

**Sermon | Rev.12:7-12, Luke 10:17-20 | Michael, the Archangel, and All Angels | Immanuel
Lutheran Church | Sep 27, 2025.**

Victorious by the Blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their Testimony!

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from God our Father and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

This morning's sermon is drawn from the appointed readings for today, as we commemorate Saint Michael, the Archangel and All Angels.

Let us pray: O God, we pray that You would open our hearts and minds to acknowledge Your mercy in guarding us from the Devil and all his forces, as You command Your holy angels to be with us. Let Your Word produce the fruits of obedience, love and charity, as it is preached into our ears this morning. Amen.

As you lend your ears to the sermon today, do any of these questions come to your mind?

- Why does the Church commemorate *Saint Michael, the Archangel and all angels*?
- Why should we even bother talking about angels?
- Who are angels—and do they really exist?

It's good if you've asked these questions—and even better if you haven't—because *now they invite* you to think more deeply.

So, let's begin with the last question: "*Who are angels, and do they really exist?*"

Scripture offers relatively few details about angels. Yet, you'd be surprised that the word "*angel*" appears more than *300 times* across the Old and the New Testaments. Most verses do not describe their appearance, though a few do. One example is the vision in the book of Daniel which we heard today.

Daniel sees *angels* in his visions. The passage we read today offers a rare, vivid and elaborate description of one.

However, Scripture generally teaches that angels are spiritual beings without physical form. And if we ask why angels were created by God, here are the top five reasons.

- They were created to serve as messengers.
 - o Think of the *two angels who visited Lot (the nephew of Abraham) at the gate of Sodom (Gen 19:1)*, or the angel Gabriel who announced the birth of Jesus to Mary. *(Luke 1:26-38)*. They were messengers.
- 2nd reason: angels were created to carry out God's command.
 - o As the Psalmist declares, "*Bless the Lord, O you His angels, you mighty ones who do His Word, obeying the voice of His Word!*" *(Psalm 103:20)*
- Thirdly: Scripture tells us that God created angels to *minister* to His believers.
 - o The author of Hebrews writes in chapter 1: "*Are not all angels ministering spirits sent out to serve those who are to inherit salvation?*" *(Heb. 1:14)*
- And then: angels worship God continually.
 - o As it is written in the book of Revelation: "*Day and night they never cease to say, 'Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord God Almighty.'*" *(Rev. 4:8)*
- And lastly: Scripture also confirms that the angels engage in spiritual warfare. They battle against evil forces and defend God's kingdom. Consider the readings appointed for today: -
 - o Daniel 10:13, where the angel says to Daniel - "*The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me.*"
 - o And then in Revelation 12, where John writes - "*Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon.*"

Thus far, we see clearly who angels are—and that they truly do exist.

Now to the next question: *“Why do we even bother talking about angels?”*

Well, the question itself leads us to consider the *work of angels*.

When we speak of angels, we are either praying to God to send them for our protection, or we are giving thanks and praise to God for their faithful service in battling evil on our behalf.

This is why Dr. Luther included petitions for angelic protection in both his morning and evening prayers. In these prayers, we ask God to send His holy angel to us—a guardian angel who will watch over us, and defend us from the evil foe, both day and night.

So, when we talk about angels, we acknowledge their mighty acts in service to God, especially in their battle against the Devil and his demonic forces.

And while we acclaim their faithful service and God-ordained role in the spiritual battle, the Church rightly pauses to remember and give thanks for these heavenly beings. And this reflection now leads us naturally to our third and final question for today: *“Why does the Church commemorate Saint Michael, the Archangel and All Angels?”*

Let me tell you what Scripture gives us—there aren’t many answers to this question, but one central truth. And it is found in Revelation 12 verse 11.

Saint Michael, the chief prince of all angels—also called *“The Archangel”*—fought a battle against Satan and his demonic forces. Let us hear those verses again from Revelation 12:

“Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the

great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.”

This great victory over the Devil and all his forces was made possible by the *blood of the Lamb—shed on the cross to wash away the sin of the world.*

This, John heard a loud voice in heaven, in his vision, and recorded in Revelation 12 verse 11: *“And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.”*

This victory—secured by Christ’s blood and proclaimed through faithful witnesses in heaven—is something Jesus Himself foresaw. After the seventy-two disciples returned joyfully from their apostolic ministry, they exclaimed, *“Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name!”*

In response, Jesus—looking beyond their immediate experience into the greater spiritual reality—declared, *“I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.”* (Luke 10:18). In that moment, Jesus was affirming the same truth later revealed to John; that Satan’s defeat is real, decisive, and grounded in the victory of the Lamb of God.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, His words hold true for us as well.

Jesus’ death and resurrection have won the battle against the Devil and his demons.

- Though our lives may be disrupted daily by the evil forces at work in this world; Jesus’ Word keeps us grounded in Him and disciplines us for life.
- Satan still prowls around like a lion, seeking someone to devour; yet Jesus has secured us in the waters of our Baptisms.
- The Devil may continue to tempt and accuse us, but Christ’s body and blood—given and shed for us in the Sacrament of the Altar—wash away all our sins.

Therefore, let us rejoice in the mighty works of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; that He has led His angels, and Michael the Archangel, to triumph over sin, death, and the Devil.

Let us be glad as we stand alongside the angels—shouting with one voice that we are victorious by the blood of the Lamb and by the Word of our Testimony!

And so, on this day of commemoration, we give thanks to God for His holy angels, who serve Him and guard us. But above all, we give thanks for Jesus Christ, the Lamb who was slain—and who now reigns victorious. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Now may the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Him. Amen.

Vijay Samuel