



St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii



WORSHIP GUIDE

2025-2026

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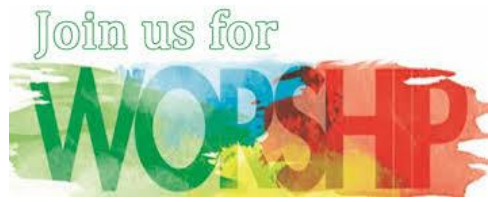


St. Michael's Approach to Worship – General Comments

Worship at St. Michael's, at its foundation, is a communal activity. The core of our faith and worship life rests at the altar and the gathering of community to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. This is the source of life and nourishes all that we do as followers of Christ; it shapes and forms our fellowship and empowers us to reach out and care for those in our community and beyond.

As our *Book of Common Prayer* puts it: "In all services, the entire Christian assembly participates in such a way that the members of each order within the church – lay persons, bishops, priests and deacons – fulfill the functions proper to their respective orders as established by tradition and the rubrics or rules for each service." Each member of the parish is therefore encouraged to be an active and vibrant participant in worship. *Now more than ever, each of us is called to take up our proper place during worship and to serve God and each other during our services.* There are several ways for lay persons to become involved – greeting of members and visitors alike, ushering, serving in our choir or as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, helping with the altar guild, just to name a few. From the simple to the complex, each of these functions is a meaningful and important part of our communal worship of God in this place.

In addition to the calendar and seasonal information, this guide is also intended to assist with the organization of our worship and its related ministries. Based upon our current ministry listings, we have done our best to outline our various ministries as well as all those members who currently wish to serve the parish in these roles. It is our hope that this guide will serve your household as an easy reference as to not only what is going on with our worship but also to facilitate your communications with the various ministries.



There is one principal service at
St. Michael and All Angels:
Sunday morning, 10am

2025-2026 Calendar

September 7, 2025: Renewal Sunday: This Sunday marks the beginning of our formation year. It is also our tradition to renew our ministry efforts on this day. In addition, following worship, a reception and parish meeting will take place as the Vestry shares its recent discernment work and we allow for open conversation as to the current health and future mission of the parish. *This is a very important day in the life of this parish, especially during this time!* Everyone is encouraged to join us and renew their commitment to our common life and all that we do for each other and our community.

September 14, 2025: Feast of St. Michael and All Angels: Our feast day actually falls on September 29. However, we will transfer our observance to this Sunday which will allow for a greater celebration. The service will be a festival Eucharist, including the specific liturgy for this feast day as well as expanded and unique service music and offerings. A reception will follow in our parish hall.

October 5, 2025: Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. We will welcome any animals for a blessing during our Sunday service which will include the readings and prayers for this feast day (which actually falls on October 4).

November 2, 2025: All Saints' Sunday: One of the four high feast days on our calendar, we celebrate our common journey with all the saints and the faithful that have gone before us.

November 16, 2025: Feast of King Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma: On this Sunday we celebrate, with festive music, appropriate worship and a fellowship reception, the founding patrons of the Episcopal Church in Hawaii. This day has become one of the focal points of our celebrations throughout the year. The prayers for this feast day (November 28) are transferred to our worship which includes native Hawaiian readings, prayers and music.

November 23, 2025: Stewardship Sunday. We come together to celebrate and give thanks for all that we have received in this place. Pledges are gathered and blessed during worship. Brunch in the parish hall follows this service.

November 26, 2025: Thanksgiving Eve. It is our custom and tradition to gather in worship on the evening before Thanksgiving, celebrating the Holy Eucharist and giving thanks for all the blessings we have received in our lives and in this parish.

November 30, 2025: First Sunday of Advent. This Sunday marks the beginning of the new church year and the Advent season. Several changes take place in our worship with the arrival of Advent – our liturgical color changes from green to blue; we use the Great Litany on the first Sunday, and throughout this season we change both the Prayers of the People and the Eucharistic Prayer to reflect the penitential and reflective themes of this time. For those who follow the Sunday and Daily Lectionary calendar for our readings, Year A/Daily Office Year Two begins!

December 21, 2025: Fourth Sunday of Advent. This marks the last Sunday in Advent. Following our morning worship, all are invited to remain and assist us in the Christmas decorations of our nave.

December 24, 2025: Christmas Eve. We gather at 7pm to celebrate the Feast of the Nativity. Sacred music and hymns serve as a prelude to our celebration of Holy Eucharist.

