

# 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.*

# FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



**March 27, 2022**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**UMCOR Sunday**

*The Book of Remembrance is opened to the Glory of God,  
in loving memory of Albert Smith.*

**PRELUDE**

*“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”*

*arr. Carlos Staszkeski*

**WELCOME**

\* **OPENING HYMN**     *“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*     **384**

**CALL TO WORSHIP (UMC Resources)**

L: The psalmist writes that the faithful should pray to God in troubled times.

**P: Reconciling God, we pray with those in trouble who are impacted by hurricanes, fires, political unrest, poverty, and war.**

L: The psalmist writes that God surrounds us with songs of rescue.

**P: Reconciling God, we pray with those in need of rescue.**

**OPENING PRAYER (Unison)**

**How incredible is your love, O God! We have been made new in your love and reconciled to you and to each other in peace and joy. Be with us this day as we hear your words of comfort and hope. Guide our lives that we may serve you more fully all of our days. AMEN.**

**READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE**

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

**SERMON**

*“Ambassadors for Christ”*

**Pastor Nancy Wichmann**

\* **HYMN**

*“In Christ There Is No East or West”*

**#548**

**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](mailto:nan_wich@bellsouth.net); indicate whether or not they should be shared.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

**O God, it is easy for us to look away when people in need are not within reach and especially if they are not like us. We too often look to our own desires and not to the needs of the Other. Help us, O God, to hear the cries of all of your children, wherever they may be, however they may look, whatever way they view you. And help us to us to know that like Jesus, we are all created in your image and trusted with your ministry of reconciliation.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Once we were “dead” to all the things that God hoped for us; but in God’s love we are again brought to life. Rejoice, dear ones, you are forgiven! AMEN.

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

L: L: God reconciled us to himself through Christ who gives us his peace. Let us share the peace of Christ with the words “The peace of Christ be with you always.”

**P: And also with you.**

**OFFERTORY**

*“Chimes”*

\* **DOXOLOGY**

**No. 95**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

\* **HYMN**

*“There’s a Spirit in the Air”  
(vs 1-4)*

**#192**

\* **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**

*“Love Divine All Love Excelling”*

*\*Indicates that we rise in body or in spirit.*

## **Psalm 32**

L: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**P: Happy are those to whom God imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

L: While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**P: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

L: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to God," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**P: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.**

L: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

**P: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**

L: Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

**P: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in God.**

**All: Be glad in God and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart. (New Revised Standard Version, adapted)**

## **2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

<sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (New Revised Standard Version)

## Prayer List

Church of Christ and ministries and  
members of East Parish United  
Methodist Church  
All who struggle with their faith  
Family and friends of John Kelly  
Assisted Living, Nursing Home and  
Memory Care Residents  
Residents of Maris House & Link  
House  
Our members who are traveling  
The Family of Brian Pike  
Joni McPhee  
Steve Smith  
Julie Allred  
Gail (friend of Alana)  
Alan Dane (George's friend)

Hailey Stone  
Tom (Debbie and Steve's friend)  
Sam Colby  
Jeanette Cooper Hicks  
Madolyn Lynch  
George (Debbie's cousin-in-law)  
Anita McMahan  
Harmony Montgomery  
Vivian Fenton (Al's sister)  
People of the Ukraine  
Children, especially orphans  
Victims of natural disasters.  
Victims of sexual abuse and assault  
Unity in The United Methodist  
Church

### United Methodist Church Staff and Worship Leaders

Pastor.....Pastor Nancy Wichmann (781)697-6344 (C)  
Church Administrator.....Joanne Sheehan [eastparishumc@verizon.net](mailto:eastparishumc@verizon.net)  
Leadership Committee .....Sharon Gill (978) 270-1045  
Building Monitor..... Craig Fowler  
Lay Leader.....Jan Juntunen 978- 518-7881  
Organist..... Linda Ingram  
Sexton.....Steve Choate (978)462-4578  
Coffee Hour Coordinator.....Debbie Choate [dcpertl@verizon.net](mailto:dcpertl@verizon.net) (978)462-4578  
Worship Committee.....Debbie Choate [dcpertl@verizon.net](mailto:dcpertl@verizon.net) (978)462-4578

Ministers.....The Congregation

8 Lafayette Rd, Salisbury MA 01952 (978) 465-8940

Website: [www.eastparishumc.org](http://www.eastparishumc.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/eastparishumcSalisbury>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We do not require masks, but you may wear one at your discretion. We do ask you to maintain social distancing. Additionally, fellowship following service is suspended.**

**UKRAINE HELP** – United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is soliciting donations to help with efforts in war-torn Ukraine.

<https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450/>

**COMMUNION OFFERING** – The Communion offering for April is coffee, tea, juices (bottled or canned) and razors. Items will be collected throughout April and delivered the first week of May. Thank you for your ongoing support of Pettengill House.

**FLOWERS** – If you would like to make a contribution of, or for, altar flowers, please see a member of the Worship Committee: Debbie Choate, Alana Gilbert, Karlene Johnson, Jan Juntunen, or Sandy Roughten.

If you wish to become a member of our church family, or to be baptized, contact Pastor Wichmann at [nan\\_wich@bellsouth.net](mailto:nan_wich@bellsouth.net) or 781-697-6344.