East Parish United Methodist Church

Established 1834

East Parish is a Church open to all, which nurtures and enables people to experience God's transforming love and serve others in Jesus'name.

Blessed

are the



is the

kin-dom

- of -

heaven

Luke 6:20

February 13, 2022 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

The Book of Remembrance is opened to the Glory of God, in loving memory of Eleanor Shepard.

WELCOME

* OPENING HYMN

"God is Here"

#660

CALL TO WORSHIP (Ministry Matters)

L: Rejoice, for the power of God has come —

P: The same transforming power encountered in the risen Christ:

L: Promising to the poor the realm of heaven;

P: Promising to the hungry a time of satisfaction;

L: Promising to the weeping a life of happiness;

P: Promising to the reviled the gift of acceptance.

All: Rejoice, O people of God, the transforming power of Christ is here!

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

O Christ, whom even crucifixion could not separate from either the love or the power of God, bless us, the members of your body, with the guidance of your spirit, that we might seek God with your singleness of mind, see God with your clarity of understanding, and worship God with your purity of heart. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 6:17-26

SERMON

"Blessed"

Pastor Nancy Wichmann

* HYMN

"Christ for the World We Sing"

#568

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

You are invited to share your prayers of thanksgiving or petition. You may also send them to Pastor Wichmann at nan_wich@bellsouth.net; indicate whether or not they should be shared.

PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kin-dom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom, and the power and the glory now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Waiting God, you know us all too well. We listen to this episode in the life of Jesus. We hear the astonishment of the people gathered in worship as Jesus proclaims the mandate and scope of his ministry. It is what they had hoped for and also what they have feared.

Change and challenge are always difficult. We are more inclined to turn our backs on opportunities of service than pitch in to affect the needed changes that will promote healing and wholeness. Forgive us when we give lip service to you and then slip into inaction. Give us courage to be willing disciples. Help us to be people of promise and hope. In Jesus' Name, we offer this prayer. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Jesus has opened the doors for service to each one of us. We have been freed from our fears and doubts. Rejoice, dear fiends! In Jesus' Name, we are forgiven and healed. AMEN.

PASSING THE PEACE

L: God delights in you and Jesus offers us his peace. As you greet those around you, offer to share that peace with the words "The peace of Christ be with you always." P: And also with you.

OFFERTORY

Chimes

DOXOLOGY - (UMH 94)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CLOSING HYMN

"Blessed Assurance"

#369

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

#431

Let there be peace on earth, And let it begin with me Let there be peace on earth, The peace that was meant to be.

With God our Creator, children all are we Let us walk with each other In perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me let this be the moment now With ev'ry step I take let this be my solemn vow.

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on 'Old Hundredth"

Geneva Psalter, 1551

*Indicates that we rise in body or in spirit.

Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷ He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kin-dom of God. ²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²² "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of me. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. ²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

(New Revised Standard Version, adapted)

<u>United Methodist Church Staff and Worship Leaders</u>

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Prayer List

Church of Christ and ministries and members of East Parish United Methodist Church All who struggle with their faith Victims of the fire at Salisbury Beach Family and friends of John Kelly Friends and family of Sandra's Aunt Mary Hogan family (Sharon's friends) Salisbury and Newburyport Assisted Living and Memory Care Residents Residents of Maris House & Link House Our members who are traveling Joni McPhee Steve Smith Julie Allred Kate (Jan's friend) Gail (friend of Alana) Alan Dane (George's friend) Hailey Stone Tom (Debbie & Steve's friend) Sam Colby Jorge (Debbie's cousin's husband)

Anita (Jan's friend) Jeanette Cooper Hicks Anita McMahon Harmony Montgomery (7 yr old girl missing from Manchester) Dallas synagogue victims Children, especially orphans Victims of violence against police. Victims of natural disasters. Victims of sexual abuse and assault Division in The United Methodist Church For those whose voices are so often ignored For the slain everywhere and all victims of violence Deplorable treatment of refugees and asylum-seekers on the southern border of the US All who have suffered with, because of, or died from COVID-19 or addiction. For our country, desperately in need of unity and humanity

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Until further notice, the church will return to increased distancing and masks. Additionally, fellowship following worship is suspended.

If you wish to become a member of our church family, or to be baptized, contact Pastor Wichmann at nan_wich@bellsouth.net.

COMMUNITY COAT DRIVE — Winter can be a difficult time, especially if one lacks the resources with which to purchase needed items. We are collecting coats for a community coat drive over the next few weeks. If you have a gently used coat that could be repurposed, we kindly ask that you consider donating it to this worthy effort.

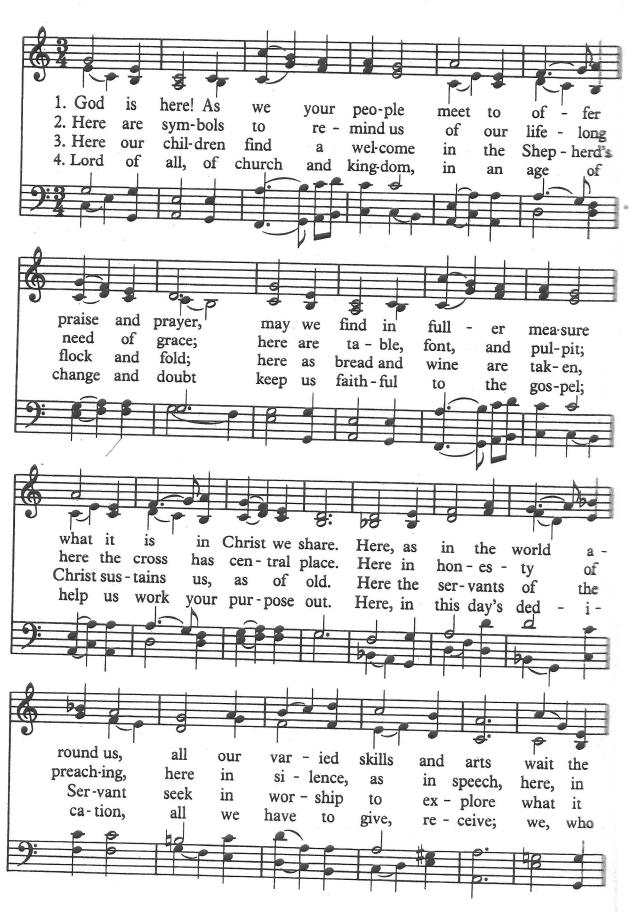
COMMUNION OFFERING – The Communion offering for February is chunky soups in a can or canned beans and shampoo/conditioner. Items will be collected throughout February and delivered the first week of March. Thank you for your ongoing support of Pettengill House.

LENTEN STUDY – Experience Holy Friday from the perspective of those who watched Jesus die: Mary his mother; the Beloved Disciple from the Gospel of John; Mary Magdalene and the other women from Galilee; the two men, usually identified as thieves, crucified with Jesus; the centurion and the soldiers; Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. Jews and Romans, friends and strangers, the powerful and the powerless, the hopeful and the despairing. We will be doing this study after worship March 6 – April 10.

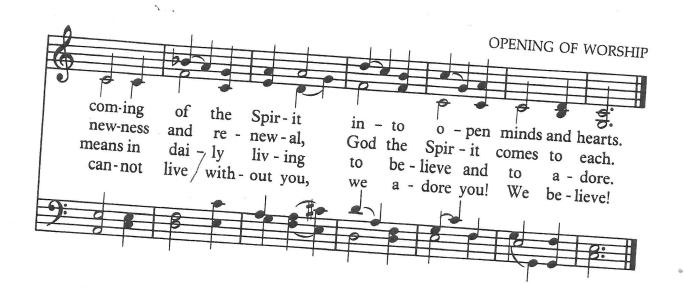
WEEKLY OFFERINGS – There is an offering plate present at the back of the sanctuary for pledges and donations during worship. You may also drop a donation off at any time through the mail slot in the annex door. You may mail it to 8 Lafayette Rd., Salisbury, MA 01952. Or you can set up monthly payments through your bank ("bill pay").

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God Is Here



WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1978 MUSIC: Cyril V. Taylor, 1941



Christ for the World We Sing



WORDS: Samuel Wolcott, 1869 MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1769

369

Blessed Assurance



WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873 MUSIC: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873

