



FEBRUARY 1, 2026



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

PRELUDE

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

Glory (Let There Be Peace)

Chris Stevens, Matt Maher, Rachel Popadic

Verse 1

One star burns in the darkness,
shines with a promise, Emmanuel
One child born in the stillness,
living within us, Emmanuel

Chorus 1

Verse 2

One voice speaks for the voiceless,
hope for the hopeless, Emmanuel
One love brings us together,
now and forever, Emmanuel

Chorus 1

Bridge

Do not be afraid, His love is strong enough to save us
Nothing stands in the way, His love is strong enough to lead us
Do not be afraid, His love is strong enough to save us
Nothing stands in the way, His love is strong enough to lead us

Chorus 2

Chorus 1

We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let there be peace
We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let it start in me

Chorus 2

We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let there be peace
We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let it start in me
We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let it start in me
Let there be peace, let it start in me

ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

A: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C: Amen.

A: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence For Reflection

A: Mighty God, lover of justice,

C: you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

A: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ✠ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

C: Amen.

THE PEACE

We receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace. You may greet one another and say "peace be with you" or similar words.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

INSTALLATION OF LEAD COUNCIL

(11:00 am)

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together,

C: Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE WORD

This Little Light of Mine

Verse 1

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Verse 2

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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CHILDREN'S SERMON

A RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 15

Lord, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)

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

C: Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;

L: they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

C: In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

L: They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

A READING FROM

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

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 scholar? 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 the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for 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 abolish things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. In contrast, God is why you are 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.”

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Thy Word

The musical notation is for a two-part setting of the Gospel Acclamation. It is written in 4/4 time with a tempo marking of quarter note = 70. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written on a single staff. The lyrics are: "Thy Word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path." The first line of music ends with a fermata on the final note. The second line of music begins with a measure rest marked '5' and continues the melody. The piece ends with a fermata on the final note, marked 'Fine'. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: F, C/E, F, Bb/D, C, F, C/E, F, Bb/D, C, F.

THE GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 5:1-12

(Congregation standing)

L: The Holy Gospel of St. Matthew, beginning in the fifth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And 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 the sake of righteousness, 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.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

PREACHING OF THE GOOD NEWS

MOMENT OF REFLECTION ON THE GOOD NEWS



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

Each petition shall conclude with:

A: Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The Prayers conclude:

A: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE MEAL

THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

In the Bleak Midwinter

by Harold Darke, arr. by Martin Tucker

Sharon Pegram, Clarinet Solo

Anna Keiserman, Ph. D., Piano

THE OFFERTORY

God Gave to Me a Life to Live

1 God gave to me a life to live; God
2 When I am helped to see what's good, and

gave me hands with which to give; God gave a heart with
led to do the things I should, I thank you, car - ing

which to care; God gave me love that I might share.
God a - bove, for life and hands and heart and love.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: God of majesty,

C: no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts!

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

We practice "Open Communion," acknowledging that Jesus welcomes all persons, sinners and saints alike, to the table. All means ALL. Please come forward by the center aisle and receive the Sacrament in a continuous line, exiting by the side aisles.

Communion is by intinction. *We offer a chalice of wine and a chalice of white grape juice in which you may dip the bread. Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask for them at the altar, if needed. The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen.*

Infants who are not yet ready to receive food will receive a blessing. Parents who have questions about the practice of open communion may instruct their children to receive just a blessing.

Communion can be served to those who are not physically able to join us for worship. Please speak with an usher if you know of someone who would desire communion from Sunday's table brought to them.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG

Build A Longer Table (ACS 1062)

- 1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
- 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
- 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
- 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,

feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.

Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.

Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace until life everlasting.

C: Amen.

THE SENDING

INSTALLATION OF LEAD COUNCIL

(9:00 am)

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠ , and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Pat Barrett

Verse 1

It all comes down to this
What you require of me
Love my neighbor as myself
And You above all things

Chorus

Verse 2

It all comes down to this
To be Your hands and feet
Good news to all the world
The truth will set us free

Chorus / Bridge 2x

Verse 3

Years from now we'll see
The fruit our hands have sown
Faith just like a seed
The only way it grows

Chorus

Chorus

Act justly love mercy walk humbly
With You God
In all things in all ways walk humbly
With You God

Bridge

It's beauty for ashes
It's mourning to dancing
It's closer and closer
The Kingdom of heaven

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSED AND SENT TO SERVE

A: This little light of mine...

C: I'm gonna let it shine!

A: "Jesus loves me, this I know." Today, Jesus proclaims his love for people that our world often forgets or overlooks, people who are poor, meek, or sad. But he also proclaims his love for those who struggle on behalf of those who are overlooked. May we be lovers of righteousness, seeking to shine a light on injustice and helping lift up the downtrodden. And may we continue to proclaim Jesus' love until...

C: Everyone knows that God loves them!

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



If you are worshipping with us at 9:00 am we kindly ask that you leave your bulletin on the back table on your way out for those that are worshipping at 11:00 am if you did not make notes. We wish to be good stewards of our environment and resources.

*** Our services are live-streamed and recorded for later viewing. We also utilize images from our services and activities on our website. If you do not want images of you or your family on our website, please inform us via an email to communications@epiphanysuwanee.org.*



EPIPHANY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship Services

9:00 am & 11:00 am (in-person and online)

Ministers: The People of God

Pastor: Chris Hermansen

Minister of Youth: Kris Perkola

Director of Worship and Music: Steve Belfield, Interim

Worship Production: Steve Belfield

Worship Accompanist: Anna Keiserman, Ph. D.

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Glory (Let There Be Peace)

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This Little Light of Mine

Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress
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Thy Word

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Let Streams of Living Justice (ELW 710)

Text © 1989 William Whitla
Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
Music: Gustav Holst, 1874-1934
Music Public Domain
Onelicense

In the Bleak Midwinter

By Harold Drake, arrangement by Marin Tucker
No copyright noted on music

God Gave to Me a Life to Live

Text: Anonymous
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune,
Adapt. Michael Practorius, 1571-1621

Lamb of God

ELW Holy Communion Setting Four
admin. Augsburg Fortress Text & Music: Public Domain

Build A Longer Table (ACS 1062)

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Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984
Music: French carol (Public Domain)

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly (CCLI #7168697)

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- ◆ Text EPIPHANYGA to 73256
- ◆ Use your bank's online bill pay feature to set up recurring giving
- ◆ Mail a check to Epiphany
- ◆ Drop it in the offering plate on Sunday

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