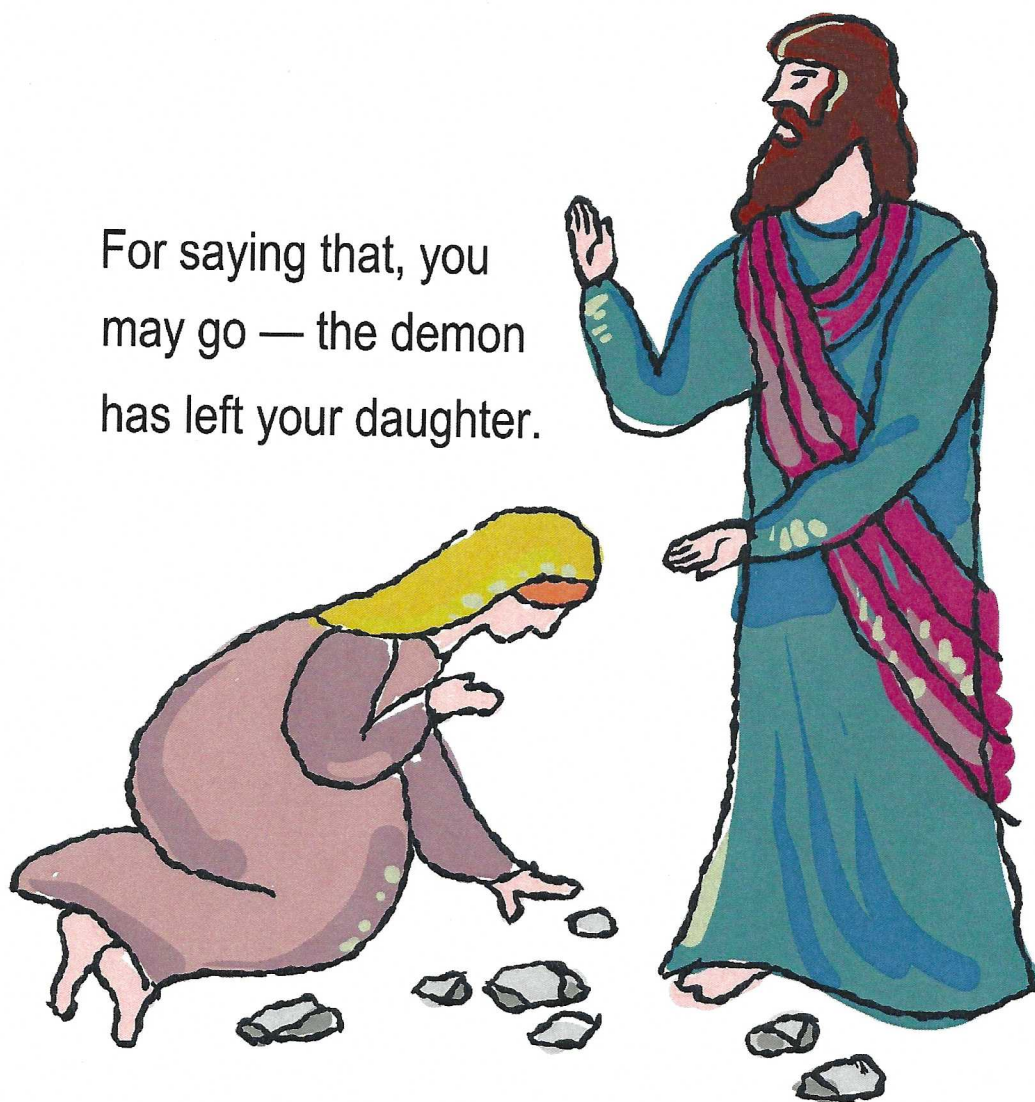


East Parish United Methodist Church

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.

For saying that, you
may go — the demon
has left your daughter.



September 12, 2021
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE

"Prelude in C Minor"

JS Bach

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*** OPENING HYMN**

"Jesus, Lover of my Soul"

#479

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 125)

L: Those who trust in God are like Mount Zion,

P: Which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

L: As the mountains surround Jerusalem,

P: So God surrounds the chosen, from this time on and forevermore.

