

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.



March 6, 2022
Stewardship Sunday
Ninth Sunday after Epiphany

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

PRELUDE “ ”

WELCOME

* **OPENING HYMN** “*Bring Forth the Kingdom*” **TFWS #2190**

CALL TO WORSHIP (Matthew 25:34, 37, 40, 5:16)

L: Come, you that are blessed by God, inherit the kin-dom prepared for you from the foundation of the world

P: Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?

L: Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.

P: We give glory to God in heaven.

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

O God, you call us to service and faith. In truest faith, your beloved child, Jesus, modeled a life of service and obedience to you and all of your children on earth. Help us every day to be more like Jesus that we let our light shine. In awe of your majesty, we pray in Christ’s Name. AMEN.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE James 2:14-18
Ephesians 2:8-10
Matthew 5:13-16

SERMON “Stewardship” **Sharon Gill and Debbie Choate**

* **HYMN** “*We Are the Church*” **#558**
(Vs. 1, 2, 4)

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 OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God of mercy, we know you judge the world with an eye for the poor and outcast. We confess we fail to live with the same eye for those on the margins. We have been silent when we should have spoken up, and uncaring in the face of injustice. We have not shown the same generosity to others that you have shown us. Forgive us for putting ourselves first, and help us to serve you with the kindness we meet in Jesus Christ.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends hear the Good News: While it is true that we have all sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God’s love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God, I say, in Jesus Christ our sin is forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself, and with one another. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

L: Let us be known as children of the Most High by sharing our love with all, as we pass the peace of Christ with the words “The peace of Christ be with you always.”

P: And also with you.

OFFERTORY

“”

* 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

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

God be with you.

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to our God.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right...

... we lift our voice to join their eternal song:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.

Hosanna in the highest.

... As we proclaim the mystery of the faith.

Christ, you died, are risen, and will come again. We await your kin-dom come on earth, when your peace and justice will reign.

... And now, as children of God, we are bold to pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

* HYMN

“They’ll Know We Are Christians”

TFWS #2223

* 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

“”

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

James 2:14-18

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷ So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith. (New Revised Standard Version)

Ephesians 2:8-10

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

(New International Version, 2011)

Matthew 5:13-16

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (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
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 McMahon

Harmony Montgomery (7 yr old
girl missing from Manchester)
People of the Ukraine
Children, especially orphans
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

United Methodist Church Staff and Worship Leaders

Pastor.....Pastor Nancy Wichmann (781)697-6344 (C)
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Given the decrease in Covid-19 rates, we are moving to a masks optional environment.

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.

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. For March, the offering will be baking mixes (cookies, muffins, cakes, etc) and toothbrushes and toothpaste.

If you wish to become a member of our church family, or to be baptized, contact Pastor Wichmann at nan_wich@bellsouth.net or 781-697-6344.