

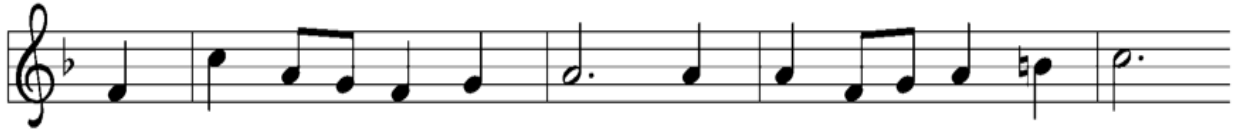
Sunday, January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, 3A
Pastor Kim Swenson

The
Beatitudes

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome



- 1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
 4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

- 5 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their home at last,
 Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*
- 6 Praise God who reigns on high,
 the Lord whom we adore:
 the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
 one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.

Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
 who makes all things new,
 whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Holy One, source of our renewal,
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
 and cannot free ourselves.**
We have not practiced your righteousness.
Our hearts have turned away from you.
**For the sake of the world you so love,
 forgive us,**
**that we may be reconciled to one another
 for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Thus says our God:
 "The former things have come to pass
 and new things I now declare."
 God's mercy makes us new.
 We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

God who sent the Light into our world,
God who shone in the Bethlehem manger,
God who spreads the Spirit's rays,
be with you all. **And also with you.**

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.**

WORD

First Lesson: Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the LORD says:

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

²Hear, 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!

⁴For 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.

⁵O 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?

⁷Will 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?"
⁸He 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?
Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15(read responsively by verse)

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your | holy hill?
²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**
³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do
not cast discredit up-on a neighbor.
⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**
⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against
the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians :18-31

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us
who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the
wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."
²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this
age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the
wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided,
through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For
Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ
crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those
who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the
wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's
weakness is stronger than human strength.
²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by
human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But

God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation *Bright and Glorious is the Sky* v6 **Cranberry #301**

*As a star, God's holy word
leads us to our King and Lord;
brightly from its sacred pages
shall this light throughout the ages
shine upon our path of life,
shine upon our path of life.*

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then 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. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn*Blessed Are the Poor In Spirit***Insert**

TUNE: NETTLETON 8.7.8.7 D ("Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing")

Blessed are the poor in spirit; all God's realm is surely theirs.
Those in mourning will find comfort as an answer to their prayers.
Meek ones whom this world despises will inherit everything.
God, your kingdom still surprises; may we seek the reign you bring.

Blessed, too, are those who hunger and who thirst for what is right.
They will not be prone to wander, for your will is their delight.
Those who show God's care and mercy will receive that mercy too.
God, in Christ you show us clearly of the joy we have in you.

Those who share the peace God gives them will find blessings as God's own.
Those oppressed for faithful living will call heaven's kingdom Home.
When the world's ways seem distressing and we feel life's painful sting,
God, remind us of the blessings of the wondrous life you bring.

Text: Copyright © 2009 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved
USED WITH PERMISSION

An Australian Creed

**We believe in God, creator and sustainer of life,
creator of the black woman and the white woman
of the black man and the white man
of the women and men who are not quite black and not quite white.**

**We believe in God, the Creator
who gave us the desert pea and the flowering gum,
the Murray cod and the platypus,
the Southern Cross and the Milky Way.
We believe in God,
who gave us a land to keep,
to reverence and to cultivate.**

We believe in Jesus, born of a woman

**who was not quite black and not quite white,
a woman who was not quite sure of who she was or who she was to be, a
woman who faithfully struggled to believe.**

**We believe in Jesus – Risen, Liberator of all humanity, Emmanuel – God with Us,
God for us.**

**We believe in the power of the Spirit
to set us free to regenerate our land, to transform our world,
to work for peace, to listen to the loneliness of ‘the drover’s wife’ and the
‘weeping man.’**

**We believe in the power of the Spirit in our dealings with our sisters and our
brothers of all other colors and diverse creeds.**

In the name of the one god of our common humanity. Amen

Prayers of the People

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

Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast
only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and
justice. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

The foundations of the earth bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and
hills echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of
our ways. Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful
God,
receive our prayer.

You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek
justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked,
and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish,
weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is
least expected. Give your life, strength, and wisdom to all in need. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

As with your people Israel, remind this congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For what else do the people of God pray?
Silent and spoken prayers are invited

Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

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

Amen.

Peace

God makes peace within us. **Let us claim it.**
God makes peace between us. **Let us share it.**
Please share a sign of the Lord's peace with those around you.

MEAL

Hymn As With Gladness Men of Old Cranberry #302 vs 3

*As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle, rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.*

Offering Prayer

Let us pray, Glorious God,

You led the magi to seek Jesus, your Holy Child.

**Overjoyed in the presence of his radiant light,
they knelt down and offered him precious gifts
of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.**

**We too offer our gifts in gratitude, reverence,
and thanksgiving for the birth of your child,
whom you called to lead the world into fullness of life.**

**Receive and bless our offering as a joyful sign
of the boundless love and abundant life
we share in Christ. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also, with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star, he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

On that night when he gave himself up for us, as he sat at the table and broke bread with his friends, he said: "Take and eat; this is my body which is broken for

The image shows a musical score for a hymn, consisting of six staves of music. Each staff is written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is a simple, melodic line with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est."

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

you. Remember me each time you do this."

After they had eaten, he took the cup, and said: "Remember me as you drink from this, for it is my life, poured out for you—the beginning of a new relationship with God."

Send the power of your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine, O God, that we may experience the presence of the Word-made-flesh—Jesus Christ. Breathe your Spirit in us that we may be one body with him—living out his ministry in the world today and every day. This we pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Communion Hymns



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Hymn

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

Cranberry #461



1 All who hun - ger, gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
 2 All who hun - ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.
 3 All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
 Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
 4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
 grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
 tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside
 make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
 among these restless throngs abide;
 oh, tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
 and follow where your feet have trod;
 till glorious from your heav'n above
 shall come the city of our God.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850–1935, alt.

Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, Sacred Melodies, 1815

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

SENDING

Announcements

Benediction

God the Creator who delights in you,
 Jesus the Savior who is born for you,
 and the life-giving Spirit who shines on you,

✠ bless you and keep you in hope and peace. **Amen.**



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
 you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.

Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825-1898

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The Bethel Weekly

Annual Meeting Annual meeting after worship, Sunday, February 5, 2023.
Reports will be available January 22.

NEW Shelter Meal Sunday, February 12. Please see sign-up sheet in the hallway.

Easter Flowers Order forms for Easter flowers are available in the lounge or church office. Please return by Sunday, February 19th.

Ash Wednesday Service is Wednesday, February 22 at 6:30 pm. Sign up sheet for Worship Assistants in the hallway.

Aebleskiver Fest Saturday, February 25, 2023. Sign up for volunteers and donation on sign up bulletin. Tell your friends neighbors and colleagues and friends on the street. Flyers available in the lounge.

Copyright and Streaming Licenses:

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License #22041

CCLI License #2623795

One License #734715-A

*Great Thanksgiving written by Moira Laidlaw, and can be found at
www.liturgiesonline.com.au/*
