The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

## **Prelude**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Gathering—God has told us what is good, so what does the LORD require of us? It is our call to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

A Time of Prayer—Just and Loving God, we enter into your sacred spaces, in sanctuaries and in homes, in public gatherings and private places. You bridge time and space to forge us as a beloved community. You, O Sovereign, make plain the way of life for us. Encourage us to join your journey, to love your children and creation, and to contribute to your kindom on earth.+

The Lord's Prayer (unison)—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.

# **Bell Choir**

Blessing or Jubilate Amen

*Micah 6:1-8 (NRSV)* 

#### We Hear God's Word

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup> 'O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you?

Answer me!

<sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses,

Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup> O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.'

<sup>6</sup> 'With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? <sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give

my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?'

<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God

## Meditation

Do Justice, Love Kindness, Walk Humbly

Hymn

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, 248

# We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

**Invitation**—A generous life counters the societal norms that depend on scarcity. Our Loving God creates in abundance so that all may live a full and flourishing life. When we give from our abundance, we proclaim our trust in God's provision and our love of neighbor.+

January Benevolence—Our Church's Wider Mission

**Doxology** 

We Give Thanks—Just God, we share our humble offering in hope and trust that, through these gifts, your kindom comes and your will is done. Amen.+

Hymn

Just a Closer Walk with Thee, 504

**Benediction**—As you go in the world, hold the blessings of peace. Be the good news to a world shrouded in brokenness, pain, and despair. Show the world the kindom that lives in you. Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.+

**Postlude** 

Go Forth with Knowledge

Worship Notes: +UCC Worship Ways. ~\_Beu, B.J.; Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023 (p. 11). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.