



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

PRELUDE

“Finlandia” (Sibelius trans. Goldsmith)

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Matthew 5:1-12)

One: Now when Jesus saw the crowds,
he went up on a mountainside and sat down.
His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.
He said: “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

People: Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

One: Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

**People: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.**

One: Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

People: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

One: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

**People: Blessed are those who are persecuted because of
righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

One: “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely
say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

**People: Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before
you.**

*OPENING HYMN

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”
(#252 vs. 1,3,4,5)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful One,
we are so easily tempted.
We turn away from your word so quickly.
We seek anything that claims to save us from
discomfort, inconvenience, pain,
fear, and emptiness.
But these are false idols.
You are our true hope and salvation.

We confess our transgressions to you:
forgive our sins.
Bless us and renew us.
With the Holy Spirit's guidance,
lead us in paths of righteousness.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Doxology” (#34)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, our way in the wilderness,
guide us by your Word through these forty days,
and minister to us with your Holy Spirit,
so we may be reformed,
restored, and renewed;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 5:3 (Pew Bible pg. 892)

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Blest are They” (#666 vs. 1,2)

MESSAGE

The Beatitudes:
“Blessed are the Poor in Spirit”

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Seek Ye First” (#349 vs. 1,2)

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”
(arr. Lloyd Larson)

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG)

(#740)

*CLOSING HYMN

“Blessed Assurance” (#426 vs. 1-3)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE