



THE FOURTH SUNDAY *after* THE EPIPHANY

THE LORD'S DAY, 31 January, *Anno Domini* 2021

Eleven o'clock in the morning | The Sanctuary

✠ denotes the People standing, in body or spirit, as able.

The People's responses are printed in **bold**.



SILENT PRAYER of PREPARATION for WORSHIP

Lord God, Heavenly Father, through Your Holy Word You have called us into Your vineyard. Send, we beseech You, Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may labor faithfully in Your vineyard, shun sin and all offense, obediently keep Your Word and do Your will, and put our whole and only trust in Your grace, which You have bestowed upon us so abundantly; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

— Collect for Septuagesima*

(*see the final page for more information about this important liturgical observance)

GREETING

Pastor Stacey Lundy

(You may visit our church website via the link above or our monthly [newsletter](#) for more information on upcoming ministry opportunities.)

PRELUDE

Holy Ground

Joshua Starnes, organ

arr. Keith Christopher

✠ CALL to WORSHIP

from Exodus 3.5

Come, take off your shoes –

For where we stand is holy ground.

Come, love your neighbor and do good to all around –

For where we stand is holy ground.

Love all that God gave us,

for we are all standing on holy ground.

Cantor We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise Jesus now –
for we are standing in His presence on holy ground!

ALL

We are stan - ding on ho - ly ground,
and I know that there are an - gels all a - round;
Let us praise Je - sus now;
We are stan - ding in His Pre - sence on ho - ly ground!

Cantor 1. *As I walked through the door, I sensed His Presence.
And I knew this was the place where Love abounds,
for this is a temple the God we love abides here.
We are standing in His presence on holy ground.*

ALL **We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise Jesus now –
for we are standing in His presence on holy ground!**

Cantor 2. *In His Presence, I know there is joy beyond all measure.
And at His feet, sweet peace of mind can still be found.
For when we have a need, He is still the answer.
O reach out and claim it, for we are standing on holy ground!*

ALL **We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise Jesus now –
for we are standing in His presence,
we are standing in His presence,
we are standing in His presence on holy ground!**

Words and Music: Geron Davis; © 1983 Meadowgreen Music Company | Songchannel Music.

✠ CALL to LAMENT, CONFESSION, and REPENTANCE

Peggy Price

Let us boldly approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need, as we humbly confess our sins to Almighty God and one another:

(a brief period of silence follows for personal confession)

✠ PRAYER of CORPORATE CONFESSION

from Daniel 9

O Lord our God,
who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand
and made Your Name renowned even to this day –

We have sinned,
we have done wickedly.

We have not listened to Your servants the prophets,
who spoke in Your Name.

We do not present our supplication before You on the ground of our righteousness,
but on the ground of Your great mercies.

O Lord, hear;
O Lord, forgive;
O Lord, listen and act and do not delay!

✠ WORDS of ASSURANCE

God acts with mercy and extends us grace:

As God delivered the Israelites from Egypt, we are delivered from our sin.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Glory be to God!

✠ DOXOLOGY

DUKE STREET

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *A–MEN!*

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674, alt.

Music: John Hatton, 1793.

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION *(in unison)*

Almighty God,
Your grace is poured into our hearts as our lives are joined to Christ's
and by the work of Your Spirit in us.

Speak Your Word to us today,
that we may not be fearful,
but eagerly put Your gifts to work,
and so enter the joy You have prepared in our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

...This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

- O** Thou who camest from above,
the pure celestial fire to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
upon the mean altar of my heart.
2. There let it for Thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its Source return,
in humble prayer and fervent praise.
3. Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work and speak and think for Thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up Thy gift in me.
4. Ready for all Thy Perfect Will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death Thy endless mercies seal,
and make my sacrifice complete.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1762; (Leviticus 6.13).

Music: Lowell Mason, 1824.

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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.**

[*living]

**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]

OFFERING

(You may support the ministries of FUMC by clicking the "Offering" link above to make a donation through our secure Online portal.)

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION and THANKSGIVING

Following each petition:

...Lord, in Your mercy:
Hear our prayer...

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(in unison)*

from Matthew 6.9-13

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.*

Dm C/E F C F B^b

C Dm C/E F C Dm Gm

Dm F C F Dm B^b

C Dm C F C Dm Gm Dm

⁷See what they spew out from their mouths, for in their lips are swords;
And they say, “Who can possibly hear any of our words?”

