

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

Matthew 5:4



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2023

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Setting Seven

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.

Welcome

Joys and Concerns

Prelude

Prelude in E^b Major, Op. 23, No. 6

~ S. Rachmaninoff

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C. Amen

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P. Holy One, source of our renewal,

C. 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.

P. 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.

C. Amen

Gathering Hymn

O God of Mercy, God of Light

ELW 714

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

C. And also with you.

Hymn of Praise



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra-a-que-llos que a-ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.



Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra-a-que-llos que a-ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.

Prayer of the Day

A. Let us pray

C. **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**

First Reading

Micah 6:1-8

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

“O my people, what have I done to you? In what 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 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.”

“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 tens of 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 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?

L. Word of God, word of life.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody

Psalm 15

spoken responsively

Men: LORD, who may dwell in your ^l tabernacle?

Women: **Who may abide upon your ^l holy hill?**

Men: Those who lead a blameless life and do ^l what is right,
who speak the truth ^l from their heart;

Women: **they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil ^l to their friends;**

Men: they do not cast discredit up- ^l on a neighbor.

Women: **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who ^l fear the LORD.**

Men: They have sworn upon their health and do not take ^l back their word.

Women: **They do not give their money in hope of gain,
nor do they take bribes a- ^l gainst the innocent.**

ALL: Those who do these things shall never be ^l overthrown.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The message about the cross is foolishness 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, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's

foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider 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. 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, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

L. Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



a - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

P. The holy gospel according to Matthew, chapter five.

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

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

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

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

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

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

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

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

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

“Blessed are you when people 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 in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

P. The gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

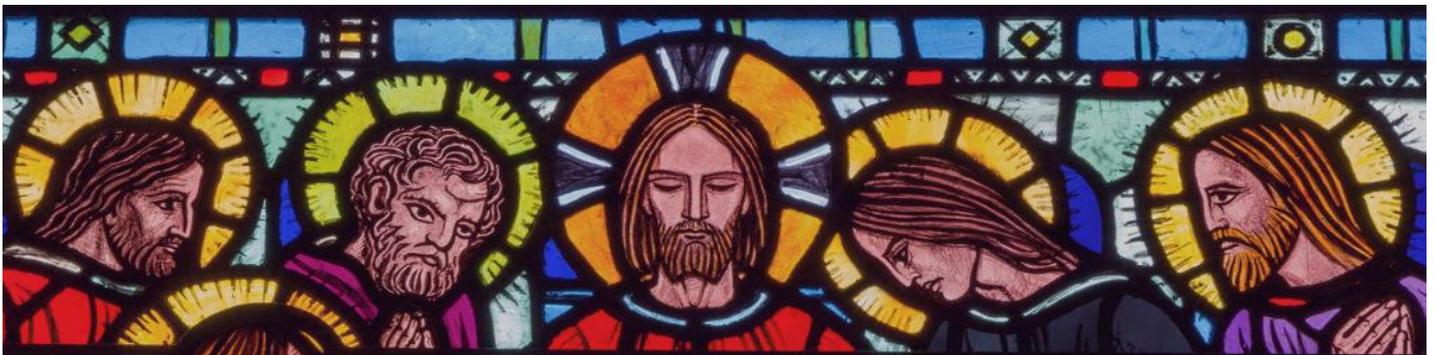
The Sermon

Pastor John Petry

Hymn of the Day

Let Streams of Living Justice

ELW 710



Apostles Creed

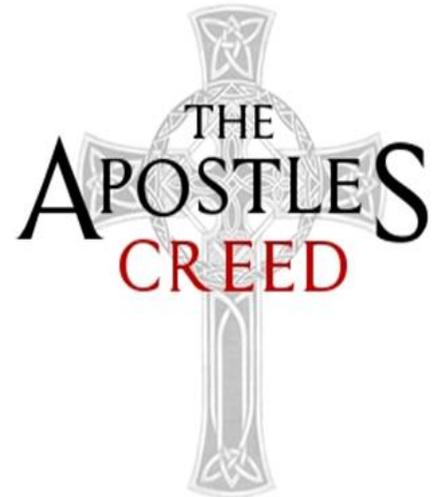


The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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



Prayers of Intercession

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

A brief silence.

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,

C. 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.

The Peace

P. Jesus said: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled.
May His peace be with you always.

C. And also with you.



The Offertory

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 182

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

A. Liberating God,

C. 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

The Great Thanksgiving

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P. It is indeed right . . .



The Sanctus



San - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on



tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
earth. Blest is he who comes in the



nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.



di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

Eucharistic Prayer

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

Invitation to Communion

P. Come and taste the joy of God!

C. Amen

O Lamb of God



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



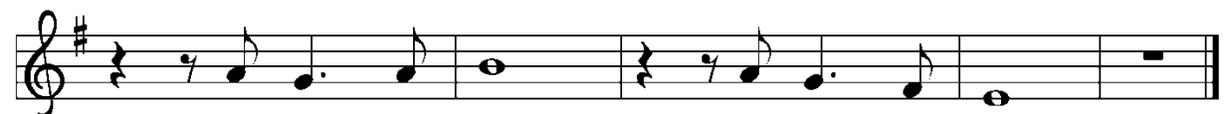
Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Communion Hymns

Christ, Be Our Light

ELW 715

Come to the Table (sung twice)

ELW 481

When the Poor Ones

ELW 725

Post Communion Blessing and Canticle

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C. Amen

Lord, Now You Let Your Servant Go in Peace



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace. Your WORD has been ful-



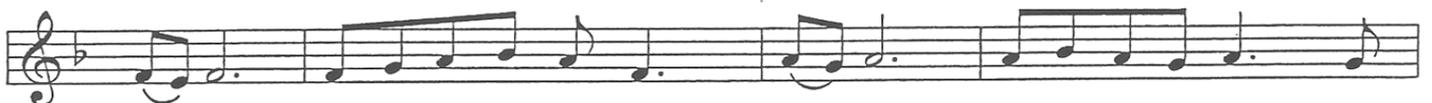
filled. My own eyes have seen the SAL-VA-TION which



You have pre-pared in the sight of ev'-ry peo-ple: a LIGHT, to re -



veal You to the na-tions, and the GLO-RY of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el!



