

St. Luke’s Gondola Point

**MORNING PRAYER**

The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany - January 29, 2023

[Un-bolded words are said by one, **Bolded words** can be said by all.]

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven. *Matthew 5.12*

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Opening All-Ages Song: *God Came To Us In Jesus*

**MORNING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, heavenly King;

**teaching and preaching, healing and comforting,**

you proclaimed the kingdom.

**Let heaven and earth shout their praise.**

With all the voices of heaven we celebrate the coming of our Saviour.

**Let heaven and earth shout their praise.**

With all the creatures on earth we sing and dance at his birth.

**Praise and honour and glory to you, O Lord most high.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now,** **and will be for ever. Amen.** **Alleluia!**

The Lord is our light and our life: **O come, let us worship.**

**Jubilate** *- Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*

**serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.**

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*

**he himself has made us, and we are his;**

**we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*

**give thanks to him and call upon his name.**

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*

**and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lord is our light and our life: **O come, let us worship.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

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?

The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to 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.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

A reading from the first letter to the Corinthians 1:18-31.

For 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.”

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: *All Creatures Of Our God & King* (MP #7)

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew (5:1-12). **Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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. 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 Gospel of Christ: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Apostles’ Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

Let us offer our prayers to the source of all love and all life, saying, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Merciful Lord, we pray for all who call themselves Christians: that we may become a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to the praise of Christ Jesus our Saviour. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for Davidour archbishop, and for all bishops and other ministers: that they may remain faithful to their calling and rightly proclaim the word of truth. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for Charles our King, for the leaders of the nations, and all in authority: that your people may lead quiet and peaceable lives.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for Quispamsis, Rothesay, the surrounding communities,and those who live here, the poor and the rich, the elderly and the young, men and women: that you will show your goodwill to all. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the victims of our society and those who minister to them: that you will be their help and defence. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those preparing for baptism, and for those recently baptized: that they may be strengthened in the faith. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own needs and those of others. [***Take a moment of silence to offer up prayers and intercessions, for yourself and for others. Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin.***] **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the saints who have found favour in your sight from earliest times, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and those whose names are known to you alone: and we pray that we too may be counted among your faithful witnesses. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgements, and all just works, give to us your servants that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on doing your will, and that, freed from fear of our enemies, we may pass our time in rest and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Collect

*Living God,*

*in Christ you make all things new.*

*Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn: *Come, You Sinners Poor & Needy* (CP #608)

Dismissal

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**