

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

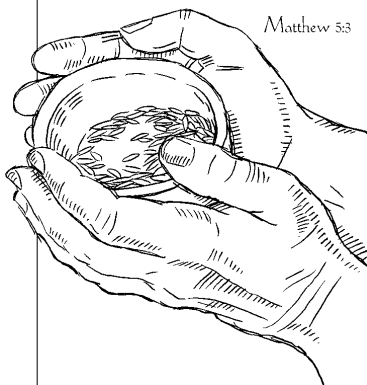
January 29, 2017

## Worship Focus

**Jesus Is Revealed as the Source of Blessing  
for the Poor and Persecuted**

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

Matthew 5:3



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# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Morning Praise

Christian Worship Page 45

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## OPENING HYMN

383 - Blessed Are They, Forever Blest



1 Bless - ed are they, for - ev - er blest,  
2 Bless - ed are they to whom the Lord  
3 From guile their hearts and lips are free;  
4 How glo - rious is that right - eous - ness



Whose guilt is par - doned by their God,  
Im - putes not their in - iq - ui - ty.  
Their hum - ble joy, their ho - ly fear  
That hides and can - cels all their sins,



Whose sins with sor - row are con - fessed  
They plead no mer - it or re - ward  
With deep re - pent - ance well a - gree  
While bright the ev - i - dence of grace



And cov - ered with their Sav - ior's blood,  
And not on works but grace re - ly.  
And join to prove their faith sin - cere,  
Through all their lives ap - pears and shines!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Tune: O JESU CHRISTE, WAHRES LICHT (LM) *Andächtige Haus-Kirche*, Nürnberg, 1676, alt.

# INVOCATION AND PRAYER



**M:** O Lord, o - pen my lips.



**C:** And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



**M:** Has - ten to save me, O God.



**C:** O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



**M:** Epiphany) The glory of Christ \_\_\_\_\_ is re - vealed: let us wor - ship him.



## PRAYER AND PRAISE

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of eight staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are: "Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing, let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand."

C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of  
our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing,  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a  
great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are  
in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he  
made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and  
bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

## THE WORD

### **FIRST LESSON** Micah 6:1-8

God is not interested in the sacrifice of our wealth, but in hearts that are humble.

MICAH 6:1 Listen to what the LORD says:

“Stand up, plead your case before the mountains;  
let the hills hear what you have to say.

<sup>2</sup> Hear, O 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.

<sup>3</sup> “My people, what have I done to you?  
How have I burdened you? Answer me.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> My people, remember what Balak king of Moab counseled  
and what Balaam son of Beor answered.  
Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup> 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?

<sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousand rivers of oil?  
Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

<sup>8</sup> He has showed you, O man, what is good.  
And what does the LORD require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

## PSALM

Psalm 1

*Sung by the choir*

*Refrain*

*Happy are they who delight, who delight in the law of God.*

*Happy indeed are they who refuse the way of evil,  
Nor walk the road of sinners, nor join the mockers of God.*

*Joy shall be in the hearts of those who delight in the law of God,  
For they recite the law, they speak it day and night.*

*They are like green trees that grow by clear flowing waters,  
They bear their fruit in due season, their leaves fade not, they prosper.*

*It is not so for all, not so with evil doers,  
They blow like chaff in the wind, they fall by the weight of the truth.*

*God upholds the just, God knows the way of the righteous,  
But the evil ones shall perish, shall perish by their deeds.*

## SECOND LESSON I Corinthians 1: 26-31

God brought salvation, the greatest “blessing,” to and through lowly things.

<sup>1</sup>CORINTHAINS 1:26 Brothers, 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. <sup>27</sup> 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. <sup>28</sup> He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things--and the things that are not--to nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one may boast before him. <sup>30</sup> 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. <sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written: “Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.”

# GOSPEL ANTHEM

## Blest Are They

*Text, Tune, Setting: David Haas, b. 1957 © GIA Publications  
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*Cantor sings the verses, congregation joins in singing the refrain.*

*Refrain*

Re - joice and be glad!  
Bless-ed are you; ho - ly are you. Re - joice  
and be glad! Yours is the king-dom of  
God.

The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The refrain consists of four lines of music. The first line has a 4-measure phrase: quarter note G, quarter note A, half note B, quarter note A. The second line has a 4-measure phrase: quarter note G, quarter note A, quarter note B, quarter note C, followed by a half note D. The third line has a 4-measure phrase: quarter note G, quarter note A, quarter note B, quarter note C, followed by a half note D. The fourth line has a 4-measure phrase: quarter note G, quarter note A, quarter note B, quarter note C, followed by a half note D. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

- 1 *Blest are they, the poor in spirit; Theirs is the kingdom of God.  
Blest are they, full of sorrow; They shall be consoled.* **Refrain**
- 2 *Blest are they, the lowly ones; They shall inherit the earth.  
Blest are they, who hunger and thirst; They shall have their fill.* **Refrain**
- 3 *Blest are they who show mercy; Mercy shall be theirs.  
Blest are they, the pure of heart; They shall see God!* **Refrain**
- 4 *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.* **Refrain**
- 5 *Blest are you who suffer hate All because of me.  
Rejoice and be glad. Yours is the kingdom; Shine for all to see.* **Refrain**

## GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12

MATTHEW 5:1 Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup> and he began to teach them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called sons of God.