Glo ry! Glo-ry to the FA -THER! Glo- ry! Glo-ry to the SON! And



Glo - ry! Glo - ry to the HO - LY SPI - RIT!



As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now, and will be for -



ev - er, A - men. A - men. A - men.

Post Communion Prayer

- A. 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.
- C. Amen

Blessing

- P. The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor’s rod † bless,
strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.
- C. Amen

Sending Hymn

Jesus, the Very Thought of You

ELW 754

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Brad Hunnicutt

Servers for Sunday, January 29th

Assisting Minister Sylvia Lambert
 Reader Sylvia Lambert
 Altar Guild Sylvia Lambert
 Acolyte Antonio Smith



Sign-up sheets for the various worship assistant slots are on the board in the hallway. Please consider giving glory to God by filling one of these positions on a Sunday.



Candles for the month of January are provided by Julia Lochra in honor of many family Birthdays.

Flowers this week provided by Sylvia Lambert In honor of Ian, Jerri & Forde.

Honor a loved one by making a donation for the candles in the sanctuary for the month or the flowers that beautify the church each Sunday. Sign-up sheets are on the board in the hallway.

PLEASE NOTE: The Leadership Retreat will be rescheduled to a later date in consideration of the Memorial Service for Susie Lowe.



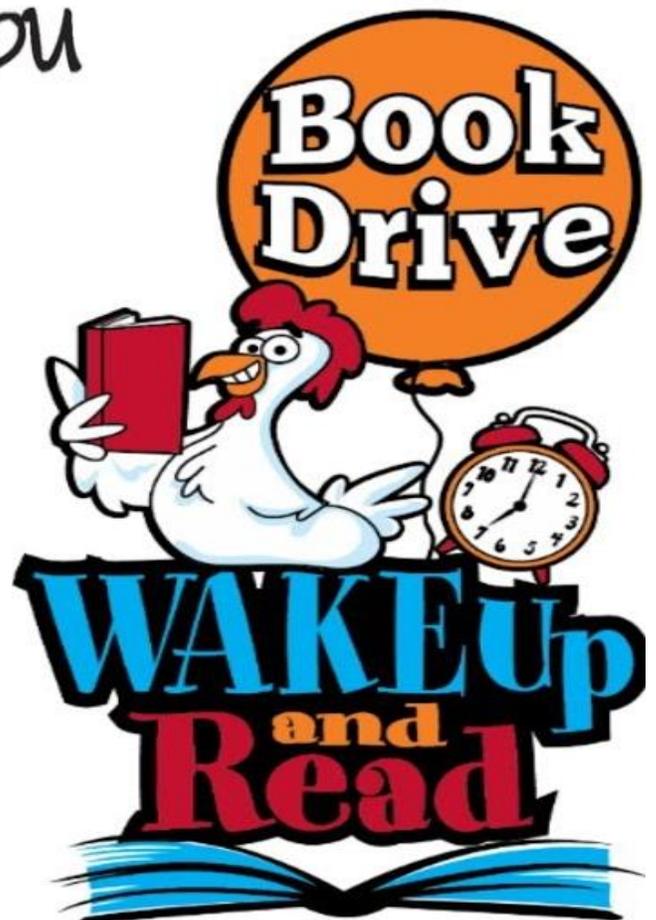
It's Super Bowl Time Again!

The BIG game is on Sunday, February 12th

You can join in the fun in a very special way that helps our community more than you will ever know! For the month of February, the theme will be SOUP-er Bowl! Please prayerfully consider donating canned goods, especially soup, during the month of February, although all donations are GREATLY appreciated!

thank you
♥

Social Concerns is collecting new and gently used children's books for the Wake Up and Read program. There are plastic bins in the narthex where donations can be made through February 19th.





February EVENTS

- Feb 1 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- Feb 3 7:00 pm Men's Group Meeting
- Feb 4 11:00 am Susie Lowe – Visitation for Family and Friends
Noon Memorial Service for Susie Lowe

**Donaldson Funeral Home
396 West Street
Pittsboro, NC 27312**

- Feb 5 9:00 am Adult Bible Study in Fellowship Hall
10:00 am Worship Service – 5th Sunday after Epiphany
11:00 am Social Concerns Meeting

Feb 8 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Feb 11 LOL Clean-Up Day (Tentative)

- Feb 12 9:00 am Adult Bible Study in Fellowship Hall
10:00 am Worship Service – 6th Sunday after Epiphany
11:30 am Council Meeting

 **HAPPY**

Feb 14

Valentine's

DAY 

- Feb 15 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- Feb 19 9:00 am Adult Bible Study in Fellowship Hall
10:00 am Worship Service – 7th Sunday after Epiphany
- Feb 22 7:30 pm Choir Practice
- Feb 26 9:00 am Adult Bible Study in Fellowship Hall
10:00 am Worship Service – Transfiguration of Our Lord
- Feb 28 7:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting