

Blessed Are the Poor In Spirit

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

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Nettleton

John Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813

Blessed are the poor in spirit; all God's realm is surely theirs.
Those in mourning will find comfort as an answer to their prayers.
Meek ones whom this world despises will inherit everything.
God, your kingdom still surprises; may we seek the reign you bring.

Blessed, too, are those who hunger and who thirst for what is right.
They will not be prone to wander, for your will is their delight.
Those who show God's care and mercy will receive that mercy too.
God, in Christ you show us clearly of the joy we have in you.

Those who share the peace God gives them will find blessings as God's own.

Those oppressed for faithful living will call heaven's kingdom Home.

When the world's ways seem distressing and we feel life's painful sting,
God, remind us of the blessings of the wondrous life you bring.

~ Matthew 5:1-12

+Jesus, Sun of Life, My Splendor

Johann Franck, 1649

Translation by Catherine Winkworth, 1858

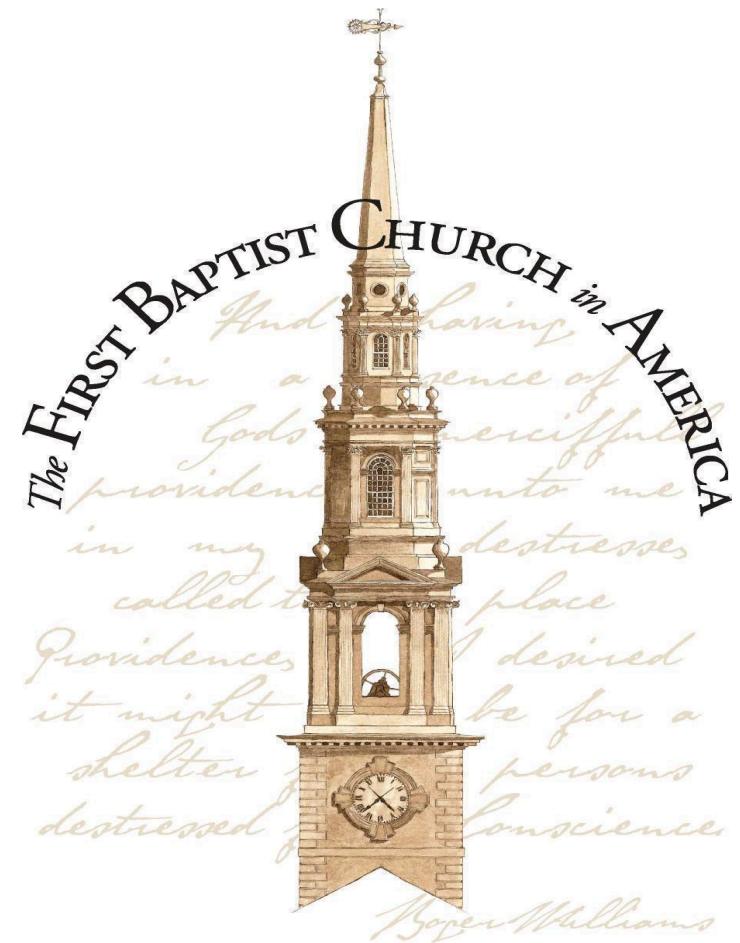
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Brockes Passion George Frederick Handel

Jesus, Sun of Life, my Splendor,
Jesus, Thou, my Friend most tender,
Jesus, Joy of my desiring,
Fount of Life, my soul inspiring.

At Thy feet I cry, my Maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven,
For our good, Thy glory, given.



Gathered by
ROGER WILLIAMS
A.D. 1638

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Sunday, February 15, 2026
Eleven O'clock AM

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Prelude Aria variata BWV 989 Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit Listen to the Angels Shouting Spiritual
Sam Brunner, tenor Arranged by Alfred H. Johnson

Welcome

*Call to Worship

One: God gives us the Word that turns and returns us again to God's own heart.

We recognize Jesus as the greatest manifestation of God's word of love and purpose.

All: May we live fully as God's beloved, recognizing the Holy always in our midst.

One: God of love; we love because you first loved us.

All: Empower us by your Spirit to be and do the same.

When we rest in your love, fear—though present—cannot overpower us. Prepare us to meet you now and in every moment. Amen.

*Greeting One Another

Announcements

* Responsive Invocation

One: How deeply you love us, God;
how willingly you step into our experience,
how wholly you empathize with all that we endure.

All: Teach us to love as you love us.

One: How restoratively you love us, God;
how compassionately you restore us to wholeness,
how extravagantly you make yourself available to us.

All: Teach us to love as you love us.

**We receive your love
given so freely and so unconditionally.
Thank you for believing
that we could learn to offer such love
to one other. Amen.**

***Hymn 556** Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me *St. Catherine*

Scripture 1 John 4:16-21

Anthem 'Jesus, Sun of Life, My Splendor'⁺ from *Brockes Passion*
George Frederick Handel

Prayers of the People

Abba God in heaven, hallowed be your name! May your reign come; may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven: give us today the bread of Tomorrow. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive those indebted to us. Don't put us to the test, but free us from evil. For yours is the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Children's Message

Hymn insert Blessed are the Poor in Spirit *Nettleton*
(see back page)

Preaching Love: Cosmic & Particular

Offertory Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence *Gustav Holst*
[The text may be found in the Hymnal 167]

***Doxology** *Old Hundredth*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that Love has done:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

Offertory Prayer

***Hymn 558** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling *Hyfrydol*
[We will sing this to the Welsh tune *Hyfrydol* which means Joy.]

Commission and Blessing

Postlude Praeludium in C BuxWV 138 Dietrich Buxtehude