<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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





HYMN OF THE DAY

395 - Seek Where You May to Find a Way



1 Seek where you may To find a way  
 2 Seek whom you may To be your stay;  
 3 Seek him a - lone, Who did a - tone,  
 4 My heart's de - light, My crown most bright,



That leads to your sal - va - tion. My heart is  
 None can re - deem his broth - er. All help - ers  
 Who did your souls de - liv - er; Oh, seek him  
 Je - sus, you are for - ev - er. Not wealth or



stilled; On Christ I build— He is the  
 failed; This man pre - vailed, The God - Man,  
 first, All you who thirst For grace that  
 pride Or aught be - side Our bond of



one foun - da - tion. His Word is sure; His  
 and none oth - er. The Ser - vant - Lord Our  
 fails you nev - er. In ev - 'ry need Seek  
 love shall sev - er. You are my Lord; Your



works en - dure. He will o'er - throw My  
 life re - stored. We're jus - ti - fied, For  
 him in - deed; To ev - 'ry heart He  
 pre - cious Word Shall be my guide What -



ev - 'ry foe; Through him I more than con - quer.  
 he has died, The guilt - less for the guilt - y.  
 will im - part His bless - ings with - out mea - sure.  
 e'er be - tide. Oh, teach me, Lord, to trust you!

## SERMON

Micah 6:1-8

### You've Been Served!

## PRAISE AND PRAYER

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD



C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of



heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,



and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

## FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

### MUSICAL OFFERTORY

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the people of God, that the Lord who knows the way of the righteous would preserve them from walking in the counsel of the wicked, standing in the way of sinners and sitting in the seat of scoffers; and by His grace, cause them to delight in His holy Word, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For Christians who suffer persecution, that the Lord who rescued His people of old from Egypt and Moab would remember and sustain them in grace and faith, bless them even as they are reviled and persecuted on His account, and deliver them according to His will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For this and all Christian congregations, that the Lord would gather His people to receive His gifts of grace and life; and that He would strengthen them to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly before Him, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For Christians in their vocations, that they might never be ashamed of Christ and Him crucified, but be freed to boast in the Lord within their callings, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who mourn and those who are troubled by sickness and affliction [*including \_\_\_\_\_*], that the Lord would comfort, heal and deliver according to His good and gracious will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

We give thanks to You, O Lord, that as You rescued Israel from Egypt by Your right hand and Your holy arm, so You have faithfully delivered Your people from sin and death throughout the ages. Preserve us in Your grace and truth, that we might be confident of Your blessings now and gladly await the day when we see with our eyes that ours is the kingdom of heaven; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven,  
 hallowed be your name,  
 your kingdom come,  
 your will be done  
 on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins,  
 as we forgive those  
 who sin against us.  
 Lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power,  
 and the glory are yours  
 now and forever. Amen.



## SERMON HYMN

290 - One Thing's Needful



1 One thing's need - ful; Lord, this trea - sure Teach me high - ly  
 2 How were Mar - y's thoughts de - vot - ed Her e - ter - nal  
 3 Wis - dom's high - est, no - blest trea - sure, Je - sus, can be



to re - gard. All else, though it first give plea - sure,  
 joy to find. As in - tent each word she not - ed,  
 found in you. Let me find in you my plea - sure;



Is a yoke that press - es hard. Be - neath it the  
 At her Sav - ior's feet re - clined. How kin - dled her  
 Make my will and ac - tions true, Hu - mil - i - ty



heart is still fret - ting and striv - ing, No true, last - ing  
heart, how de - vout was its feel - ing, While hear - ing the  
there and sim - plic - i - ty reign - ing, In paths of true

hap - pi - ness ev - er de - riv - ing. This one thing is  
les - sons that Christ was re - veal - ing; All earth - ly con -  
wis - dom my steps ev - er train - ing. If I learn from

need - ful; all oth - ers are vain— I count  
cerns she for - got for her Lord And found  
Je - sus this knowl - edge di - vine, The bless -

all but loss that I Christ may ob - tain.  
her con - tent - ment in hear - ing his Word.  
ing of heav - en - ly wis - dom is mine.

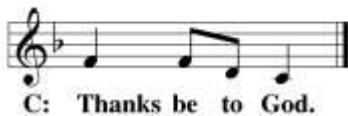
## PRAYER AND BLESSING

**M** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**C** Amen.



**M:** Let us praise the Lord.



**C:** Thanks be to God.



M: The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C: A - - men.



# CLOSING HYMN

# 325 - How Blest Are They Who Hear



1 How blest are they who hear God's Word And keep and  
 2 God's Word a trea - sure is to me, Through sor - row's  
 3 To - day I was my Sav - ior's guest; My soul was



heed what they have heard! They dai - ly grow in  
 night my sun shall be, The shield of faith in  
 here so rich - ly blest, The bread of life re -



wis - dom. Their light shines bright - er day by day, And  
 bat - tle. The Fa - ther's hand has writ - ten there My  
 ceiv - ing. Oh, may there - by my faith pre - vail So



while they tread life's wea - ry way, They have the oil of  
 ti - tle as his child and heir, "The king - dom's yours for -  
 that its fruits may nev - er fail Till my ac - count is



glad - ness To soothe their pain and sad - ness.  
 ev - er." That prom - ise fails me nev - er.  
 giv - en Be - fore God's throne in heav - en!

Text: Johan N. Brun, 1745–1816; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt.  
 Tune: OM HIMMERIGES RIGE (887 88 77) *Den danske Psalmebog*, Copenhagen, 1569, alt.

*After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.*