



LEADER'S GUIDE

Fellow Servants with YOU

A Service for St. Michael and All Angels

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Fellow Servants with YOU

A Service for St. Michael and All Angels

About the Service

This is a worship service for St. Michael and All Angels Day (Sept. 29) that can be used on or around that day or any time of the year to highlight the role of angels in our lives. The theme comes from Rev. 22:9: “I am a fellow servant with you.” Hymns include “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones,” “Drawn to the Cross” and “All People That On Earth Do Dwell.”

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A Service for St. Michael and All Angels

Newsletter/Bulletin Notices

Newsletter Notice

Join us for a very special worship service for St. Michael and All Angels Day, as we praise God for the role of angels in our lives. The theme comes from Rev. 22:9: “I am a fellow servant with you.” The hymns, readings, prayers, children’s message and meditation will remind us of the ways that angels have guarded and guided God’s people through the centuries and how they continue to act as God’s servants today.

Bulletin Notice

Welcome to this very special worship service for St. Michael and All Angels Day, which highlights the role of angels in our lives. The theme comes from Rev. 22:9: “I am a fellow servant with you.” Let the hymns, readings, prayers, children’s message and meditations in this service remind you of the ways that angels have guarded and guided God’s people through the centuries and how they continue to act as God’s servants today.

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A Service for St. Michael and All Angels

Complete Script For Worship Leaders

- If desired, an **Environmental Projection** of the following image (purchased by you from shutterstock.com) can be shown on a screen or on the walls of your worship space to set the tone for the service before the service begins or throughout the service at various points:

<https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/beautiful-image-angel-sculpture-blue-sky-238949266>

- The **Theme Verse** is read aloud by the pastor or other worship leader, or is read silently by the congregation before the start of the service:

I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you ... Worship God.”

Revelation 22:8-9

- The **Opening Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune *Lasst Uns Erfreuen* 888 888 and alleluias, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
 Bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
 Raise the glad strain: "Alleluia!"
 Cry out, dominions, principedoms, pow'rs,
 Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs:
 "Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"

O higher than the cherubim,
 More glorious than the seraphim,
 Lead their praises: "Alleluia!"
 Thou bearer of the eternal Word,
 Most gracious, magnify the Lord:
 "Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"

Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
 Ye patriarchs and prophets blest:
 "Alleluia, alleluia!"
 Ye holy Twelve, ye martyrs strong,
 All saints triumphant, raise the song:
 "Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"

O friends, in gladness let us sing,
 Supernal anthems echoing:
 "Alleluia, alleluia!"
 To God the Father, God the Son,
 And God the Spirit, Three in One:
 "Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"

- The **Invocation and Responsive Reading** (from Psalm 103) are spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

C Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

P Who forgives all your iniquity,

C **Who heals all your diseases,**

P Who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

C **Bless the Lord, O you his angels,**

P You mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word!

C **Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will!**

P Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion.

C **Bless the Lord, O my soul!**

- The **Confession and Absolution** is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

P Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

C **Almighty God, your holy angels always carry out your will, but we do not. We rebel against you and turn away from your will and your Word. We sin against you in our thoughts, words and actions. Have mercy on us, forgive us and renew us for service in Jesus' name.**

P God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son to be our Savior. Jesus died in your place and rose from the dead to give you new life. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity! Bless the Lord, O my soul!**

- The **Prayer of the Day** is spoken responsively by the pastor or other worship leader:

P Almighty God, the holy angels carry out your will on earth and in heaven, endlessly praise your name and, at your command, guard your saints on earth. Strengthen us by your Word and Spirit so that we too might do your will on earth as it is done in heaven. We rejoice in the gift of salvation that is ours through Christ our Savior and we look forward to that day when we will stand before your throne and chant your unending praise with all the saints and angels. Hear our prayer and accept our praise in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Dunstan 888 6, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Drawn to the cross, which thou hast blessed
 With healing gifts for souls distressed,
 To find in thee, my life, my rest,
 Christ crucified, I come.

And then for work to do for thee,
 Which shall so sweet a service be
 That angels well might envy me,
 Christ crucified, I come.

- The **Children’s Message** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:

Needed: various pictures of angels, or different Christmas angel decorations

- P** *(Show the pictures or decorations.)* What are these? These are pictures (or figures) of God’s angels. We don’t know exactly what angels look like. The Bible describes them in different ways. Sometimes in Bible stories the angels appear on earth as young men dressed in shining white robes (Mark 16:5; Acts 1:10). In some Bible stories the angels are powerful, winged beings who praise God (Isaiah 6:2-3). We even know the names of two angels, Gabriel (Luke 1:19) and Michael (Revelation 12:7). Can you think of any Bible stories that tell us about angels? *(Let children respond.)*

God created the angels to serve him and to carry out his commands on earth and in heaven. He sends his angels to watch over us and protect us. Angels often appeared on earth to announce the important things that God was doing. The angel Gabriel told Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus, the Son of God. When Jesus was born, who told the good news to the shepherds? *(Let children answer.)* The angels announced that the Savior was born in Bethlehem! When Jesus grew up he taught people about God, and at the right time, he died on the cross for our sins. He was buried, and on the first Easter Jesus came alive again! Who rolled the stone away from the tomb and announced that Jesus was alive? *(Let children respond.)* An angel rolled the stone away and announced: “[Jesus] is not here, for he has risen as he said” (Matthew 28:6).

