



Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist at the Church of St. Paul, Cambria

•4th Sunday after the Epiphany • January 29, 2023 •

Opening Hymn 423

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.
Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

To those who are poor in spirit, O God, you have promised the blessedness of your kingdom. Rescue your church from the seductive promises of this world's powers and form us as the community of the beatitudes, that we may become your faithful witnesses to the world. And that Christ alone may be our wisdom and our righteousness, our sanctification and redemption, let us confess our sins against you, our God, and our neighbors.

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 neighbors 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 on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Lord, open our lips
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Earth is the Lord's for he made it.
Come let us adore him.

Psalm 67:1-5 *Deus misereatur*

O God, be merciful to us and bless us,
show us the light of your countenance and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all

the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Psalm 15

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

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

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

4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
but he honors those who fear the LORD.

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

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

7 Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

First Lesson 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 tens of 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?

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

Canticle 17: The Song of Simeon

Lord, you now have set your servant free * to go in peace as you have promised:

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, * whom you have prepared for all the world to see: A light to enlighten the nations, * and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now and ever will be. **Amen.**

Second Lesson 1 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."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

Canticle A: A Song of Wisdom Sapientia liberavit Wisdom 10:15-19,20b-21

Wisdom freed from a nation of oppressors * a holy people and a blameless race.

She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord, * withstood dread rulers with wonders and signs. To the saints she gave the reward of their labors, * and led them by a marvelous way; She was their shelter by day * and a blaze of stars by night.

She brought them across the Red Sea, * she led them through mighty waters; But their enemies she swallowed in the waves * and spewed them out from the depths of the abyss.

And then, Lord, the righteous sang hymns to your Name, * and praised with one voice your protecting hand;

For Wisdom opened the mouths of the mute, * and gave speech to the tongues of a new-born people.

A reading from the **Gospel** 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."

Here ends the Gospel reading

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Collects:

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Sermon

Canon Mark Hall

Sermon Music

The Prayers of the People

For the church and for all your creation, we pray to you, Lord God, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

Blessed are the poor in spirit; theirs is the dominion of heaven. And so we pray: Unite the church, guide us, our clergy, our bishop and all its leaders; let us show the world the love of Jesus. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Blessed are the pure in heart; they shall see God. And so we pray: Give your people the will and the courage to value your service above all lesser goods. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Blessed are the peacemakers, God's own children. And so we pray: Bring peace to the world, security to the nations, and safety to the cities. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. And so we pray: Remove from us prejudice and injustice, and raise up among us those who will labor for the good of all whom you have made. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. And so we pray: Be present with those who are sick, imprisoned, or in distress; make us quick to love and serve our neighbors. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Blessed are those who serve on behalf of others. And so we pray for all those in our military who serve others at home and abroad. May they be kept safe as they serve others. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We offer Prayers for Ann, Susie and Jennifer. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

Rejoice and be glad, their reward is great in heaven. And so we pray: We remember all who have witnessed to your love with their lives; give us strength to testify to Christ before the rulers of our own day. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, you have taught us to do justice, love kindness, and practice humility before you; make our faith active in love, that your name may be praised and your people served throughout the earth, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Offertory: Walk in love as Christ loved us and offered himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *(Ephesians 5:2)*

Offertory Hymn 656

Prayer over the gifts

God of steadfast love, may our offering this day, by the power of your Holy Spirit, renew us for your service. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving - EP B

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might *(Repeat)* **Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest** *(Repeat)* **Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest** *(Repeat)*.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation;

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all;

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now as our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray *(sung)*:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Behold the lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lamb.

Communion of the People

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Source of all goodness, in this eucharist we are nourished by the bread of heaven and invigorated with new wine. May these gifts renew our lives,

that we may show your glory to all the world. Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to this deep bond of the Spirit in union with Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing:

May Christ the Son be manifest in you, that your life may be a light to the world, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Announcements

Thanksgiving Prayer: We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. Amen.

Closing Hymn 693

Dismissal:

As disciples eager to share with all the blessedness of God's kingdom, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.