

Sunday, February 1st, 2026
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany (Green)

First Reading

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF 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 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 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?

Psalm 15

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? who may abide upon your holy hill?

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

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

In his sight the wicked is rejected, but he honours those who fear the Lord.

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

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

Whoever does these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE 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."

Gospel

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO 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."

Service Hymn Lyrics

Open : God of the Poor

G. Kendrick (c) 1993 Make Way Music

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Beauty for brokenness,hope for despair
Lord in Your suff'ring world,this is our
prayer
Bread for the children,justice, joy, peace
Sunrise to sunset your kingdom increase

Shelter for fragile lives,cures for their ills
Work for the craftsmen, trade for their
skills
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the
weak
Voices to plead the cause of those who
can't speak

God of the poor, friend of the weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts ,let tears fall like rain
Come change our love from a spark to a
flame

Refuge from cruel wars,havens from fear
Cities for sanctu'ry, freedoms to share
Peace to the killing fields, scorched earth
to green
Christ for the bitterness, His cross for the
pain

Lighten our darkness,breathe on this
flame
Until Your justice burns brightly again
Until the nations learn of Your ways
Seek Your salvation and bring you their
praise

God of the poor, friend of the weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts ,let tears fall like rain
Come change our love from a spark to a
flame

Gradual : CP439 Blest are the Pure in Heart v1,2,3 /4

Tune : Franconia Text : J. Keble

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,

still to the lowly soul
his presence doth impart
and for a dwelling and a throne
chooseth the pure in heart.

----gospel ---

Lord, we thy presence seek;
may ours this blessing be:
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple fit for thee.

Offertory : All Who Hunger

Tune: B. Moore © 1993 Text: S. Dunstan © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

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All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wand'ring. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.

Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.

We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.

Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.

Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

Communion music : As Longs the Hart (O Waly Waly)

Close : Just a Closer Walk with Thee
Anon.

I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk let me walk close to Thee

Just a closer walk with thee
Grant it Jesus is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be dear Lord let it be

Thru this world of toil and snares
If I falter Lord who cares
Who with me my burden shares
None but Thee dear Lord none but Thee

Just a closer walk with thee
Grant it Jesus is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be dear Lord let it be

When my feeble life is o'er
Time for me will be no more
Guide me gently safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore to Thy shore

Just a closer walk with thee
Grant it Jesus is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be dear Lord let it be.