



**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
**Third Sunday After Epiphany**  
**January 24, 2021**

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin  
Senior Minister

**MUSIC OF PREPARATION**

*Depth of Mercy*  
Mr. Rick Massengale, organ

Charles Wesley

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence  
Associate Minister

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

*O God Beyond All Praising*

THAXTED

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Psalm 62:5-8*

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

**He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.**

On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

**Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.**

**\*HYMN**

*Blessed Be the God of Israel*

LANCASHIRE

*Blessed be the God of Israel, who come to set us free,  
who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty.  
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;  
God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.*



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*Now from the house of David a child of grace is given;  
a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.  
Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way,  
the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.*

*On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,  
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,  
to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace;  
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles' Creed*

Rev. Lawrence and People

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy \*catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**      *\*universal      UMH 881*

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

MEINEKE

**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.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:  
"The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you."*

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Rev. Lawrence

**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.**

**ANTHEM**

*Endless Grace*

Stephanielynn Buda, Brian Buda.

*I hear from heaven your soul's long sigh your broken heart your lonely cry.  
And though I may not answer why My grace, My love, is My reply.*

*Have you not known? Have you not heard? Give Me your pains and dreams deferred.  
I beauty make from ashes still. My plans weave both from good and ill.*

*Your sighs and sorrows, child, are lent for you to spend and to be spent  
Your life to mirror My descent and teach the world what My cross meant.*

*Have you not known? Have you not heard? I know your pains and dreams deferred.  
I, too, this suffering path have trod. find comfort here, in Me, your God.*

*My child, why is your soul downcast? Endure this night; for breaking fast.  
The morning's dawn, with glory vast, Will dry your tears with joy at last.*

*Have you not known? Have you not heard? Your unfilled dreams and pains incurred,  
Like shadows past, will have no place In lands of light and endless grace.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100th

**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 ILLUMINATION**

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

**Lord, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as the Scriptures are read  
and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

**\*SCRIPTURE LESSON**

*Jonah 3:1-5,10*

Rev. Lawrence

*The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”*

*<sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.*

*<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.*

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Fish Tales*

Dr. Martin

**\*HYMN**

*Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*

REST

*Dear Lord and father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;  
re clothe 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.*

*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**

Dr. Martin

*May the peace of Christ go with you wherever he may send you.  
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.  
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.  
May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our arms.*

**POSTLUDE**

*How Firm a Foundation*

Gilbert Martin

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

*Please exit by the chancel only.  
Place bulletin in recycling bin or take it with you.  
Offerings will be received by the chancel as you exit.*

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

Marlene Amos  
Billy Arnold  
Van Askew  
Carolyn Broady  
Annelle Burch

Joe Byers  
Richard Clayton  
Kathie Cochran  
Rachel Colbert  
Summer Dorsey

Bob Garrett  
Margaret Grainger  
Martha Hale  
Cindy Jennings  
Doris Kerlin

Lurlene Perry  
Claudia Rhodes  
Jon Wade  
Mabel Wilbanks  
Brad Wilkinson

In Memoriam  
Howard Dunham  
January 18, 2021

**Our Christian prayers and sympathy are with**

Sally Dunham and family upon the death of Sally's husband, Howard Dunham, on January 18.



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Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version

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