

Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale
Sunday, February 13, 2022 ~ Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

PRELUDE

SPECIAL MUSIC

Arise, Shine For Your Light Has Come

arr. Allan Pote
Coronet Press

WELCOME AND GATHERING PRAYER
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: May today bring you peace from within.

All: We trust that God has placed us exactly where we are meant to be.

One: May you not forget the infinite possibilities born of faith.

All: We will use our gifts to pass on the love that has been given to us.

One: May you be confident knowing you are a child of God.

All: Let God's presence settle into our bones, allowing our souls the freedom to sing, dance, praise, and love.

One: These are for every one of us.

All: Let us place ourselves before God in praiseful worship. Amen!

OPENING HYMN

In the Bulb There is A Flower, #638

Words & Music: Natalie Sleeth (1986)
Copyright: 1986 Hope Publishing Company
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*In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!*

*In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.*

*There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness
bringing hope to you and me.*

*From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.*

*In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
In our life, eternity.*

*in our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.*

UNISON PRAYER

Loving and forgiving God, We come before You as a body seeking Your help as we struggle to find our footing in this new world. Lord, we see confusion and chaos all around us as the ways of the world attempt to draw us from You and Your teachings. Lord, we are tired. The world is trying to beat us down so that we lose our faith and hope for new things to come. Yet we stand firm in our belief in You and Your Son as we place ourselves with open hearts and minds before You. 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

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

CHILDREN'S HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

Words & Music: Harry Dixon Loes

Copyright: Public Domain

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*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12–20

Gospel Lesson: Luke 6:17–26

SERMON *Blessed*, Pastor Dave

HYMN

He Touched Me, #564

Words & Music: William J. Gaither

Copyright: 1964 William J. Gaither, Inc. (Admin. by Gaither Copyright Management)

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*Shackled by a heavy burden
'neath a load of guilt and shame
Then the hand of Jesus touched me
And now I am no longer the same*

*He touched me. Oh He touched me
And oh the joy that floods my soul
Something happened and now I know
He touched me and made me whole*

*Since I met this blessed Savior
Since He cleansed and made me whole
I will never cease to praise Him
I'll shout it while eternity rolls*

*He touched me. Oh He touched me
And oh the joy that floods my soul
Something happened and now I know
He touched me and made me whole*

MORNING OFFERING

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

We joyfully offer ourselves in God's work using our time, talent, and treasure.

DOXOLOGY

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 concerns or joys.

Sharing our joys and concerns

Pastor: God is with you

All: And also, with you

Pastor: Let us pray

PASTORAL PRAYER

SUNG RESPONSE

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

WORDS: Psalm 143:1

MUSIC: George Whelpton, 1897

Copyright: Public Domain

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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

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind, #594

Words: John Greenleaf Whittier (1872)

Music: Frederick C. Maker (1887)

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*Dear Lord, and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.*

*In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word,
rise up and follow thee.*

*O sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!*

*Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.*

*Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm.*

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

1 Corinthians 15:12-20 (NRSV)

The Resurrection of the Dead

12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; 14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. 15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. 17 If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have died[a] in Christ have perished. 19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Luke 6:17-26 (NRSV)

Jesus Teaches and Heals

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.

Blessings and Woes

20 Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom 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[a] on account of the Son of Man. 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.