



First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street
Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111
Church: (716) 692-1319
Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God
4th Sunday after Epiphany
CCLI License # 2839486

January 29, 2023

10:30 am

PRELUDE "FOR EVERYONE BORN"

FOR EVERYONE BORN

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

When we seek justice for the other,
when we love kindness more than ever,
we live as God asks us to live.

When we walk humbly through life,
when we offer mercy to those who hurt us,
we are the blessing God hopes we will be.

When we are willing to look foolish by following Jesus,
when we choose weakness rather than power,
we reflect the One who is in our midst.

GATHERING PRAYER

Redeeming God, you come to us in Christ to rescue us from slavery and lead us out of captivity. Guide us by the wisdom of the cross, and show us how to live a life of justice, love, and blessedness. Amen

***HYMN: "God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens" #24**

HOLY MANNA

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we want to truly live in God's presence, we must live as God's faithful people. Let us begin by confessing all the mistakes we have made, the wrongs we have done, the people we have hurt. Join me as we pray together, saying,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

What have we done to you, dear God? We dishonor you every time we treat another with disrespect. We shatter your heart when we find it easier to break our word, then to take the risk to keep it. We fill your ears with the gossip, lies, and slander we speak about those around us. You are wise enough to forgive our foolishness; you are strong enough to overcome our weakness; you are loving enough to heal the hurt we cause to you and to others. And so you give us new hope and new life in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Silence is kept

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

What has God done to us - shown mercy! What has God done for us - forgiven us! This is the good news for us.

We will not boast, for it is not our doing. We will give thanks to God for such grace and hope. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, your blessings are abundant, and your wisdom exceeds our grasp. Fill us with your Spirit as we hear your word this day, that we may be justice seekers and peacemakers, sharing your life among those who are forgotten, weak, or persecuted, and revealing to all your glory. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

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?

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Psalms 15

¹O LORD, who may abide in your tent?

Who may dwell on your holy hill?

²Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,

and speak the truth from their heart;

³who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends,

nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

⁴in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD;

who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

⁵who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved.

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Breathe on me, Breath of God" - Hearts4Worship

TRENTHAM

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.

5th Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6th Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7th Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8th Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9th Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10th Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11th Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

SERMON: "Doing What's Right"

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee

SERMON HYMN: "Bring Forth the Kingdom"

GRACE SOCIAL WITNESS

2190 **Bring Forth the Kingdom**

Leader *All*



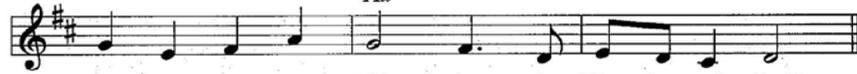
1. You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: Salt for the
2. You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: Light for the
3. You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: Bring forth the
4. We are a blest and a pil-grim peo-ple: Bound for the

Leader



King-dom of God! Share the fla- vor of
Cit-y of God! Shine so ho- ly and
King-dom of God! Seeds of mer- cy and
King-dom of God! Love our jour- ney and

All



life, O peo- ple: Life in the King-dom of God!
bright, O peo- ple: Shine for the King-dom of God!
seeds of jus- tice, grow in the King-dom of God!
love our home-land: Love is the King-dom of God!

Refrain



Bring forth the King-dom of mer- cy, bring forth the



King-dom of peace; bring forth the King-dom of jus- tice,



bring forth the Cit-y of God!

WORDS: Marty Haugen (Matt. 5:13-16)
MUSIC: Marty Haugen
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BRING FORTH THE KINGDOM
Irregular with Refrain

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

MOMENT FOR MISSION: Kurt Ebsary - Music Ministry

CALL TO THE OFFERING

With what shall we come before the Lord this day? We come with a love of justice and a passion for sharing Christ's love. Let us walk in humble gratitude, offering to God a portion of the gifts that God freely shares with us, gifts for the healing of the world.

THE OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY: "In the Bleak Midwinter" #144 (vs4)

CRANHAM

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May we always be foolish enough to offer our gifts to you, Generous God, for you use them to bring justice to the oppressed, to bring laughter to those who mourn, and to offer wonder to little children. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN: "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" #700**

I'M GONNA LIVE

CHARGE

We have been nourished by God's grace and hope,
**and so we will go to those who hunger for justice,
as well as to those who thirst for reconciliation.**

We are called to follow the One who is weak and powerless,
**and so we will bring healing to the broken among us,
as well as comfort to those who grieve in every moment.**

We learn what is right and good from the Holy Spirit,
**and so we will go as fools to be blessings to the wise,
as well as to do not what is easy, but what is difficult.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

(c) Thom M. Shuman and Feasting on the Word

Please join us in the parlor for coffee and fellowship after the worship service.

What does the LORD require of you?

Act Justly

Love
Mercy

Micah
6:8

W
A
L
K

Humbly

