

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY—YEAR 1—WEEK 18 3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



“POST-SERMON TALKBACK SESSION”

**SERMON ON THE MOUNT
MATTHEW 5**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

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JOHN & KAREN KOZLIK IN CELEBRATION OF THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



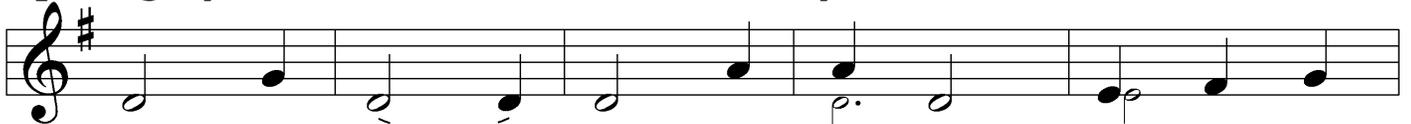
NARRATIVE LECTIONARY – YEAR 1

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Year 1 of the Narrative Lectionary from the appointed readings from the Old Testament, Acts, and Romans.

Opening Hymn

Blest Are They

LSB 982



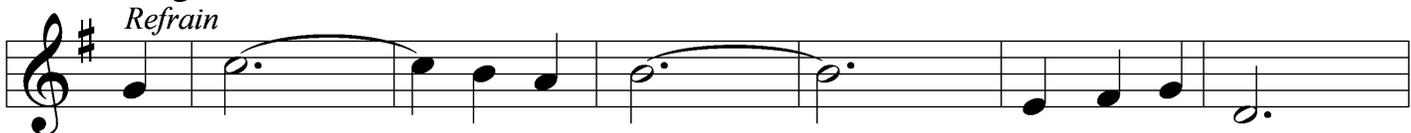
1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; Theirs is the
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; They shall in -
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; Mer - cy
 4 Blest are they who seek peace; They are the
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, All be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they, full of
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who hun - ger and
 shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who suf - fer in
 cause of Me. Re-joyce and be glad, yours is the



sor - row; They shall be con - soled.
 thirst; They shall have their fill.
 heart; They shall see God!
 faith; The glo - ry of God is theirs.
 king - dom; Shine for all to see.



Re - joyce and be glad! Bless-ed are you,

ho-ly are you. Re - jice and be glad! Yours is the
king - dom of God.

Text and tune: David Haas, 1957,

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Invocation (based on Genesis 1:1-3)

P: In the beginning, God created everything:

C: the heavens above and the earth below.

P: At first the earth was totally empty,

C: And the Spirit of God hovered over the waters.

P: Then there was the voice of God. He said:

C: Let there be light.

P: In the beginning of our lives, God created us:

C: awesomely and wonderfully made.

P: At first we were without knowledge and hope in God.

C: And the Spirit of God hovered over our baptism waters.

P: Then there was the voice of God. He said:

C: Let there be faith.

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

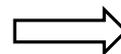
Confession and Absolution (Exodus 20:2, 19:1-3, Psalm 44:26, Galatians 3:13-14)

P: The Commandments which God gave to His people through Moses
begin with a promise:

**C: I am the Lord your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt,
out of the house of slavery.**

P: God reminded them of His love and commitment to them and to us. He said:

“You saw how I snatched you from the bonds of slavery and carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. Now if you will hear My voice, obey what I say, and keep My covenant, then you will be My treasured people. You will be My kingdom of priests, a nation holy and set apart.”



**C: Yes, He is the Lord our God,
 who brings us out of slavery to sin.
 But we have not kept His commandments.
 We are not holy.
 Rise up, Lord God;
 come to our help!
 Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love! Amen.**

P: The Commandments which God gave to us and which we have broken
 begin with a promise:

C: I am the Lord your God.

P: Hear now this promise which redeems you, buys you back from slavery to sin:
 The Anointed One, *the Liberating King*, has redeemed you from the curse of the
 law by becoming a curse for you. *This is what God had in mind all along:* the
 blessing He gave to Abraham might extend to all nations through the Anointed
 One, Jesus; and you are the beneficiaries of this promise of the Spirit that
 comes *only* through faith in your Redeemer. Therefore, in the stead and by the
 command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the
 Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. He has redeemed us for the sake of His steadfast love. Amen.

Song of Praise (based on Psalm 44:26 & Exodus 20:2)

TBF 272

6 Rise up and re - deem us, Rise up - and re - deem us. Rise
 To God be the glo - ry, to God - be the glo - ry, to

11 up - and re - deem us, for the sake of Your love. You are God, You are
 God be the glo - ry for the things He has done. With His blood He has

14 Lord, God. You did save - - us from slav - 'ry. Rose
 saved me; with His power He has raised me; to

up - and re - deemed us for the sake of Your love.
 God - be the glo ry for the things He has done.