Angels are very important and powerful, and they have important work to do for God. But once, when Jesus’ disciple John bowed down to worship an angel, the angel said: “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you ... Worship God.” The angels serve God, and we serve God too. The angels worship God, and so do we! That’s why we are here in church today. Let’s pray:

Heavenly Father, thank you for your servants, the holy angels, and for all the work they do to serve you and watch over us. Thank you for sending them to announce the birth and the resurrection of Jesus. With the angels we will praise you forever. Amen.

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Old Hundredth LM, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with mirth, his praise forthtell;
Come ye before him and rejoice.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore.

- The **Old Testament Reading**, Isaiah 6:1-8, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

P In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

- If desired, this **Still Background** (purchased by you from Worship House Media: [worshiphousemedia.com](http://www.worshiphousemedia.com)) is presented on a screen at this time for reflection:

<http://www.worshiphousemedia.com/still-backgrounds/7731/angel-3>

- A **Meditation** is delivered by the pastor or worship leader:

P In a few months you will probably decorate your home for Christmas; many stores are already working on that. You will see Christmas angels everywhere, angels with long hair, flowing

robes and mighty wings. Other Christmas angels may be little cherub angels with stubby wings. These angels may be pretty and charming and cute, but they are not very intimidating. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah saw a vision of the God of Israel enthroned in his temple, surrounded by angels, and not the kind we usually see at Christmas. The angels Isaiah saw were very intimidating, and probably anything but “cute.” These were the seraphim, the “burning ones,” mighty six-winged beings who veiled their faces in the presence of God. One shouted to another: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!” At the sound of that angelic voice the building shook and filled with smoke. Can we blame the Bethlehem shepherds on the first Christmas night for being “filled with great fear”?

The prophet Isaiah is filled with great fear too. He announces, “I am lost!” “I’m a dead man!”—or more exactly, “I am lost—eternally!” Perhaps Isaiah remembered what God said to an earlier prophet. When Moses asked to see the glory of God, God answered, “You cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live” (Exodus 33:20). Isaiah is a “man of unclean lips,” he is a sinner in the presence of God, and that is not going to end well. But then a seraph, an angel, takes a coal from the temple altar and touches Isaiah’s lips, burning away his sin and guilt. When God asks for volunteers, Isaiah is ready: “Here I am! Send me!” Like Isaiah, we too would be unable to stand—or survive—in the presence of God. But it was no angel that touched us, but the Son of God, who for a time was made lower than the angels, who was born among us to save us. Our guilt has been taken away, our sin atoned for, but not burned away with a coal from the temple altar. Our sins are washed away in blood flowing from the altar of the cross, the blood of Jesus, the ultimate sacrifice, the Lamb of God. When God calls for volunteers in his service, we are ready to serve with the angels, to carry out God’s will on earth as it is in heaven. We are ready to answer as Isaiah did: “Here I am! Send me!”

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Galilean 87 87 D, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Hark, the voice of Jesus crying, “Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting—who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth; rich reward he offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I, send me, send me”?

Let none hear you idly saying, “There is nothing I can do,”
While the multitudes are dying and the Master calls for you.
Take the task he gives you gladly, let his work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when he calleth, “Here am I, send me, send me!”

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Music Guide

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| Dunstan 888 6..... | 36-37 |
| Old Hundredth LM..... | 38-39 |
| Galilean 87 87 D..... | 40-41 |
| Wachet Auf 898 D 664 448..... | 42-43 |
| Orientus Partibus 77 77 | 44-45 |
| Lauda Anima 87 87 87 | 46-47 |
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Tune.....Lauda Anima 87 87 87

The musical score is written in D major (two sharps) and 3/4 time. It consists of five systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The melody in the treble clef is simple and rhythmic, primarily using quarter and eighth notes. The bass clef provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and some moving lines. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading 'Creative Communications Sample' is oriented diagonally across the center of the page, overlapping the middle three systems of the score.

- The **Closing Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune *Lauda Anima* 87 87 87, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

Father-like he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hand he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
You behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
All who dwell in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

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Contemporary Music Song Suggestions

- The following song suggestions can be used for a more contemporary worship service in place of the more traditional hymns included in this kit. Rights to use these songs in the service must be purchased by your parish through CCLI or other copyright licensing agencies.

“I See the Lord” by Paul Baloche

“He Reigns” by Newsboys

“You Are Holy (Prince of Peace)” by Marc Imboden and Tammi Rhoton

“In Your Presence” by Jeremy Camp

“Whom Shall I Fear, God of Angel Armies” by Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Scott Cash

“Here I Am, Lord” by Daniel L. Schutte

“Send Me” by Twila Paris

“Angel” by Bernie Herms, Mark Hall, Matthew West