

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE
EPIPHANY**
February 2, 2020
Year A, Revised Common Lectionary

Micah 6:1-8 (NRSV)

6 Hear what the Lord says:

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

2 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.

3 “O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

4 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.

5 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.”

6 “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?

7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

8 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?

Psalms 15 (NRSV)

O Lord, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?

2 Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;

3 who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

4 in whose eyes the wicked are despised,
but who honor those who fear the Lord;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

5 who do not lend money at interest,
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be moved.

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 (NRSV)

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those
who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the
power of God. **19** For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning
I will thwart.”

20 Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe?
Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made
foolish the wisdom of the world? **21** For since, in the
wisdom of God, the world did not know God through
wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our
proclamation, to save those who believe. **22** For Jews
demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, **23** but we
proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and
foolishness to Gentiles, **24** but to those who are called,
both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the
wisdom of God. **25** For God’s foolishness is wiser than
human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than
human strength.

26 Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many
of you were wise by human standards, not many were
powerful, not many were of noble birth. **27** But God
chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise;
God chose what is weak in the world to shame the
strong; **28** God chose what is low and despised in the
world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things
that are, **29** so that no one^[c] might boast in the presence of
God. **30** He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who
became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and
sanctification and redemption, **31** in order that, as it is
written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Matthew 5:1-12 (NRSV)

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain;
and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2** Then
he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven.

4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be
comforted.

5 “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

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

10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for
righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when people revile you and
persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you
falsely on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your
reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they
persecuted the prophets who were before you.

What Does the Lord Require of You? 70

Capo 3: (G) (D) (Em) (Bm)
 B^b F Gm Dm

*1.
 What does the Lord re - quire of you?

2.
 Jus - tice, kind - ness,

3.
 To seek jus - tice and love kind - ness

(C) (G) (Am) (D) (G)
 E^b B^b Cm F B^b
Repeat as desired

What does the Lord re - quire of you?
 walk hum - bly with your God.
 and walk hum - bly with your God.

**The three melodic phrases may be sung consecutively, as a canon, or in any combination.*

This text is a very slight paraphrase of the latter part of Micah 6:8. That verse sums up in a single sentence the legal, ethical, and covenantal requirements of religion. The intertwining of these commitments can be suggested by singing these phrases in an overlapping canon.