



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 31, 2021

Fourth Sunday after The Epiphany

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

The Prelude

Prelude on EBENEZER

Charles W. Ore

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The Welcome

The Prayer of Confession

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: We know who you are, O Christ;
you are the one who silences demons and casts out evil spirits;
you are the one who creates new life out of utter chaos.
We know who you are, O Christ.
Forgive us, we pray, when we act otherwise.
In your name we pray. Amen.**

The Silent Prayer

The Words of Assurance

God offers redemption to people of every generation,
making new life possible for everyone.

Repent, believe in the gospel, and be healed!

The Hymn No. 264

Silence, Frenzied, Unclean Spirit

EBENEZER

1. "Silence, frenzied, unclean spirit!"
cried God's healing, holy One.
"Cease your ranting! Flesh can't bear it;
flee as night before the sun."
At Christ's voice the demon trembled,
from its victim madly rushed,
while the crowd that was assembled
stood in wonder, stunned and hushed.
2. Lord, the demons still are thriving
in the gray cells of the mind:
tyrant voices, shrill and driving,
twisted thoughts that grip and bind,
doubts that stir the heart to panic,
fears distorting reason's sight,

guilt that makes our loving frantic,
dreams that cloud the soul with fright.

3. Silence, Lord, the unclean spirit
in our mind and in our heart;
speak your word that when we hear it,
all our demons shall depart.
Clear our thought and calm our feeling,
still the fractured, warring soul.
By the power of your healing
make us faithful, true, and whole.

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The Scripture Lesson

Mark 1:21-28

The Sermon

Command Presence

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Solo

O God, I Will Praise Thee

Heinrich Schütz

O God, I will praise Thee with my whole heart
in the council of the upright and in the congregation.
Great are the works of Jehovah;
he who heeds them finds therein his pleasure,
His commandments are deserving of glory;
the rule of His righteousness endureth evermore.
For He hath set up a memorial of all His wonders.
The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
Unto them that fear Him hath He given meat.
He will ever be mindful of His covenant.

from Psalm 111; translated by Richard T. Gore

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The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 that 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.**

The Hymn No. 2104

An Outcast among Outcasts

LLANGLOFFAN

1. An outcast among outcasts, dismissed with double scorn,
belittled by the labels: “unclean” and “foreign born”
came back with thanks for Jesus, and then went on his way:
An outcast among outcasts showed grateful faith that day.
2. An outcast among outcasts, where three were crucified,
derided by the others as they hung sided by side
came back from death with power, God had the final say:
An outcast among outcasts shows God to us today.
3. For outcasts among outcasts the boundaries are redrawn,
by words “Your faith has saved you,” by cross and Easter dawn.
The distant longed-for centers of power peace and care,
where life is free to flourish, are found now everywhere.

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The Benediction

The Postlude

Thank You, Lord

Traditional

We thank these persons who helped us in worship this morning.

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Minister to Young Adults:	Rev. Drew Willson
Director of Music:	Stanley M. Baker
Pianist:	Lee Covington
Singer:	Regan Sprenkle
A/V Team:	Dan Corcoran
	Jane Covington
	Bob Hundley

Scripture

Mark 1:21-28

The Man with an Unclean Spirit

²¹ They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.

²² They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³ Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴ and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” ²⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶ And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him.

²⁷ They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸ At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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