

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 29, 2023

The First Reading

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?

Psalm

Psalm 15

1 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.

The Second Reading

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.”

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

Before proclaiming the Gospel, the Priest says

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord 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. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: William Magee
 2nd: Frank Supercinski
 7th: Dana Parker
 8th: Javier Glave
 9th: Preston Martin
 10th: Elena Randell
 14th: Linsay Kirschke
 16th: Lauren Cammack
 21st: Jess Richardson
 25th: Christina Richardson
 27th: Ryan Randell

Inquirer's Class

If you are interested in confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation please contact Mother Tracey by email or text: mothertracey@smaalongview.org or 903.399.8334 Our confirmation class for adults (age 18+) will begin on **TODAY Sunday, January 29** after the service in Mother Tracey's office.

LCM Food Drive

Super Bowl of Caring. Help us fill the LCM Food box to help our community. You may begin to bring food items now till Super Bowl **Sunday, February 12th**.

Next Sunday's Servers (02/05)

Acolytes: Javier Glave
Cameras & Streaming: Michael Greathouse
Danny's Team: Melinda Smith
Eucharistic Ministers: Becky Supercinski
Greeter: Ruby Hahne
Lector: Mary Lynn Dawes
Nursery Helper: Roxanne Brink
Ushers: Bryan White
Vestry People: Susan Kuhlman, Susan Schug
Worship Tech: Gianna Glave

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- Nettie Wittmayer
- Fred & Libby Menger
- Todd Green
- Laura Schill
- Marsha Magee
- Jeff Hahne
- Lorraine, Pete and Margie Litterski

Comfort for:

- Larry Solomon's family

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering. Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
12/04/22	\$3,965	\$2,955	\$1,010
12/11/22	\$1,206	\$2,955	-\$1,749
12/18/22	\$1,484	\$2,955	-\$1,472
12/25/22	\$2,957	\$2,955	\$2
YTD TOTALS	\$138,171	\$153,670	-\$15,499

This Sunday's Servers

Acolytes: Jonathan Roberts
Cameras & Streaming: Robert Brown
Danny's Team: Diane Buffington
Eucharistic Ministers: Amy Brown
Greeter: Frank Supercinski
Lector: Frank Supercinski
Nursery Helper: Marie Tucker
Ushers: Jerry Ritchie
Vestry People: Susan Kuhlman, Tommy Smith
Worship Tech: Melinda Smith

St. Michael & All Angels' Episcopal Church
 The Rev. Tracey F. Carroll, TSSF
 Email: mothertracey@smaalongview.org
 Church Website: smaalongview.org
 Phone: (903) 759-2051