Anthem**Holy Is the Lord****Adult Choir**

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord.
 Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord.
 Holy is the Father, holy is the Son,
 Holy is the Spirit; Blessed Three in One.

Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord.
 Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord.
 Holy is the Father, holy is the Son,
 Holy is the Spirit; Blessed Three in One. Amen.

This Week's Reading**Matthew 5:1-20 (VOICE)****Note on the Reading****(VOICE)**

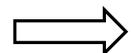
People [have been talking] about this Jesus, this Preacher and Healer. Word spreads of His charisma and wisdom and power and love. People who are too sick to walk persuade their friends and relatives to carry them to Jesus. These cripples and demonized and ill and paralytics come to Jesus, and He heals them, and they follow Him.

Now when [Jesus] saw the crowds, He went up on a mountain (*as Moses had done before Him*) and He sat down (*as Jewish teachers of His day usually did*). His disciples gathered around Him.

Note on the Reading**(VOICE)**

There on the mountain Jesus teaches them all. And as He is teaching, crowds gather around and overhear His teachings, listen in, and are captivated. This, the Sermon on the Mount, is the first of the five Mosaic-like sermons in Matthew.

- ³ **Jesus:** Blessed are the spiritually poor—the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
- ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn—they will be comforted.
- ⁵ Blessed are the *meek and gentle*—they will inherit the earth.
- ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness—they will be filled.
- ⁷ Blessed are the merciful—they will be shown mercy.
- ⁸ Blessed are those who are pure in heart—they will see God.
- ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers—they will be called children of God.
- ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness—the kingdom of heaven is theirs.



Note on the Reading**(Amplified Bible)**

It is said that “blessed” means: spiritually prosperous, forgiven, refreshed by God’s grace, inwardly peaceful, spiritually secure, worthy of respect, content, sheltered by God’s promises, anticipating God’s presence, spiritually mature, spiritually calm with life-joy in God’s favor, comforted by inner peace and God’s love, morally courageous and spiritually alive with life-joy in God’s goodness.

¹¹ And blessed are you, *blessed are all of you*, when people persecute you or denigrate you or despise you or tell lies about you on My account. ¹² *But when this happens*, rejoice. Be glad. Remember that God’s prophets have been persecuted in the past. And know that in heaven, you have a great reward.

¹³ You, *beloved*, are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes bland and loses its saltiness, can anything make it salty again? No. It is useless. It is tossed out, thrown away, or trampled.

Note on the Reading**(VOICE)**

Salt draws out the good flavors subtly hidden in food and preserves what would otherwise spoil, as do those who claim to be children of God.

¹⁴ And you, *beloved*, are the light of the world. A city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Similarly it would be silly to light a lamp and then hide it under a bowl. When someone lights a lamp, she puts it on a table or a desk or a chair, and the light illumines the entire house. ¹⁶ *You are like that illuminating light*. Let your light shine everywhere you go, *that you may illumine creation*, so men and women everywhere may see your good actions, *may see creation at its fullest*, *may see your devotion to Me*, and may turn and praise your Father in heaven *because of it*.

Note on the Reading**(Gibbs)**

Disciples through Jesus are God’s way of blessing the world around them. The blessing will take place through their good works, His light that shines in the presence of other people. But Jesus will contrast this with the religious leaders of the day who did not fully shine with the light of God. Both words and deeds are necessary. Words without deeds will not be heard. Deeds without words will bring not bring praise to the Father in heaven.

¹⁷ Do not think that I have come to overturn or do away with the law or the words of our prophets. *To the contrary*: I have not come to overturn them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ This, *beloved*, is the truth: until heaven and earth disappear, not one letter, not one pen stroke, will disappear from the sacred law—for everything, everything in the sacred law will be fulfilled and accomplished. ¹⁹ Anyone who breaks even the

smallest, most obscure commandment—not to mention teaches others to do the same—will be called small *and obscure* in the kingdom of heaven. Those who practice the law and teach others how to live the law will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.²⁰ For I tell you this: you will not enter the kingdom of heaven unless your righteousness goes deeper than the Pharisees', even more righteous than the most learned learner of the law.

Note on the Reading

(VOICE)

Righteousness is the reason Jesus has come—to make the people righteous through and through. [Which means He will have to provide righteousness as a gift, since no one is righteous on their own].

Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Let us pray. God of mystery and of judgment, who has made us to be salt and light in a tasteless, shadowed world, guide us in reflecting on Your Word. Grant us understanding and spiritual discernment so that we may shine with Your righteousness. Enable us to live in ways so that others may see Your good works through us, give You the glory, and be moved to call You their Savior. In the Name of Jesus, we pray.

C: Amen.



Acknowledgements

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Text of first stanza (“Rise up and redeem us”) © 2022 Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires.
Today’s Collect adapted from: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/01/call-to-worship-opening-prayer-matthew.html>
Cover photo: Restore Justice Community Forum, Sign of the Dove Church, Waukegan, IL, September 2019. © BiCS Pics.