L: Do good, O God, to those who are good,

P: And to those who are upright in their hearts.

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

God of grace and powerful weakness, at times your prophets were ignored, rejected, belittled, and unwelcome. Trusting that we, too, are called to be prophets, fill us with your Spirit, and support us by your gentle hands, that we may persevere in speaking your word and living our faith. Amen.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Ruth 1:7-18

2 Corinthians 3:1b-6, 17-18

Mark 7:24-30

SERMON

Jesus' Human Nature

Rev. Nancy Wichmann

*** HYMN**

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

#454

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.

THE 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)

God of the promise, we often lose sight of your presence because we focus on our present troubles. You are with us always and forever, yet we fail to reach out to you for help. Remind us often that you accompany us in hard times as well as the good. We ask for the sake of your ever loyal Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

L. Please greet your neighbors with the blessing: "The peace of Christ be with you."

P. And also with you.

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Fughetta"

Jeremiah Clark

* DOXOLOGY

No. 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

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

* HYMN

"She Came to Jesus"
(tune UMH 451)

See insert

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE ***"This is the Feast of Victory"*** ***vs. 3 – Antiphon***

#631

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Excerpt from Hornpipe from "Water Music"

G.F. Handel

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

Ruth 1:7-18

⁷ So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah.

⁸ But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May God deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹ God grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud.

¹⁰ They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people."

¹¹ But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹² Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I

thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, ¹³ would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of God has turned against me.”

¹⁴ Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. ¹⁵ So she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” ¹⁶ But Ruth said, “Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die, I will die — there will I be buried. May God do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!” ¹⁸ When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

2 Corinthians 3:1b-6, 17-18

¹ Surely we do not need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you or from you, do we? ² You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all; ³ and you show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

⁴ Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. ⁵ Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God, ⁶ who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of letter but of spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

¹⁷ Now God is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of God is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of God as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from God, the Spirit.

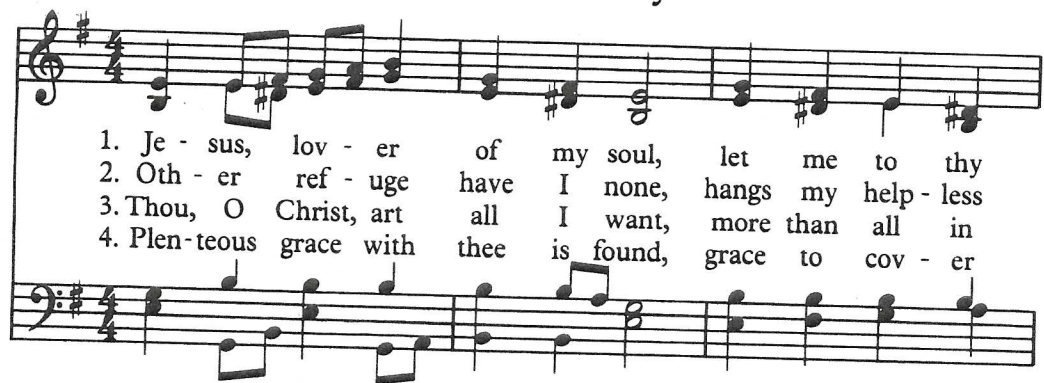
Mark 7:24-30

²⁴ From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.

²⁷ He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”

²⁸ But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” ²⁹ Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go — the demon has left your daughter.” ³⁰ So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Jesus, Lover of My Soul



1. Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to thy
 2. Oth - er ref - uge have I none, hangs my help - less
 3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want, more than all in
 4. Plen-teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er



