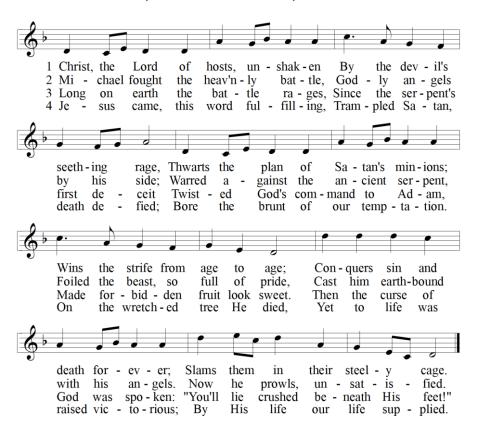
Ps. 91:11; 103:1; Is. 6:3

- P For He shall give His angels charge o- | ver you, * To keep you in | all your ways.
- Bless the Lord, O | my soul; *
 And all that is within me, bless His | holy name!
- P Alle- | luia! *
 Al- | leluia!
- And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; *

The whole earth is full of His glory!" Al- | leluia!



Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken



5 Swift as lightning falls the tyrant From his heav'nly perch on high, As the word of Jesus' vict'ry Floods the earth and fills the sky. Wounded by a wound eternal, Now his judgment has drawn nigh! 6 Jesus, send Your angel legions When the foe would us enslave. Hold us fast when sin assaults us; Come, then, Lord, Your people save. Overthrow at last the dragon; Send him to his fiery grave.

THE PURPOSE OF TODAY'S FESTIVAL

from Martin Chemnitz, Loci Theologici: A Treatise on Angels

From antiquity the church year, for very good reasons, has been divided into certain festivals, in order that the chief articles of the Christian doctrine can be taught to the people in a definite order and inculcated by annual repetition. Thus the festival of the holy angels has also been established. This was done, first, in order that there might be a set time in which the doctrine of the angels might be publicly taught and repeated each year. Second, that in the regular church services consideration might be given to the benefits bestowed upon us all year through the mediation and protection of the holy angels. In Ps. 34:7 mention is made of the benefits we receive from them. And, third, this was done that we should give thanks that God, who is offended with our sins and ingratitude, yet does not take away from us the ministry and care of His holy angels. Fourth, it was done that we might pray that God would strengthen and preserve us ever more under the protection of His angels. For just as a certain day of the year was set aside for a consideration of the exodus from Egypt, so that it should never be forgotten, so also our ancestors have instituted the same practice regarding the angels, so that we should never overlook this doctrine and its benefits.

But because Scripture has spoken of certain angels by name, such as Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, we have a feast called the feast of the angel Michael, in order that by this very name itself we should be instructed in the most important things to be learned in this life about angels and what we ought to believe and know about them.

For example, in regard to Michael the Scriptures tell how he fought against the dragon and his angels on behalf of the church, Rev. 12:7 and Jude 9, and how he was sent to minister in the affairs of the government in Dan. 10:13, 21, and 12:1.

Thus the festival of Michael instructs us to teach about evil and good angels. We should also teach how Satan "walks about as a roaring lion," 1 Peter 5:8, and how the good angels "encamp around them that fear the Lord," Ps. 34:7.

This kind of instruction is given to us in such festivals and is useful and necessary so that we can sanctify the Sabbath in accord with the Third Commandment.

OPENING HYMN

TLH #257 - Jesus Brightness of the Father

HYMN (after the Creed)

TLH #254 - Lord God We All to Thee Give Praise

HYMN (after General Prayer)

Christ, the Lord of Hosts (inside this folder)

TLH #305 - Soul Adorn Thyself with Gladness

Epistle: Revelation 12:7-12 **Gospel:** Matthew 18:1-11

EVENTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE...

Wed., Oct. 2 - Vespers, 6:30 PM Sun., Oct. 6 - Bible class, 9 AM

- Divine Service, 10:15 AM (Trinity 19)