



Nantucket
United Methodist Church
Sunday March 7, 2021
10:00am
Rev. Dr. Thomas M. Richard
Pastor

NantucketUMC.org



www.nantucketumc.org
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ORDER OF WORSHIP
Third Sunday of Lent
March 7, 2021

Prelude

Isaiah Williams

Welcome & Announcements

Elizabeth Eldridge

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Hands and hearts and voices raise

Congregation: Sing as in the ancient days

L: Antedate the joys above

C: Celebrate the feast of love

L: Let us worship together!

***Opening Hymn**

"Ye Servants of God" (vs. 1 & 4) No.181

Invocation (in unison)

Eternal God, creator and preserver of all life; author of salvation and giver of all grace, bless and sanctify with your Spirit this hour of worship. In Christ's name, Amen.

This Morning Scriptures

Our first reading is from I Corinthians 1:18-25

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat. The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple, the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

***Will you please rise (if able) for our Gospel reading from John 3:1-21**

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again." "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!" Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit^[d] gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You^[d] must be born again.'⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from

heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.” For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Homily “Nicodemus” Dr. Richard

The Morning Prayers

Prayer Requests

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Call To Offering

(for those present in Wesley Hall an offering plate is at the door as you exit)

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

Sacrament of Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God of everlasting love, we confess that we have been unfaithful

to our covenant with you and with one another.

We have worshiped other gods for money, power, and convenience.

We have served our own self-interest, instead of serving those in need; We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded, nor have we rightly loved ourselves.

Forgive us, gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness of your ways,

Communion Hymn

“Spirit of the Living God” (3x) No. 393

Sharing of the elements (you are invited to come forward and retrieve the elements of cup and bread and return to your seats and we will partake together)

Prayer of Thanks

Closing Hymn

“There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit” No.334

The Affirmation

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only son and 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, and ascended into heaven. And sits on 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 life everlasting.

Choral Benediction “Go Now In Peace”

*Go now in peace, never be afraid, God will go with you
Each hour of every day.*

*Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true,
Know he will guide in all you do.*

*Go now in love, and show you believe
Reach out to others, so all the world can see
God will be there, watching from above
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love, Amen*

Welcome

This is God’s day! Rejoice! Be glad! For Christ is with us.

For Your Safety...

We are committed to the following guidelines.

*Wear a mask

*Use the sanitizer provided

*Sign in for worship (include a phone # please)

*Use the hymnal with your name on it, or put your name of one with blue tape

*While difficult, please sing or hum with your mask on

*We have arranged safe-distance seating.

The Sacrament of Our Lord’s Supper

We practice an “open” communion table, which means we invite any and all to share this sacrament with us.

During the singing of the communion hymn you are invited to come forward and take the cup and bread.

This Morning’s Homily...

is part of a series of messages Dr Richard has planned for these Lenten weeks, titled “Meeting Jesus For The First Time.” Each message involves encounters people had with Jesus.

March is Women’s History Month

During this month we will lift up some of the names of women who have influenced our world, and well as some of our congregation’s women whose incredible faith blessed our church.

This Wednesday...

we finish the discussion of Bishop Michael Curry’s excellent book, “The Way of Love” (chs. 9-12) via zoom at

7pm. Use the same connecting options that you do for this worship service. (found on the back of your bulletin)

Are You A Visitor?

Please make yourself known to us. We are blessed by your presence. There are visitor information cards on the bureau in the entry hall.

Your Financial Support is Much Appreciated

You can contribute to this church's ministry. If you go to our website 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.

Easter Plants

It's not too early to start thinking about Easter lilies and other flowers. Do you want to remember or honor loved ones? Next week we will have an insert in the bulletin with your options.

FROM MY HEART TO YOURS...

Dear Friends,

March is Women's History Month. It began as a local celebration in Santa Rosa, California. The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women planned and executed a "Women's History Week" celebration in 1978. The organizers selected the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day. The movement spread across the country as other communities initiated their own Women's History Week celebrations. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the Week of March 8th 1980 as National Women's History Week. Then in 1981 Congress designated the entire month of March as Women's History Month.

Two women at the top of the list of 100 most influential women in the world, are Marie Currie (1867-1934), a scientist and first woman to win two Nobel Peace prize twice; and Rosa Parks (1913-2005). Her work for racial justice was supported by many other African Americans and sparked the civil rights movement of the 1960's.

We'll remember several others during this month and thank God for them.

Grace and Peace,
Tom

Directory

Accompanist Mollie Glazer/Isaiah Williams

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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7149 SCDS@neumc.org / SCDistrict@neumc.org

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](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82150456279):

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