

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 1 February 2026

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements *(To help us connect, please sign the attendance pad in your pew)*

*Greeting**:

The Lord has brought us from bondage,
And redeemed us from the house of slavery.
Therefore, let us praise the Name of the Lord,
**That all the world may know
how God has saved us.**

(Based on Micah 6)

*Praise Choruses: 2227 "We Are the Body of Christ"
2228 "Sacred the Body"

*Opening Prayer**:

Almighty God,

Who by the light of your Word,
has turned the foolishness of the cross
into saving wisdom;

**Increase in our hearts the power of faith,
that no temptation may quench the fires
which you have kindled in the hearts of those
who walk with you;**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

(Gelasian Sacramentary, Alt.)

*Opening Hymn: 505 (Tune 296) "When Our Confidence
Is Shaken"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 465 *(Verse 1 and 2 only)*
"Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"

(2)

First Lesson: Micah 6:1-8

Psalter: 747 Psalm 15

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

*Hymn of Preparation: 163 "Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know"

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon

*Affirmation of Faith: 881 "The Apostles' Creed,
Traditional Version"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

*The Peace: Let us offer one another
signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (All are welcome)

Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people,
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offering. Offertory

*Doxology: 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession**:

Eternal and loving God,

we come before your majesty this day
and would bring all we have
to show our thanksgiving.

**We ask that your Holy Spirit give us
a true spirit of humility.**

Open our minds to see your wisdom, for ours

(3)

is clothed in the world's foolishness.
Enable us to let the world know your saving acts.
Look with mercy upon those who suffer this day.
Give them patience in their affliction,
that they and we may rise up and call you blessed.
Show us the way of salvation this day and always,
for we offer ourselves, our gifts, and our prayers,
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(OSL, alt)

The Great Thanksgiving, Musical Setting C (p. 20ff)

The Lord's Prayer (p. 895)

Breaking of the Bread

Giving of the Bread and Cup

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 467 "Trust and Obey"

*Blessing**:
The Lord bless you and keep you;
**the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.**
Amen. *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude/Going Forth

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

**Copyright ©1992, 1995 by The Order of St. Luke