

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2023

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Fargo, North Dakota

Pre-Service Music / Welcome

(Please rise)

Opening Versicles

LSB 219

Psalmody

Psalm 71:1-6

P: In you, O Lord, do I take refuge;

C: let me never be put to shame!

P: In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;

C: incline your ear to me, and save me!

P: Be to me a rock of refuge,

C: to which I may continually come;

P: you have given the command to save me,

C: for you are my rock and my fortress.

P: Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,

C: from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.

P: For you, O Lord, are my hope,

C: my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

P: Upon you I have leaned from before my birth; you are he who took me from my mother's womb.

C: My praise is continually of you.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

Office Hymn

“God Love the World So That He Gave”

LSB 571

Old Testament Reading

Micah 6:1-8

R: The Old Testament reading for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany is from Micah, chapter six.

Hear what the Lord says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me!

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. O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“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? 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?”

He has told you, O man, 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?

R: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Special Music *“Rejoice and Be Glad” (text adapted from Matthew 5:3-15), by Glenn A. Pickett*

Blessed, blessed are the poor, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed, blest are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed, blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

And blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are you when you're poor, for yours is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when you mourn, for then you'll be comforted.

Blessed are you when you're meek, for you will inherit the earth.

And blessed are you when you hunger and thirst for righteousness, for you will be filled.

You are the salt of the earth, a seasoning unique in its worth;

Bring out God's flavor: rejoice and be glad.

Blessed are the merciful, for you will be shown my mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for you will see God.

Blessed are those who bring peace, for you are "My Children."

And blessed are you when people persecute you for My sake. Rejoice and be glad.

For you are the light of the world, a lamp shining bright in the world.

So let your light shine: rejoice and be glad!

Let them see your good works shine, so they may bring praise to your Father, Rejoice and be glad!

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

E: The Epistle is written in First Corinthians, chapter one.

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where 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? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is

foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

R: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsory (Common)

(LSB 221)

Verse *To Refrain*

L 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
 2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
 3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Refrain

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Children's Message

Sermon

"We Are So Blessed!"

Matthew 5:1-12

Hymn

"We Praise You and Acknowledge You"

LSB 941

Offering *(Please sign and pass the green Fellowship book found at the center end of each pew.)*

Kyrie

(LSB 227)



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Prayers

C: 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.

P: Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: [Other prayers]

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benedicamus, Benediction

(sung)

(LSB 228)

P: ♪ Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ **Thanks be to God.**

L: ♪ The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Hymn *"By Grace I'm Saved"*

LSB 566

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