

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 28, 2023 5:30 PM

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Christ is the world's true light (verses 1, 2)

Hymnal #542

Christ is the world's true Light, its Captain of salvation, the Daystar clear and bright of every race and nation; new life, new hope awakes, for all who own his sway: freedom her bondage breaks, and night is turned to day.

In Christ all races meet, their ancient feuds forgetting, the whole round world complete, from sunrise to its setting: when Christ is throned as Lord all shall forsake their fear, to ploughshare beat the sword, to pruning-hook the spear.

George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959)

Acclamation

pg. 355 in Book of Common Prayer

Collect for Purity

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading –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?

The Psalm – Psalm 15

¹*LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? * who may abide upon your holy hill?*

²*Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, * who speaks the truth from his heart.*

³*There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; *
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.*

⁴*In his sight the wicked is rejected, * but he honors those who fear the LORD.*

⁵*He has sworn to do no wrong * and does not take back his word.*

⁶*He does not give his money in hope of gain, * nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.*

⁷*Whoever does these things * shall never be overthrown.*

The Epistle – 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

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.”

The Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

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 Sermon

Nicene Creed

pg. 358 in Book of Common Prayer

Prayers of the People

Confession of Sin

pg. 360 in BCP

The Peace

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music

Remember your servants Lord

Hymnal #560

Remember your servants, Lord, when you come in your kingly power.

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 after righteousness; for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy.

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

Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when the world reviles you and persecutes you; and utters all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake:

Rejoice and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in heaven.

Russian Orthodox liturgy; Matthew 5:3-12

Offertory

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People ***And of thine own have we given thee.***

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing . . . to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God . . .

. . . Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice and thanksgiving . . .

. . . By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Music

Blest are the pure in heart

Hymnal #656

Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's abode.
The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to dwell in lowliness with us, our pattern and our King;
he to the lowly soul will still himself impart and for his dwelling and his throne will choose the pure in heart.
Lord, we thy presence seek; may ours this blessing be; give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple fit for thee.

Sts. 1 and 3, John Keble (1792-1866), alt.; sts. 2 and 4, William John Hall (1793-1861), alt.

Sending Forth

Postcommunion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Simple gifts

Hymnal #554

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right, 'twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,
to turn, turn, will be our delight till by turning, turning we come round right.

Shaker song, 18th cent.

Dismissal

Postlude

PERMISSION TO PODCAST/STREAM THE MUSIC IN THIS SERVICE OBTAINED FROM
ONE LICENSE, LICENSE #A-700000. ALL WORDS AND MUSIC REPRINTED UNDER ONE LICENSE #A-70929.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
12251 Antioch Road, Overland Park, KS 66213
913-451-0512 Email: stthomas@stthomasop.org
Website: www.stthomasop.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/stthomasop