

Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale
Sunday, January 23, 2022 ~ Third Sunday after Epiphany

PRELUDE

Come to Me All Who Labor

Words & Music: John Purifoy
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WELCOME AND GATHERING PRAYER
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader & Pastor) (Palm 19:1-4 NRSV)

L: The heavens are telling the glory of God;
P: and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
L: Day to day pours forth speech,
P: and night to night declares knowledge.
L: There is no speech, nor are there words;
P: their voice is not heard;
L: yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
P: and their words to the end of the world.
L&P: Let us open our hearts and minds to the Word of The Lord. Amen!

OPENING HYMN (Please be seated, no singing, quiet Meditation)

God Is Here! As We His People, #280

Words: Fred Pratt Green (1978)
Music: Cyril V. Taylor (1941)
Copyright: Words: 1975. 1994 Hope Publishing Company; Music: 1942. Renewed 1970 Hope Publishing Company
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*God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.*

*Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.*

*Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, fount, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.*

*Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.*

UNISON PRAYER (Seated, whispered) Judy

Merciful and loving God in this time of Holy Silence and reflection, we come to You for greater understanding. Lord, teach us to use our hands and feet to follow Your ways to demonstrate to Your people how we should serve one another. Holy One, open our hearts and minds to the possibilities of what a future together might look like as we work toward a more just and equitable society. Amen!

Our Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom 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 Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever, Amen.

GLORIA PATRI (Music will play, sing quietly or in your heart)

Glory Be to the Father

WORDS: Lesser Doxology (3rd-4th centuries)

MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

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Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE You too can help, Pastor Dave

CHILDREN'S HYMN (Music Only)

Jesus Loves Me!

Words: Anna B. Warner (1860)

Music: William B. Bradbury (1862)

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SCRIPTURE READING

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:12–31a

Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:14–21

SERMON Good News, Pastor Dave

HYMN (Seated; Music and Meditation)

Joys Are Flowing Like A River (Blessed Quietness), #267

Words: Manie P. Ferguson (c. 1897)

Music: Comp. W. S. Marshall (c. 1897); Arr. J. Jefferson Cleveland (1981, alt.); Arr. Verolga Nix (1981, alt.)

Copyright: Words: Public Domain; Music: 1981 Abingdon Press (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

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*Joys are flowing like a river,
since the Comforter has come;
Christ abides with us forever,
makes the trusting heart his home.*

*Blessed quietness, holy quietness,
what assurance in my soul.
On the stormy sea, Jesus speaks to me,
and the billows cease to roll.*

*Bringing life and health and gladness,
all around this heavenly Guest,
banished unbelief and sadness,
changed our weariness to rest.*

*Blessed quietness, holy quietness,
what assurance in my soul.
On the stormy sea, Jesus speaks to me,
and the billows cease to roll.*

MORNING OFFERING

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

Invitation to Offer Ourselves for God's Work

DOXOLOGY (Sing with your heart, or softly, music will play)

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674

MUSIC: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

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*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

WE PAUSE TO REFLECT AND PRAY

Prayers of the People: You are invited to offer prayers of joy and/or concerns.

Sharing our joys and concerns

Pastor: God is with you

All: And also, with you

Pastor: Let us pray

Pastoral Prayer

SUNG RESPONSE (Sing with you heart or whisper)

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

WORDS: Psalm 143:1

MUSIC: George Whelpton, 1897

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*Hear our Prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer O Lord.
Incline thine ear to us, And grant us thy peace. Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN (Seated, quiet Meditation)

Help Us Accept Each Other, #487

Words: Fred Kaan (1974)

Music: John Ness Beck (1977)

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*Help us accept each other
as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother,
each person to embrace.*

*Be present, Lord, among us
and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted
and meant to love and live.*

*Teach us, O Lord, your lessons,
as in our daily life
we struggle to be human
and search for hope and faith.*

*Teach us to care for people,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them
or as they may become.*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Go in Peace

Words: Barbara L. Waters

Music: Kenneth E. White

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*Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day.
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.
Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new life!
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.*

RECESSIONAL POSTLUDE (As we quietly depart)

1 Corinthians 12:12-31 (NRSV)

One Body with Many Members

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. 14 Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many members, yet one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; 24 whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, 25 that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Luke 4:14-21 (NRSV)

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

20 And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”