

## Sunday, February 1, 2026

### *Communion*

**Welcome** *Pastor Jeff will give announcements and welcome*

**\*\*Call to Worship** *(Liturgist parts are indicated in **BOLD** and \*\*)*

**\*\*Good Morning, I am Chris Ritter, and will be serving as Worship Leader today. Would you please stand in body or spirit to join me in the responsive Call to Worship?**

**\*\*Leader: Jesus taught: Blessed are the poor in spirit. He said that the realm of God is theirs.**

People: We read that those who mourn are blessed. Jesus said they will be comforted.

**\*\*Leader: The meek will inherit the earth. The merciful will obtain mercy.**

People: All who hunger and thirst for righteousness are blessed; Jesus said they will be filled.

**\*\*Leader: Blessed are the pure in heart and the peacemakers; They are God's children and will see God.**

People: Those persecuted and falsely accused are blessed. Even in the face of evil, we will rejoice.

**\*\*Will you join us in our opening song, “Cry of My Heart”, the words will be on the screen.**

**Children's Time**

**Community Notes**

## Prayers, the Lord's Prayer and Offering of Gifts

*(Pastor Jeff will first do the prayers, Liturgist will read Invitation & pray)*

**\*\*Invitation:** God is neither pleased with burnt offerings nor impressed by the size of our gifts. God wants our full commitment and devotion, of which our giving in these moments is only a symbol. God calls us to lives of mercy and peacemaking, for which our offering can make a beginning.

**\*\*Will you pray with me?** We devote ourselves and these tokens of our thankfulness toward the realization of your reign among us, holy God. We pray for purity of heart as we hunger and thirst for righteousness and as we seek to be peacemakers. We rejoice in this opportunity to share in the extension of your realm. Bless us and our offering, we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

**\*\*Scripture Reading**      **Micah 6:1-8 NRSV**

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has a case against 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?**

**\*\*Scripture Reading      Psalm 15 NRSV**

**O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right and speak the truth from their heart; who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil to their friends nor heap shame upon their neighbors; in whose eyes the wicked are despised but who honor those who fear the Lord; who stand by their oath even to their hurt; who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.**

**\*\*Scripture Reading      Matthew 5:1-12 NRSV**

**As this is a reading of the Gospel, please stand in body or spirit.**

**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.**

**This is the word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!**

## **Message “Holier than Thou” or Humbly Filled with Love? Pastor Jeff Williams**

### **Communion**

**Pastor: As we come to the Lord’s Table today, let us affirm our historic faith in reciting the Apostles’ Creed.**

**ALL: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
He ascended into heaven,  
Is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
And 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.**

**Pastor: the Lord be with you.**

**ALL: And also with you.**

**Pastor: Lift up your hearts.**

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

**All: 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.**

Pastor: On the night in which Jesus gave himself up for us,

    He took bread, gave thanks to God, broke the bread,  
    gave it to the disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

    Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup,

    gave thanks to God, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Drink from this, all of you;

    this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you  
    and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Hear now this prayer: Eternal and loving God, pour out your Holy Spirit  
    on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,

    that we may be for the world the body of Christ,  
    redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
    one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world until  
    Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly  
    banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all  
honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**ALL: Amen.**

*(The congregation will come forward to receive communion)*

**Communion Song**      *"In Remembrance of Me"*

**Closing Song**    *"Lift Up Your Heads"*    Hymn #213

**Blessing for the Week**

**Choral Benediction**

Taught by Love, pages 38 and 39