Song of Praise

Praise the Father, Praise the Son



1. O sov'-reign God, O match-less King— the saints a - dore, the an - gels
2. These suf - fer - ings, this pass - ing tide un - der Your wings I will a -



sing, and fall be - fore the throne of grace— to You be - longs the high - est
-bide, and ev - 'ry en - e - my shall flee; You are my hope and vic - to -



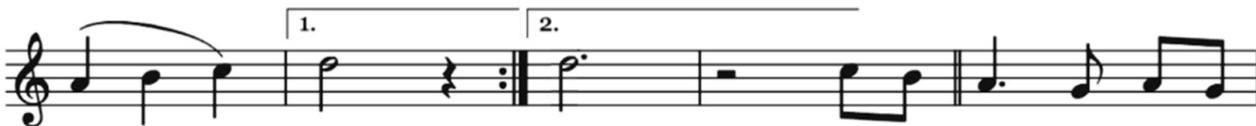
praise. Praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son, praise the Spir - it, Three in
ry.



One; Clothed in pow - er and in grace, the name a - -bove all oth - er names. Yours is the



king - dom, Yours is the pow - er, Yours is the glo - ry for -



-ev - er! er! Praise the Fa - ther, praise the



Son, and praise the Spir - it, Three in One; Clothed in pow - er and in



grace, the name a - bove all oth - er names, the name a - bove all oth - er names.

Confession of Faith (spoken in unison)

We have come to the mountain of the LORD God,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.

Isaiah 2:3

Far be it from us
that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods,
for it is the LORD our God
who brought Israel, our forefathers in the faith,
up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery,
And it is the LORD our God
who sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to us,
who did those great signs in the sight of all the people
and now preserves us in His Way.

Joshua 24:16-17

We are confident that Jesus is the Prophet,
and that there is no God who exists in the entire world like the True God. 2 Kings 5:8,15

Since we have been *acquitted and* made right through faith,
we are able to experience *true and lasting* peace with God
through our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One, *the Liberating King*.

Jesus leads us into a place of *radical* grace
where we are able to celebrate the hope of experiencing God's glory.

We also celebrate in seasons of suffering
because we know that when we suffer we develop endurance,
and we learn what it means to hope *and anticipate* God's goodness.

And hope will never fail to satisfy our deepest need
because the Holy Spirit that was given to us
has flooded our hearts with God's love. Amen.

Romans 5:1-5



Song of the Day

Shine, Jesus, Shine



1. Lord, the light of Your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the dark-ness, shin - ing;
3. As we gaze on Your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis - play Your like - ness;



Je - sus, Light of the world, shine up - on us, set us free by the
Ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry, mir - rored here may our



truth You now bring us. Shine on me, shine on
lives tell Your sto - ry. Shine on me, shine on



me. Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the
me.



Fa - ther's glo - ry; Blaze Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on



fire. Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with



grace and mer - cy; Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be



light.

CCLI Song # 30426
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Children's Message

Sermon

"Post-Sermon Talkback Session"

Matthew 5:1-20

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Offertory (Based on Micah 6:8)

(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)

He has shown thee, _____ O man, _____ what is
good, and what the Lord _____ re - quires of thee; _____ He has
But to do just - ly, _____ and to love mer - cy, _____
_____ and to walk hum - bly with _____ thy God. _____

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

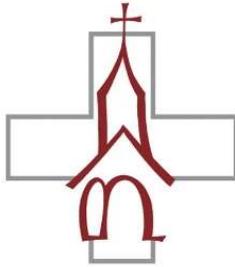
All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Church Imitating Christ

Based on Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)

P: Bethel as a congregation seeks to be a
C: **Church imitating Christ.**
P: As we gather together as God’s people in this place,
C: **We devote ourselves to the fellowship.**
P: One with Jesus Christ, and one with each other,
C: **We devote ourselves to His Church.**
P: When we devote ourselves to the fellowship, we are a
C: **Church imitating Christ. Amen.**

