

4th Sunday after Epiphany January 29, 2023

11:00 am



Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

Order of Worship

= Hymn Number, pp. = Page in front part of "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" (ELW) or "All Creation Sings" (ACS)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(sit) GATHERING MEDITATION

"Let Everything Praise the Lord"

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord Let everything that has breath praise the Lord Praise the Lord With all of my heart With all of my strength With all that I have I will sing

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord

Morning by morning Your faithfulness shines like the sun Heaven's on fire Alive with the brilliance of love

Father your wonders are endless Open my eyes to believe Awake my soul

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord Let everything that has breath praise the Lord Praise the Lord With all of my heart With all of my strength With all that I have I will sing Let everything that has breath praise the Lord

CCLI Song # 7133149
Ben Smith | Daniel Bashta | Jason Ingram | Pat Barrett | Sean Feucht © 2019

(stand) THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity,

+ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C Amen.

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

Thanks be to God:

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

We praise you for the Alcovy, the Yellow, the Apalachee, and the Chattahoochee Rivers.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

(stand) **OPENING SONG**

"Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly"

1 It all comes down to this
What you require of me
Love my neighbor as myself
And you above all things

Chorus

Act justly love mercy walk humbly With you God In all things in all ways walk humbly With you God

2 It all comes down to this
To be your hands and feet
Good news to all the world
The truth will set us free Chorus

Bridge

It's beauty for ashes
It's mourning to dancing
It's closer and closer
The Kingdom of heaven REPEAT Bridge

3 Years from now we'll see
The fruit our hands have sown
Faith just like a seed
The only way it grows Chorus

CCLI Song # 7168697 Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Pat Barrett © 2021

GREETING

- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. . .

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service

¹Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

² Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

³ "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery;

and I sent before you Moses,

Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

6 "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?
7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

- 8 He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
- P The word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.
- (sit) CHILDREN'S TALK
- (stand) GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This is the day that the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad! For, this is the day that the Lord has made; Alleluia! Alleluia!

- P The Holy Gospel according to Mathew.
- Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

- ¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
 - ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 - ⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
 - ⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- ⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
 - ⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
 - ⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
 - ⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- ¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ¹¹ "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."
- **P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)	SERMON	. Pastor Katie Christie
(stand)	SONG OF THE DAY "Unwayering"	Matt Maher

1 Blessed are the poor
The kingdom is theirs
Alive in the promise
To be dead to the world
Blessed are the meek
In awe of you Father
The Word at your right hand
The Spirit of truth

Chorus

Unwavering is your voice
Unwavering is your hand
Unwavering is the heart
That bled for the sins of man
Unwavering is your will
Unwavering is your plan
The fount of salvation
On which we will stand

2 Blessed are the righteous
On bended knee
Bound in this freedom
Committed to you
Bless'd are those who see
The heights of glory
Found in the valley
In suff'ring for you Chorus

Ending

The fount of salvation On which we will stand

CCLI Song # 4669827 Matt Maher © 2006 spiritandsong.com

(stand) APOSTLES' CREED

- P God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(stand) THE PRAYERS

A Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence for reflection

(Each petition will end with the words: "Merciful God," The response is "...receive our prayer.")

- P We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.
- C Amen.

PEACE

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- **And also with you.**
- (sit) THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Come to the Table"..... ELW #481

Come to the table of mercy,

Prepared with the wine and the bread.

All who are hungry and thirsty,

Come and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord's invitation:

Receive from his nail-scarred hand.

Eat of the bread of salvation;

Drink of the blood of the Lamb.

OFFERING PRAYER

- P Let us pray. Liberating God,
- you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free.

 Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.

 You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **Q** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.



- P Come and taste the joy of God!
- **G** Thanks be to God.
- (sit) Communion will be distributed at the altar railing. The usher will indicate when each section of pews should come forward. Whether kneeling or standing, those wishing to receive anointing, cross your arms after reaching the rail. If you are not able or not comfortable coming to the altar, the pastor will bring the bread and wine to you at the pew. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request these from the pastor.

(sit) MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Lamb of God...... Tillis Butler

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Grant us peace.

Grant us peace.

StillReuben Morgan

1 Hide me now under your wings Cover me within your mighty hand

Chorus

When the oceans rise and thunders roar I will soar with you above the storm Father you are King over the flood I will be still and know you are God

2 Find rest my soul in Christ alone
Know his power in quietness and trust Chorus

CCLI Song # 3940963 Reuben Morgan © 2002

(stand)

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- Amen!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray.

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

G Amen

BLESSING

- The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod

 → bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.
- Amen

CLOSING HYMN

"All the People Said Amen"...... Matt Maher

1 You are not alone if you are lonely
When you feel afraid you're not the only
We are all the same in need of mercy
To be forgiven and be free
It's all you got to lean on
But thank God it's all you need

Chorus

And all the people said amen, oh, And all the people said amen Give thanks to the Lord for his love never ends And all the people said amen

2 If you're rich or poor well it don't matter
Weak or strong you know love is what we're after
We're all broken but we're all in this together
God knows we stumble and fall
And he so loved the world
He sent his son to save us all Chorus

Bridge

Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart
Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart
Blessed are the people hungry for another start
For theirs is the kingdom the kingdom of God

Chorus twice

Ending

And all the people said amen

CCLI Song # 6518275 Matt Maher | Paul Moak | Trevor Morgan © 2013

DISMISSAL

- **A** Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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