

January 31 , 2021

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

CCLI # 2929798 and #20547245

Spiritual Quote of the week

“The greater the doubt, the greater the awakening.”
– Albert Einstein

Welcome

Prelude ‘ *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*’
F. Peeters

Lighting of the Candles

Lighting of the Community and Christ Candle

*For gathering today in this sacred space, we light
the Christ Candle*

**Call to Worship: (From Worship Ways
ucc.org)**

L: Brothers and sisters in Christ, what hopes do you
bring to worship?

P: We bring hope for health and wholeness.

L: What afflictions do you bring to worship?
Physical pain?

P: From illness and injury.

L: Emotional pain?

P: From sad and scary life situations.

L: Mental pain?

P: From dis-ease of many kinds.

L: With all of these afflictions, it's a miracle that any of us have made it to worship this morning!

P: But where else would we be? We yearn to know God's powerful love and to know that wholeness is possible.

L: In today's gospel, a person with an "*afflicting spirit*" interrupts Jesus

P: and Jesus frees him.

L: And where does the miracle of his story and our stories begin?

P: When we bring all of who we are — hopeful, afflicted, bold— into relationship with the Divine.

L: So come, let us enter this sanctuary and virtually in your homes with our whole selves

P: —hopeful, afflicted and bold—

L: Come, let us worship!

Choir Introit

Hymn #553 “There is a Balm in Gilead”

Refrain:

*There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.*

*1 Sometimes I feel discouraged,
and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. [Refrain]*

*2 Don't ever be discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend,
who, if you lack for knowledge,
will never fail to lend. [Refrain]*

*3 If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus,
who died to save us all. [Refrain]*

Prayer of Confession Pastor Gerry

O God, source of life and grace, we are aware that we are, at times, prisoners of fear and habit. Through the

healing touch of Christ, set us free to live and to love,
that we may be the people you have created us to be.
Amen.

DAZZLING BOUQUET -Time for Children- Message- Promise/Covenant

*1. Come here, all you six-foot gladiolas.
Come all you purple lilacs shining bright.
Come let us all bloom together in one garden:
A carnival of fragrance and delight. (Refrain)*

*Mine is the church where everybody's welcome.
I know it's true 'cause I got through the door.
We are a dazzling bouquet of every kind of flower.
Jump in the vase, 'cause we've got space for more.*

**Moment of Silence and Prayer for 1000 New
Hampshire residents died from COVID
Pastor John**

UCC / DOC Missionary Partner this week - Pastor Gerry



Indonesia- John Campbell Nelson

Pastoral Prayer and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Choir ANTHEM

'Love Your Neighbor'

M. Helman

Scripture Reading -Mark 1:21-28

Jesus throws a demon out

21 Jesus and his followers went into Capernaum.

Immediately on the Sabbath Jesus entered the

synagogue and started teaching. 22 The people were amazed by his teaching, for he was teaching them with authority, not like the legal experts. 23 Suddenly, there in the synagogue, a person with an evil spirit screamed, 24 “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are. You are the holy one from God.”

25 “Silence!” Jesus said, speaking harshly to the demon. “Come out of him!” 26 The unclean spirit shook him and screamed, then it came out.

27 Everyone was shaken and questioned among themselves, “What’s this? A new teaching with authority! He even commands unclean spirits and they obey him!” 28 Right away the news about him spread throughout the entire region of Galilee.

Hymn #488 ‘Be Still, My Soul’

*1 Be still, my soul: for God is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
in every change God faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best eternal friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

*2 Be still, my soul: for God will undertake
to guide in future days as in the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
how Jesus' power ruled them long ago.*

*3 Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here
when we shall be with God whom we adore,
with disappointment, no grief nor fear,
sorrow replaced with joy forevermore.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon ‘Tend to Your Own Garden’

Rev. John Hogue

Invitation to the Offering

Musical Interlude

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication of Offering

Hymn #586 “Come To Tend God’s Garden”

*Come to tend God’s garden, seeds of hope to sow,
Planting fields of justice, watching mercy grow!
In an arid wasteland, spread a verdant health!
In a land of tumult, cultivate God’s peace!*

*As we tend God’s garden, from its furrows rise
Stems of fresh beginnings, stretching toward the
skies!*

*Graciousness, our meadow, joyfulness, our root,
Unity, our foliage, righteousness, our fruit!*

*May God’s garden flourish, may our toil succeed,
May God bless our actions, every word and deed!
Serving Christ each season, with God’s diagram,
Chartered by the Spirit, for the task at hand!*

Benediction

Congregational Benediction Response

May God's Blessings Twine around you, perfect love, and healing calm;

May God's radiance shine upon you; may it guide you, stay beside you -watch and keep you, safe from harm. By Paul Burtis

POSTLUDE

'Arise, My Soul, Arise'

F. Peeters