December 25, 2025: Christmas Day. By custom and tradition, there is no worship service on this day. Please join us for the Christmas Eve celebration!

January 11, 2026: The Baptism of Our Lord. This is the first Sunday after The Epiphany (January 6), a time which celebrates the revelation of Christ to the world. The liturgical color changes to green, but this is sometimes hard to notice since so many of the Sundays during this time call for the color white (The Baptism of Our Lord, the Presentation and the Last Sunday after the Epiphany). Certain prayers, as well as the Eucharistic Prayer, change to reflect the new themes of this season.

February 17, 2026: Burning of the Palms/Shrove Tuesday Celebration. On the eve of Lent, we will gather in our central courtyard at 6pm for the Burning of the Palms. All are encouraged to bring palms that they may have kept in their homes during the previous year to include in the flames! The ashes will be used during the service the following day. A celebration of food and drink follows in our parish hall.

February 18, 2026: Ash Wednesday. This service marks the beginning of Lent. Holy Eucharist will be held in the church at 6pm. Ashes will be imposed as a sign of our mortality and penitence. The liturgical color switches to purple.

February 22, 2026: First Sunday in Lent. The Great Litany is traditionally used during this service (and again during the Last Sunday of Lent). Eucharistic Prayer D is used during this season to emphasize the themes of humble reflection and penitence. The Gloria, alleluias and other customary prayers are omitted during Lent. The *Angus Dei* is included in the Eucharistic prayers.

March 29, 2026: Palm Sunday. This day begins as a celebration of the triumphant arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem. It is our tradition to begin worship gathered around the font and the liturgy of the palms is read. Palms are distributed to the congregation during the festive procession. The altar and congregation are blessed with Holy Water. After the post-communion prayer, The Passion Gospel is read. This is the beginning of Holy Week. Service ministers process out of the church in silence. There is no postlude music nor is there the customary greeting by clergy following the service. In addition, this is the one Sunday of the year that a fellowship hour or reception does not follow our worship. Everyone is invited to depart in prayerful and reflective silence.

March 30-April 1, 2026: Holy Week Services Monday-Wednesday. Holy Eucharist is celebrated each morning in our sanctuary at 7am.

April 2, 2026: Maundy Thursday. Holy Eucharist will be held in the church at 6pm. Following the homily, the congregation is invited for the customary washing of feet. During communion, bread and wine are consecrated not only for the service but also for the following day. After the post-communion

prayer, the altar is stripped, the tabernacle is emptied, and the sanctuary cleared of all adornments. The reserve sacrament is taken to the altar of repose. The service ministers depart in silence and the night vigil begins.

April 3, 2026: Good Friday. Morning Prayer concludes the vigil in the church at 7am. Good Friday liturgy takes place at noon. The liturgical color is black. The Passion is read. Communion is taken from the reserve and the service ends in silence.

April 4, 2026: Easter Vigil. This service was traditionally the first celebration of the resurrection. This is under advisement as of the printing of this guide. Further information will be provided.

April 5, 2026: Easter Sunday. Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 10am. Brunch is held following the service. The Gloria and alleluias all return to worship as well as the customary prayers which were omitted during Lent.

May 24, 2026: Pentecost. The Feast of Pentecost celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit. The liturgical color is red. Confession and absolution return to worship (they are omitted during the Easter season) and the prayers again change to reflect the themes of this observance.

May 31 – November 22, 2026: Season after Pentecost. This is the longest season (if it actually is a season!) of the church year. The liturgical color is green and the forms of prayer, including the Eucharistic Prayer, follow the traditional format for the parish.



Holy Baptism

Holy Baptism is the full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body, the Church. The bond which God establishes in Baptism is indissoluble. Each candidate for Holy Baptism is to be sponsored by one or more baptized persons, and it is appropriate for the candidate (if of sufficient age), Sponsors (Godparents) and parents (of an infant) to complete instruction and guidance as to the meaning of baptism and their duties to help the newly baptized grow into the knowledge and love of God. Baptisms are usually reserved for the following feast days: Easter Vigil/Day, Day of Pentecost, All Saints' Day (or the Sunday following) and the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord (the First Sunday after the Epiphany). However, if pastoral reasons require, baptisms may take place on another day, but every effort is made to have baptisms take place during the usual worship of the parish. The first step in arranging for a baptism at St. Michael's is to contact Father Andrew.