Church Imitating Christ



Scripture
FELLOWSHIP
Sacraments
Prayer
Mercy
Generosity
Winsomeness

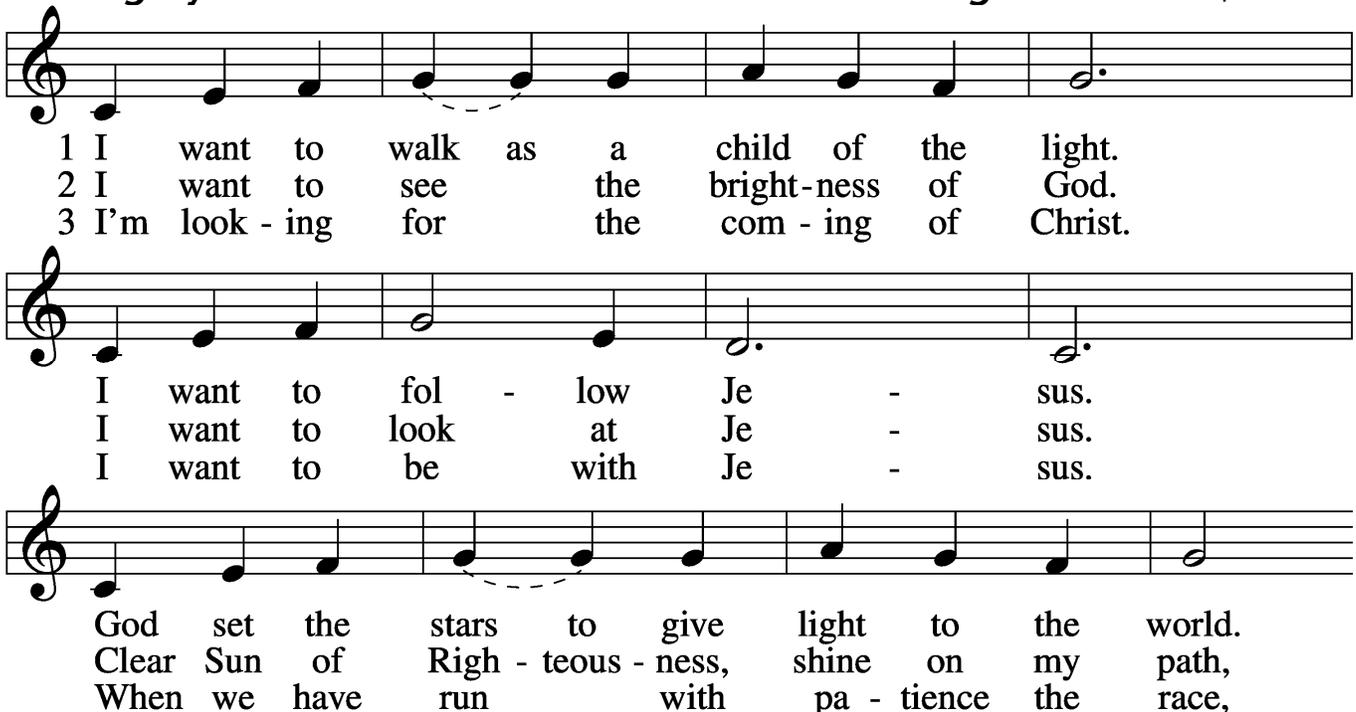
Benediction (Blessing) (based on Acts 10:34-36,43; Romans 1:16-17)

P: It is clear to us that God doesn’t play favorites,
that God accepts every person whatever their culture or ethnic background,
that God welcomes all who revere Him and His Way.
God sent You a message of peace
through Jesus the Anointed—who is King of all people.
Receive the forgiveness of sins through His name.
In His Good News, God’s restorative justice is revealed.
C: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

LSB 411



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I’m look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
When we have run with pa - tience the race,

The star of my life is Je - sus.
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In Him there is no dark - ness at all.
 The night and the day are both a - like.
 The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.
 Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934

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Announcements

LIVING THE WORD

Learning to Follow (Epiphany: Jan. 29 to Feb. 12, 2023)

Jesus instructs those listening to live in ways that glorify God and build up the kingdom. In the Sermon on the Mount, followers hear whom they are called to be as disciples of Jesus. Jesus' lessons on prayer teach us how to build our lives on the rock, guided by God's promises. Through Jesus' teaching, we learn what matters most to God, and how we are called to respond as disciples.

1/29/2023 Epiphany 4 Matthew 6:7-21 [25-34] The Lord's Prayer

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE



SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM) – 9AM
FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM
EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM



SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM W/COMMUNION) – 9AM
FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM
EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM W/COMMUNION) – 9AM
FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM
EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM) – 9AM
FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM
EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM W/COMMUNION) – 9AM
FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM
EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE. USHERS, READERS, AND VARIOUS OTHER VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP AND COMMUNION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR ONE OF THOSE ROLES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE AT OFFICE@BETHELGURNEE.ORG.

WHAT IS CHRISTIANITY?

INTRODUCTION / RE-INTRODUCTION TO THE FAITH

TUESDAYS - 7:30-8:30PM

JANUARY 10, 17, 24, & 31

Wondering why people follow Jesus?

OR grew up in the Church but finding your way back?

OR have a friend who wants to know more?

Join Pastor Squires for these discussion sessions where he'll explain the basics of the faith, while leaving plenty of room for your questions as you explore Christianity.



Scan the QR Code to sign up.

OR contact Pastor for more info: pastor@bethelgurnee.org - 847-244-9647

