



**Nantucket**  
**United Methodist Church**  
**Sunday January 31, 2021**  
**10:00am**  
**Rev. Dr. Thomas M. Richard**  
**Pastor**

**NantucketUMC.org**



www.nantucketumc.org  
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ORDER OF WORSHIP  
Fourth Sunday of Epiphany  
January 31, 2021

**Prelude** **Isaiah Williams**

**Call to Worship** (African liturgy) **Sylvester Baptiste**

L: In the beginning was God

**C: Now is God**

L: Tomorrow will be God

**C: Who of us can make an image of God?**

L: God is a Spirit

**C: God is the Spirit that comes out of our mouths**

L: That word is from the past

**C: And still it lives! And so does God.**

**Opening Hymn**

“Holy God We Praise Thy Name” No. 79

**Invocation (in unison)**

Open to us your Spirit, God of mercies and forgiveness, in this hour and the hours to come; open to us the gates of light and blessing, open to us redemption and salvation, open to us heavenly help and rejoicing, open to us holiness and peace, that your word will be spoken and will live in us. In Christ’s name, Amen

**The Morning Scriptures** **Sylvester Baptiste**

**Our Responsive Psalm is 111**

L: I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

**C: Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

L: Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.

**C: He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and compassionate.**

L: He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

**C: He has shown his people the power of his works, giving them the lands of other nations.**

L: The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

**C: They are established for ever and ever, enacted in faithfulness and uprightness.**

L: He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever - holy and awesome is his name.

**C: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.**

**This morning's Old Testament reading is from the book of Deuteronomy, Chapter 18, verses 15-20**

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, "Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die." The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death.

**Today's Gospel Reading is from Mark, chapter 1, verses 21-28**

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.

Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" "Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him." News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God

**Congregation: Thanks be to God**

### **A Hymn**

**"Into My Heart" No. 2160 (TFWS)**

**The Sermon** "Unbelievable!" Dr. Richard

### **The Morning Prayers**

Prayer Requests

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

### **Call To Offering**

### **Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessing flow*

*Praise him, all creatures here below*

*Praise Him above ye heavenly host*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost Amen*

### **Dedication of Our Gifts and Offerings**

### **Closing Hymn**

"Forward Through the Ages" No. 555

## **The Blessing**

### **Choral Benediction** *“God Be With You Till We Meet Again”*

*God be with you til we meet again  
By his counsels guide uphold you  
With his sheep securely fold you  
God be with you til we meet again*

## **Welcome**

We are together, differently for sure, but together. For this we are so grateful. Welcome to this worship service! May God speak to you in a profound way during this hour and may it stay with you throughout the week.

**T**

## **hank You ..**

We continue to get special gifts from members and friends, for our parsonage window project. Thank you so much. With it all of the parsonage windows will be replaced with energy-saving ones. If you contribute by check, simply write the check to the church, and designate it for “Window Project.”

## **This Wednesday**

At 7pm this Wednesday we will have a time of prayer including joys, sorrows, concerns, and hopes. Join us by zoom, using the same connecting options as you have for this worship service.

## **Lent Book Discussion**

The “The Way of Love” is essential for addressing the seemingly insurmountable challenges facing the world today: poverty, racism, selfishness, deep ideological divisions, competing claims to speak for God. This book will lead readers to discover the gifts they need in order to live the way of love: deep reservoirs of hope and resilience, simple wisdom, the discipline of nonviolence, and unshakable regard for human dignity. **We will discuss the book on Wednesday nights** during Lent. It is written by Methodist Bishop Michael Curry. If you want to read the book

please let Tom or Kathy know. We will order a copy for you.

### **Your Financial Support is Much Appreciated**

You can contribute to this church's ministry. If you go to our website [church@nantucketunitedmethodist.com](mailto:church@nantucketunitedmethodist.com) you will find an option for a donation. Or, if you wish, you can send a check to UMC Box 264 Nantucket, MA 02554. For those who are physically here, there is an offering plate and envelopes on the table as you entered Wesley Hall.

### **February 7<sup>th</sup> Return to Wesley Hall**

We will officially open Wesley Hall for our worship service next Sunday! We are taking every precaution possible. \* Everyone must wear masks, \*Everyone must sign-in on the sheet provided, \*Everyone should use the sanitizer spray available and \*Everyone will have their own hymnals.

### **An important Survey**

Brooks Moore was a guest at the Jan. Nantucket Inter-faith Council mtg. and asked that we pass on an important housing survey to our congregations. The survey is an update of our Housing Production Plan. Everyone is encouraged to complete the survey no matter what your current housing situation may be.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NantucketHPP>

### **From My Heart To Yours...**

I have enjoyed writing liturgy for years. In fact, my doctoral disquisition was largely the work of writing liturgy for church committees and boards. The love of liturgy continues to this day.

Ideas, sources, come from every religious tradition you can imagine. It includes the great liturgical traditions of early Christianity -men and women who are regarded as saints of the church, as well as women and men who

are writing beautiful adaptations of scripture, prayers, poetry, etc. This morning, for instance, the call to worship is an adaptation of an early African call, found in "Prayers of the World" a compendium of prayers given to me one Christmas by a former organist. of a church I was serving. So, why the interest? This passion? Because every one of these writers, be they pastors, theologians, authors, or laypersons are reaching for words that speak of or to God. In a way, these are akin to those who wrote books of the Bible. They were inspired by God. And so am I. And so are you. We honor God when we speak or write words to the Almighty that address Adoration, Confession, intercession, and Thankfulness

Grace and Peace,  
Tom

### **Directory**

Accompanist Mollie Glazer/Isaiah Willaims

Lay Leader Sylvester Baptiste

Chair, Admin. Board Zona Butler

Chair, Altar Guild and Emeritus Chair, Trustees, Nelson Eldridge

Chair, Trustees Toby Brown

Chair, Mission and Outreach Kathryn Batchelder

Chair, Staff Parish Relations Zannie Johnson

Chair, Stewardship and Finance Marianne Stanton

Chair, Communication Ray Brusca

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## NUMC Zoom Information—Used For All NUMC Zoom Events

Option 1 – From your computer, tablet or smart phone, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82150456279>

Option 2 –Join Zoom for audio only by dialing an access number listed below and then entering the Meeting ID which is [821 5045 6279](tel:82150456279):

Telephone Access Numbers: [646-558-8656](tel:6465588656), [301-715-8592](tel:3017158592), [312-262-6799](tel:3122626799), [669-900-9128](tel:6699009128), [253-215-8782](tel:2532158782)