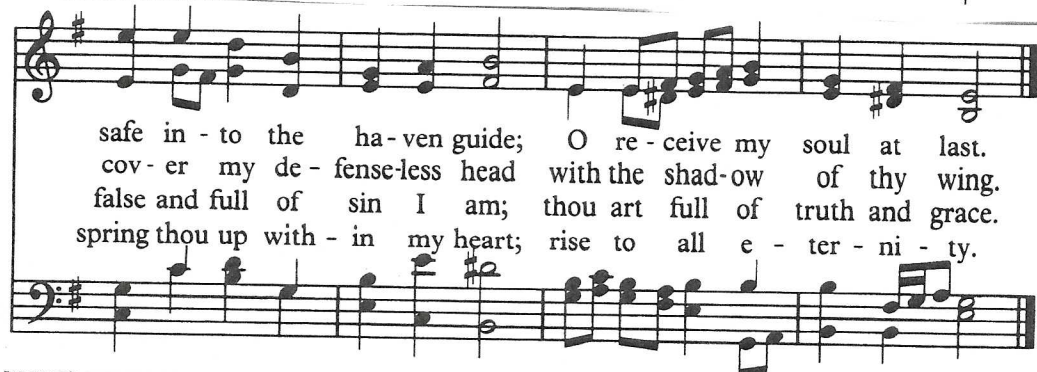
bos - om fly, while the near - er wa - ters roll,
 soul on thee; leave, ah! leave me not a - lone,
 thee I find; raise the fall - en, cheer the faint,
 all my sin; let the heal - ing streams a - bound,



while the tem - pest still is high. Hide me, O my
 still sup - port and com - fort me. All my trust on
 heal the sick, and lead the blind. Just and ho - ly
 make and keep me pure with - in. Thou of life the



Sav - ior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
 thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;
 is thy name, I am all un - righ - teous - ness;
 foun - tain art, free - ly let me take of thee;



safe in - to the ha - ven guide; O re - ceive my soul at last.
 cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of thy wing.
 false and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.
 spring thou up with - in my heart; rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

454

Open My Eyes, That I May See

1. O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou
 2. O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic-es of truth thou
 3. O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad-ly the warm truth

hast for me; place in my hands the won-der - ful key
 send - est clear; and while the wave - notes fall on my ear,
 ev - ery-where; o - pen my heart and let me pre-pare

Refrain

that shall un-clasp and set me free.
 ev - ery-thing false will dis - ap-pear. Si-lent - ly now I
 love with thy chil - dren thus to share.

wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy will to see.

O - pen my eyes,
 O - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 O - pen my heart,

She Came to Jesus

She came to Jesus from outside the fold –
Canaanite woman! Persistent and bold!
Looking to Jesus, she wanted to see
One who would help her and set her child free.

Claiming a blessing, a touch of God's grace,
She knew God's love was not bounded by place.
Jesus, you listened, debated – then healed –
For in her asking, her faith was revealed.

God, you still bless those who seek you in prayer.
You welcome dreamers who faithfully dare.
In Christ, now risen, your mercy extends:
Those on the outside are welcomed as friends.

Bless by your Spirit this minister here
Who has served faithfully year after year –
Breaking down barriers, persistent and bold,
Leading your people back into your fold.

Tune: Slane 10 10.9 10 ("Be Thou My Vision"), Irish Ballad
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Prayer List

Church of Christ
 Ministries of East Parish United
 Methodist Church
 For the slain everywhere
 Family and friends of Ashley Fowler
 (Craig's brother)
 Family and friends of Deb McAdams
 Vicki Hall (for a kidney)
 Gerry Bryant (Alana Gilbert's brother)
 Karlene Johnson
 Steve Johnson
 Steve Smith
 Joni McPhee
 Ken Eaton
 Julie Allred
 Corey Amlin (BIL of Martha Murray)
 Linda Murphy (friend of Samantha
 Stanton)

Victims of natural disasters
 Victims of sexual abuse and assault
 Division in The United Methodist
 Church
 For those whose voices are so often
 ignored
 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
 All who have suffered with, because of,
 or died from addiction
 For our country, desperately in need of
 unity and humanity
 For those who perished and for those
 who continue to be affected by the
 events of 9/11



United Methodist Church Staff and Worship Leaders

Pastor.....Pastor Nancy Wichmann (781)697-6344 (C)
 ChurchAdministrator.....JoanneSheehan 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 (978)462-4578
 Worship Committee.....Debbie Choate dcpertl@verizon.net (978)462-4578

Ministers.....The Congregation

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

Website: www.eastparishumc.org

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