⁸But You, O LORD, will laugh at them, You at the nations scoff;

⁹My strength, I’ll watch and wait for You, my fortress and my rock.

¹⁰My loving God goes before me; He’ll let me gloat and see
the end of all those wicked ones, who mock and slander me.

¹¹But do not kill them, Lord, our shield, or people will forget;
By Your strong power, bring them down, and make them wander yet.

¹²And for the sins which their mouths speak, the words their lips let fly,
Let them be caught in their own pride, because they curse and lie.

¹³Consume them in Your wrath, O Lord; consume till they’re no more.
It will be known to ends of earth that Jacob’s God is Lord. [Selah]

¹⁴At ev’ning they go to and fro; they make great noise and sound;
They snarl like dogs, and prowl about the city all around.

¹⁵They wander, searching for their food and if not satisfied,
They howl like dogs and prowl around,
and don’t care how they’ve lied.

¹⁶But I’ll sing of Your strength, O God; at dawn Your love I’ll praise;
For You’re my fortress, refuge, and my tow’r in troubled days.

¹⁷O God, You are my strength, and I sing praises unto You;
O God, You are my fortress, full of lovingkindness true.

Words: Julie and Timothy Tennent from “A Metrical Psalter: The Book of Psalms Set to Meter for Singing,” ©2016 Seedbed Publishing.

Music: Traditional English Melody; “English Country Songs,” 1893.

✠ BENEDICTION and COMMISSION

(Please bow your head and extend your hands to receive the blessing.)

POSTLUDE
Holy Ground

Joshua Starnes, piano
arr. Mark Hayes



THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP

(listed alphabetically)

MS. JEN FOGT	<i>Video Producer</i>
THE REVEREND STACEY LUNDY	<i>Associate Pastor of Discipleship & Pastoral Care</i>
MRS. PEGGY PRICE	<i>Liturgist</i>
MR. JOSHUA W. STARNES	<i>Director of Music & Organist</i>
MISS SUTTON WEBB	<i>Acolyte</i>



This Week's Lectionary Readings
(Jan. 31 – Feb. 06)

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Genesis 42–44	Genesis 45–47	Genesis 48–50	Exodus 1–2	Exodus 3–5
Psalm 59	Daniel 6–7	Daniel 8–9	Psalm 129	Daniel 11
Daniel 5			Daniel 10	



Historically, this Sunday and the two following are known as “gesima” Sundays. This three-Sunday (17-day) period comprises Gesimatide, or Shrovetide, which is a Pre-Lenten season of preparation before the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. “Shrove” is past-tense of the verb “shrive” which is an archaic word meaning “to present oneself to a priest for confession, penance, and absolution.” It is another word for pardon. Shrovetide begins on Septuagesima Sunday, includes Sexagesima Sunday, Quinquagesima Sunday (commonly called “Shrove Sunday”), as well as Shrove Monday, and culminates on Shrove Tuesday, more popularly known as Mardi Gras. The Latin prefixes are given because each Sunday falls within 70, 60, and 50 days before Easter, respectively. The first Sunday of Lent is called Quadragesima (meaning 40), because every Sunday (“The Lord’s Day”) recalls the resurrection of Christ, they are considered “little Easters” and not treated as days of penance; hence the season of Lent is forty days long, because Sundays are not counted in the Lenten fast. (This is also why they are counted as “Sundays OF Lent,” instead of “Sundays IN Lent.”) During the season of Shrovetide, it is customary for Christians to ponder what Lenten sacrifices they will make for the Lenten fast. Another hallmark of Shrovetide is the opportunity for a last round of merrymaking associated with Carnival before the start of the somber and austere Lenten season. On the final day of the season, Shrove Tuesday, many Christians, especially Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists, and Roman Catholics, make a special point of self-examination, of considering what wrongs they need to repent, and what amendments of life or areas of spiritual growth they especially need to ask God’s help in dealing with. Many Christian congregations traditionally celebrate Shrovetide through pancake breakfasts or dinners held on Shrove Monday or Shrove “Fat” Tuesday. During Shrovetide, many churches place a basket in their narthex to collect the previous year’s Holy Week palm branches that were blessed and distributed during the Palm Sunday liturgies. On Shrove Tuesday, churches burn these palms to make the ashes used during the services held on the very next day, Ash Wednesday, which ushers in the Lenten season.