

Epiphany 4



Imagine sitting on the side of the Sea of Galilee listening to Jesus speak. This country boy sure seems to know what He is talking about, and has this wonderful methodology that He shares with the crowd.

The Sermon on the Mount gives us Jesus' words to fully understand, but they take a while to grasp, like tea in a hot cup of water. It takes a little time to fully appreciate what is being presented for the listener. Christ comes to share the simple understandings about the Kingdom of Heaven with a world that is

looking for wonderfully complex messages. It is just as simple as Micah the prophet suggests.

The words of the Beatitudes enable the listener to more fully understand the differences that following the Kingdom direction will be for the believer. It is NOT the way of the world, so do not be confused. Rather, it is God's way of action in His creation, and it is wise for us to see what He is all about.

You and I can take the words of Jesus to heart. We also can take them and leave them out of our daily lives. If we are serious about following and want to get involved in the work of the Kingdom, then perhaps we need to consider our attitude on the work Jesus has accomplished.

Is this something we just hear, or is it something we live out each day?

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

GATHERING PRAYER

Jesus, you don't ask much. Your invitation to love God with our whole being and to love our neighbor as ourselves is not that difficult for us to accomplish. Help us this day and every day to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you every day. In your name we pray, Amen.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME

Pre-Service Music

Welcome and Announcements

CONFSSIONAL PRAYER

As we celebrate this Epiphany season, we are reminded of the revelation of Jesus Christ to the entire world through a variety of methods and many people. In our time and place, we forget what Christ has done for us, and at times, we lose our way and pick really terrible alternatives. Recognizing this weakness in our spirit, we pause to offer our confession this day:

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake, and by His promise, forgives us all our sin. Therefore on His behalf, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go and sin no more, that the rest of your life might be pure and holy and modeled after our Lord Jesus in all we say and all we do, we pray in His Holy Name, Amen.

HYMN 11 Praise to the Lord the Almighty 1+4

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): **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.**

Alleluia. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Oh, How He Loves You and Me"

Dean Carson

THE FIRST LESSON: Micah 6:1-8

New Living Translation (NLT)

Listen to what the Lord is saying:

“Stand up and state your case against me. Let the mountains and hills be called to witness your complaints. And now, O mountains, listen to the Lord’s complaint! He has a case against his people. He will bring charges against Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? What have I done to make you tired of me? Answer me! For I brought you out of Egypt and redeemed you from slavery. I sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to help you. Don’t you remember, my people, how King Balak of Moab tried to have you cursed and how Balaam son of Beor blessed you instead?

And remember your journey from Acacia Grove to Gilgal, when I, the Lord, did everything I could to teach you about my faithfulness.” What can we bring to the Lord? Should we bring him burnt offerings? Should we bow before God Most High with offerings of yearling calves? Should we offer him thousands of rams and ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Should we sacrifice our firstborn children to pay for our sins?

No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

THE SECOND LESSON :1 Corinthians 1:18-31 New Living Translation (NLT)

The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. As the Scriptures say,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and discard the intelligence of the intelligent.” So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world’s brilliant debaters? God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish. Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven. And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom. So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it’s all nonsense.

But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God’s weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength.

Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.

God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin. Therefore, as the Scriptures say, "If you want to boast, boast only about the Lord."

Hymn 57 All Hail the Power of Jesus Name 1,3,5

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

New Living Translation (NLT)

One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them.

"God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs. God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted. God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth. God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied. God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy. God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God. God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God. God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

"God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

The Gospel of our Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

SERMON "The Be-Attitudes"

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

SERMON HYMN: 362 Blessed Assurance 1+3

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE OFFERING:

After the consecration of the Offering, we will sing the Doxology:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

-PRAYERS OF PRAISE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, LORD'S PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

HYMN 429 I am Trusting Thee Lord Jesus 1+4

THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. **Thanks be to God**

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WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! Please take a moment to turn your Cell Phone or other devices to mute, so they do not go off during the service and become disruptive. We appreciate your help to this regard. And thanks again for being here with us this morning!

Our Savior Lutheran Church

January 29th, 2017

IN OUR PRAYERS: We take time during our service to offer petitions for the prayer needs of ourselves, our families, our friends, and the world. Please give those requests to Pastor at the beginning portion of the service so they can be included in our prayers during worship today.

OUR NEXT BIBLE STUDY will be held on Wednesday, February 15 , 2017, at 10:00 AM. Please take the time to join us as we dig further into the Word of God with the continuation of our study on Romans.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, LCMC

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Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M.

Bible Study: Times as announced

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