

February 1, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

WELCOME: (COMMENTATOR)

Good morning!

On behalf of the Charis Community, I welcome you to our Sunday Mass. All are truly welcome, and we are excited that you are joining us whether it's your first time praying with us or if you've been with us for a while. The worship aid for Mass is on our website, and we will put the address in the chat for you should you like to pull it up to support your prayer.

We are a Eucharistic people, so we invite you to have bread and wine, in whatever form you have it, with you where you are.

”Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!” Can we let in the power of that promise, even as we struggle with injustice in our midst?

This simple statement was addressed to the homeless – the hungry – the poor – to those who are persecuted for practicing their faith, and to those who work for peace and justice.

How we care for these people will determine whether or not we hear these words. How we respond to the call for peace and justice will determine whether or not we hear these words.

“Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!”

Let us raise our hearts and join our voices together to praise God in song.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah.

Seek the Most High, all you humble of the earth,
 who have observed God's law;
seek justice, seek humility;
 perhaps you may be sheltered
 on the day of God's anger.

But I will leave as a remnant in your midst
 a people humble and lowly,
who shall take refuge in the name of the Most High:
 the remnant of Israel.

They shall do no wrong
 and speak no lies;
nor shall there be found in their mouths
 a deceitful tongue;
they shall pasture and couch their flocks
 with none to disturb them.

The word of God.

R/. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

Consider your own calling, brothers and sisters.
Not many of you were wise by human standards,
not many were powerful,
not many were of noble birth.

Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise,
and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong,
and God chose the lowly and despised of the world,
those who count for nothing,
to reduce to nothing those who are something,
so that no human being might boast before God.

It is due to God that you are in Christ Jesus,
who became for us wisdom from God,
as well as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption,
so that, as it is written,
“Whoever boasts, should boast in Christ Jesus.”

The Word of God.

R/. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

A reading of the Gospel according to Matthew.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain,
and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.

He began to teach them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for the reign of God is theirs.

Blessed are they who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be satisfied.

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

Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they will see God.

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

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the reign of heaven.

“Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you
and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.

Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward will be great in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: (COMMENTATOR)

My family in Christ, commitment to follow the one who calls us asks us to show compassion and mercy to those in need.

Let us offer together our prayers for the church and the world.

Our response is, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That all those called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus do so mercifully, lovingly, and peacefully. We pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the people who transmit brokenness and disorder may be shown mercy, and that those who suffer at the hands of these injustices may be unburdened and restored to their full dignity. We pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer in mind, body, spirit, especially the mentally ill, the imprisoned, the enslaved, and the unhoused. We pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the prayers we hold in our heart and for the prayers placed in our prayer basket. We pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We invite you to unmute your mic and share your personal prayers with our community. We would very much like to pray with you. We will start with the off-site community first. Please unmute your mic if you would like to offer a prayer.

Commentator after people are no longer offering individual prayers:

Lead us, O God, into your paths of faithfulness. Help us drop our nets and turn outside ourselves, that we may follow in the way of our Savior Jesus. Empower us to live always within the power of your Holy Spirit.

We pray this prayer in Jesus' name, **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God of all the prophets,
you knew us and chose us
before you formed us in the womb.
Fill us with faith that speaks your word,
hope that does not disappoint,
and love that bears all things for your sake,
until that day when we shall know you fully,
even as we are known by you. **Amen.**