

## Scripture Readings

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Common English Bible

<sup>18</sup> The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are being destroyed. But it is the power of God for those of us who are being saved. <sup>19</sup> It is written in scripture: *I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will reject the intelligence of the intelligent.* <sup>20</sup> Where are the wise? Where are the legal experts? Where are today's debaters? Hasn't God made the wisdom of the world foolish? <sup>21</sup> In God's wisdom, he determined that the world wouldn't come to know him through its wisdom. Instead, God was pleased to save those who believe through the foolishness of preaching. <sup>22</sup> Jews ask for signs, and Greeks look for wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, which is a scandal to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles. <sup>24</sup> But to those who are called—both Jews and Greeks—Christ is God's power and God's wisdom. <sup>25</sup> This is because the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Look at your situation when you were called, brothers and sisters! By ordinary human standards not many were wise, not many were powerful, not many were from the upper class. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what the world considers foolish to shame the wise. God chose what the world considers weak to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup> And God chose what the world considers low-class and low-life—what is considered to be nothing—to reduce what is considered to be something to nothing. <sup>29</sup> So no human being can brag in God's presence. <sup>30</sup> It is because of God that you are in Christ Jesus. He became wisdom from God for us. This means that he made us righteous and holy, and he delivered us. <sup>31</sup> This is consistent with what was written: *The one who brags should brag in the Lord!*

Matthew 5:1-12

The Message

<sup>1-2</sup> When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:

<sup>3</sup> "You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.

<sup>4</sup> "You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.

<sup>5</sup> "You're blessed when you're content with just who you are—no more, no less. That's the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought.

<sup>6</sup> "You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat.

<sup>7</sup> "You're blessed when you care. At the moment of being 'care-full,' you find yourselves cared for.

<sup>8</sup> "You're blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.

<sup>9</sup> "You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.

<sup>10</sup> "You're blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom.

<sup>11-12</sup> "Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don't like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.

**Join in fellowship time in the Fireside Room,  
every Sunday after 9 am and 11 am services.**

## 9 a.m. Worship Service

*You are known ~ you are loved ~ you are not alone!*

### ▲ MINGLE

### ▲ OPENER

"Light of the World"

### COMMUNION

"Come to the Table"

### ▲ PRAISE SONGS

"Wonder"  
"Blessed Be Your Name"

Children are invited to attend Sunday School activities. Parents are invited to accompany their children if they desire. Children are also welcome to stay in worship.

### WORD

Matthew 5:1-12

The Message

### MESSAGE

"The Gift of Poetic Challenge"  
*Rev. Claire Schlegel*

### PRAYER SONG

"Good Grace"

### LIFE IN THE CHURCH

### OFFERING

### OFFERING SONG

"All the People Said Amen"

### BENEDICTION

### ▲ CLOSER

"Nobody"



**February 2, 2020**  
4th Sunday after Epiphany  
Sermon Series:  
**Gifts That Keep On Giving**

*Welcome to  
Magnolia Presbyterian Church*



Reverend Claire Schlegel	Co-Pastor
Reverend Paul Knopf	Co-Pastor
James R. Walters	Music Director/Organist
John W. Wright	Choral Director
Cynthia A. Wright	Pianist
Saw Shein	Contemporary Music Leader
Tessa Islas	Interim Youth Leader
Allison Robinson	Nursery Attendant
Diana Lewis	Administrative Assistant
A. J. Belangeri	Interim Media/Audio Coordinator

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Contemporary Worship Service 9:00 a.m.  
Traditional Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Greeting You This Morning: Jane Peden and Carolyn Raughley

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Welcome as we worship the Lord with gladness, for it is God who deserves our praise and thanksgiving.

Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

OPENING PRAYER

INTROIT "We Have Seen the Lord" arr. Mark Sedio  
Chancel Choir

▲ CALL TO WORSHIP

Happy are we when our treasures cannot be quantified.  
Happy are we when our knowledge is tempered by mystery.  
Happy are we when our pain is held in the balm of love.  
Happy are we when our delight comes from beyond ourselves.  
~ written by Katherine Hawker (2006), and posted on Liturgy Outside.

▲ OPENING HYMN

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory" #213

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, Holy One, that in our human foolishness, we often seek to appear wise. Help us to know the wisdom of your ways and the truth of your word. We confess, Spirit guide, that we often fail to acknowledge your presence, seeking to go our own way and following our own call. From this centeredness on self, we let you down, we let others down. Help us follow your direction, your call, and your guidance. Help us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Amen

~Abingdon Worship Annual 2020

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

▲ GLORY BE TO THE FATHER #581

Children are invited to attend Sunday School activities. Parents are invited to accompany their children if they desire. Children are also welcome to stay in worship.

Proclaiming

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Common English Bible  
This is the word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Blest Are They" David Haas  
Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:1-12 The Message  
This is the word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Gifts That Keep On Giving: "The Gift of Poetic Challenge"  
Rev. Claire Schlegel

Responding

RESPONSE HYMN

"Blest Are They" #172

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

GIVING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Make Us True Servants" Arr. John Purifoy  
James Walters, Recorder; Cynthia Wright, piano

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

▲ DOXOLOGY #606

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

Christ be with you.  
And also with you.  
Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise...  
(prayer continues)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

"Come, Share the Lord" Bryan Jeffery Leech  
Chancel Choir

"Joy of My Desire" Arr. Rouse  
Cynthia Wright, piano

Sharing of the Bread

As a sign of our unity in Christ, please hold the bread until all are served.

Sharing of the Cup

As a sign of your personal faith in Christ, you may drink as you are ready.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sending

▲ CLOSING HYMN

"When We Are Living" #822

▲ BENEDICTION

▲ BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Lead Me, Lord"

▲ POSTLUDE

"One Pure and Holy Passion" Arr. Tornquist  
Cynthia Wright, piano

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations. . ." Matthew 28:19

SERMON NOTES

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▲ All who are able, please stand.  
Bold italic text read in unison.

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