

KNOWN
Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany
2-1-26

Theme - You are Known As Blessed

You may not feel blessed when you are hungry or insulted or mourning the death of a loved one. You may not be in the mood to boast when you feel foolish, weak, or lowly. But knowing your difficulties, Jesus still chose you to be his own. He gives you many gifts, and he calls you blessed.

† GOD CALLS †

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 1

Pastor: Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners,

ALL: or sit in the seat of mockers.

Pastor: But his delight is in the law of the Lord and on his law, he meditates,

ALL: day and night.

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen!

OPENING SONG

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
 Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
 Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
 Call for songs of loudest praise.
 While the hope of endless glory
 Fills my heart with joy and love,
 Teach me ever to adore Thee;
 May I still Thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
 Hither by Thy help I've come;
 And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
 Safely to arrive at home.
 Jesus sought me when a stranger,
 Wand'ring from the fold of God;

He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee;
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Oh, that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry,
Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry
Me to realms of endless day.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you all!
ALL: And also with you!

† GOD SPEAKS †

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT Micah 6:1-8

Listen to what the Lord says:
“Stand up, plead my case before the mountains;
let the hills hear what you have to say.
² “Hear, you mountains, the Lord's accusation;
listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth.
For the Lord has a case against his people;
he is lodging a charge against Israel.
³ “My people, what have I done to you?
How have I burdened you? Answer me.
⁴ I brought you up out of Egypt

and redeemed you from the land of slavery.
I sent Moses to lead you,
also Aaron and Miriam.
⁵ My people, remember
what Balak king of Moab plotted
and what Balaam son of Beor answered.
Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the righteous acts of the Lord.”
⁶ With what shall I come before the Lord
and bow down before the exalted God?
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 thousand rivers of olive oil?
Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
⁸ He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly^[a] with your God.

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no one may boast before him. ³⁰ It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. ³¹ Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

He said:

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 be shown 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 because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BRINGING OUR BLESSING *with Thanksgiving in our Offering*

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S 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.

MESSAGE

† GOD GIVES †

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins.

TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: We have come into the presence of God as His dear children. But we have sinned against him. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

ALL: Merciful Father, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior I pray; Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

Pastor: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven you all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus, He has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. So I declare with great joy, "your sins are forgiven!" In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

SONG

“The Gospel Doxology”

**Your perfect Law exposes me
I feel my sin and desperate need
My best good works are powerless
To satisfy Your righteousness**

**But there is One who lived for me
His life, my only victory
His death forever sealed in time
That I am His and He is mine**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above, O heav’ly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION “Blest Are They”

**Blest are they, the poor in spirit; Theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.
Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!**

**Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill.
Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!**

**Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God!
Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!**

**Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs.
Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!**

Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see.

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you.

Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

“O Bless the Lord My Soul”

O bless the Lord, my soul!

Let all within me join,

And aid my tongue to bless His name

Whose favours are divine.

O bless the Lord, my soul,

Nor let His mercies lie

Forgotten in unthankfulness,

And without praises die.

'Tis He forgives thy sins,

'Tis He relieves thy pain,

'Tis He that heals thy sicknesses,

And makes thee young again.

He crowns thy life with love

When ransomed from the grave;

He that redeemed my soul from hell

Hath sovereign power to save.

He fills the poor with good,

He gives the suff'ers rest;

The Lord hath judgements for the proud,

And justice for th' oppressed.

His wondrous works and ways

He made by Moses known;

But sent the world his truth and grace

By his beloved Son.

DISMISSAL

CLOSING SONG

“10,000 Reasons”

Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

[Chorus] Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

[Chorus] Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before

O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
I'll worship Your holy name

† GOD BLESSES †

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all!

ALL: Amen.

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!