Weddings at St. Michael's

Christian marriage is a solemn and public covenant made in the presence of God. In the Episcopal Church, it is required that at least one of the parties must be a baptized Christian, that the ceremony be attested by at least two witnesses; and that the marriage conform to the laws of the State of Hawaii and Canons of the Church. St. Michael's is blessed with a beautiful church and campus which make for a wonderful setting for a wedding. While we welcome the opportunity to share in the celebration and blessing of a marriage, there are specific guidelines and traditions which have developed over time and which are important to honor in this place. For example, weddings are not normally celebrated during the season of Lent. All of this information, as well as the process of scheduling a wedding at St. Michael's, is available in the parish office.

Funerals at St. Michael's



Under most circumstances, clergy will be aware of an impending death of one of our parishioners. Our *Guidelines for Pastoral Care* contains contact information for the clergy if there is a request for Holy Unction (“Last Rites”) or for any other care and support by the clergy at the time of death. Arrangements for funerals involve a variety of people including family, clergy, Parish Administrator, altar guild, funeral home personnel and others. There are a variety of traditions and guidelines regarding the funeral service; more information can be obtained from the parish office.



Choir

St. Michael's is blessed to have a foundational music ministry, both within the parish and in the greater community. Under the faithful and skilled leadership of our Music Director, Alan Van Zee, our choir offers the gift of their voices during the 10:00am worship service as well as during other seasonal services and celebrations.

Anyone interested in joining the choir is encouraged to contact Alan for more details.

Renate McMullen
Sharon West
Katie Forster
Dottie Bekeart
Margee Wheeler
Alan Williams
Neil Husband
Dana Bekeart
Howard Wilson
Larry McCreery
Carmen Swanson, Sound Engineer



This dedicated group of parishioners is charged with the responsibility of caring for the altar, sanctuary and sacristy. This involves, among other things, safeguarding linens, vessels and vestments, set up for worship services and special liturgies as well as various clean up duties. This is a crucial ministry not only in support of the clergy but also to the parish as a whole – much of what we experience during worship, especially during our high feast day celebrations, is the result of the hard work by members of the altar guild. *We are always looking for new hearts and hands to provide this important support to our worship life; if you have any interest in this ministry, please contact Lindsay Kamm.*

Lindsay Kamm, Director
Wendi Lutao
Marj Stanphill
Gail Smith
Barbara Gusman
Clarita and Gilbert Medeiros
Bill and Amy Null
Sue Macklin



Usher and Greeters

This is a vital, important part of ministry at St. Michael's; it is central to our mission of hospitality to both long-time members and first-time visitors alike. Often, the first impression one receives about our parish is as a result of meeting and interacting with ushers and greeters. This is much more than simply handing out a bulletin at the beginning of the service; it is more about sharing a warm and meaningful welcome to all who come to us for worship. As of now, members of Vestry fulfill this vital ministry of hospitality, but if anyone has an interest in joining them, please contact Father Andrew.



Lay Eucharistic Ministers

There are two central roles during worship for Lay Eucharistic Ministers – the reading of the lessons (as well as the Prayers of the People) and bearing the chalice during communion. With the arrival of our Deacon, Mary Margaret Smith, this changes on most Sundays because it is the role of the Deacon to offer the Prayers and bear chalice. Therefore, it is now customary for one Lay Eucharistic Minister to serve during worship, vesting and leading the processions, offering the Old and New Testament readings, leading the Psalm (when there is no cantor) and if needed assisting with the chalice along with Mary Margaret.

The reading of scripture during gatherings of the faithful dates back to ancient synagogue practices of reading the Torah and the days of the early church when followers of Christ would meet for a meal on the first day of the week and tell stories about Jesus' life and ministry. It is this tradition that we continue with our readings of the Old and New Testament. It is a central part of our worship, reminding ourselves of who we are and who we are called to be. It is a discipline that simply requires a bit of training and practice in order to share the blessing of our voices during worship.

Bearing chalice (administering the wine during communion) is a holy act of service during our worship. Many, but not all, of our Lay Eucharistic Ministers also serve as Lay Eucharistic Visitors, taking communion to those who are unable to join us for worship. This ministry requires specific training and licensing by the Diocese of Hawaii. Anyone interested in this ministry should contact Father Andrew and we will assist you with your training and preparation. The current roster of Lay Eucharistic Ministers includes:

Lindsay Kamm
Bill Skelton
Clarita Medeiros
Gary Catron

Deann Megonnell
John Etherton
Kate Catron