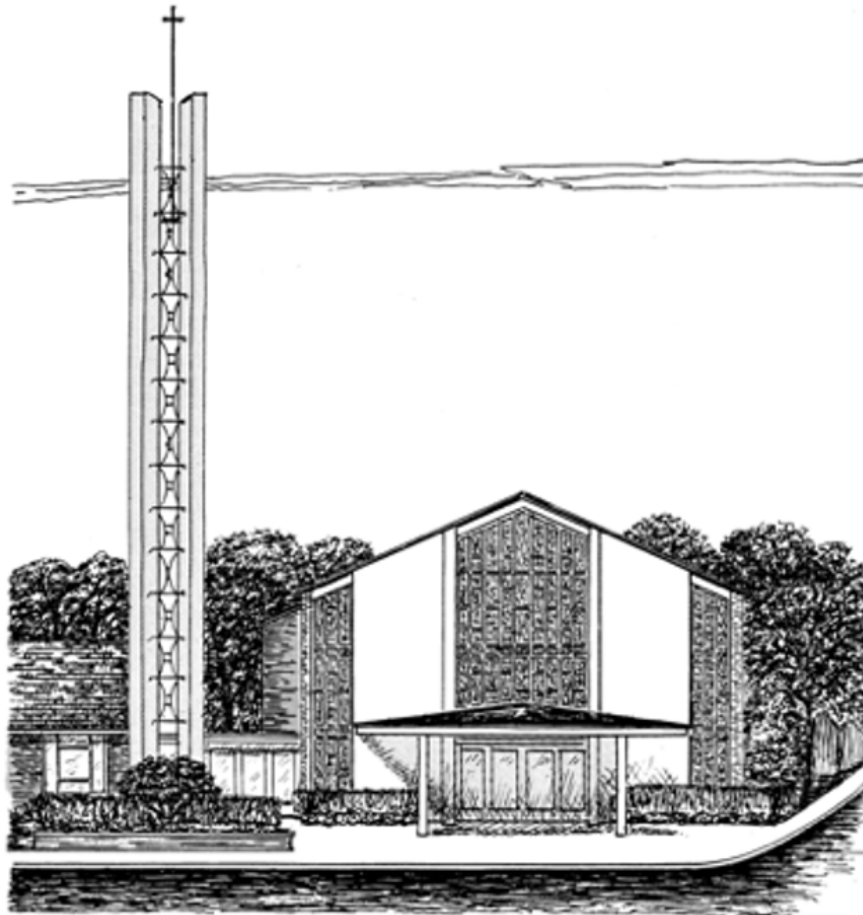


Rockport United Methodist Church

January 24, 2021



R. Jerome Crowley

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Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 24, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Opening Ourselves to Worship

Prelude & Welcome

Call to Worship (People's response in **bold**.)

Leader: From God comes my salvation.

People: For God alone my soul waits in silence.

Leader: God alone is my rock and my salvation.

People: God is my fortress; I shall never be shaken.

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, we repent of all the ways we turn from you. You call, but we do not listen; you show us your path, but we prefer our own way. Forgive us, heal us, and lead us back to you, that we might show mercy to others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.**

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Speak to us your word, O God, that we may hear Jesus' call to be his disciples. Open our hearts and our minds so that may follow Jesus' call. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson

Jonah 3:1-10

Hymn

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

The Children's Time to Lead Us

Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:14-20

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Affirmation of Faith

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**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.**

Transforming Our Lives & the World

Prayers of the People

God of new visions, we pray for people highly placed in power, that they may focus their eyes on you. And we pray for the lowly victims of power, that they may also focus their eyes on you.

We pray for those who bless with their lips but curse with their mouths, including ourselves.

We pray for those who are ill and those facing the end of life. Give them the gift of prayer, that they may pour out their hearts to you.

We pray for the church and its leaders, that we may hear and respond to your call to be fishers of people.

Rock of our salvation, through Christ and your Holy Spirit bring us into the new world that you are shaping even as this world is passing away. **Amen.**

Time of Silent Prayer**Lord's Prayer**

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.

Invitation to Generosity & Offertory**Prayer of Dedication**

Merciful God, you have saved us for a purpose. We dedicate these gifts as we dedicate our lives to you, that you will make us fishers of people. Amen.

Proclamation of Thanksgiving – Psalm 100

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Leader: Know that the Lord is God.

People: It is God that made us, and we belong to God; we are God’s people, and the sheep of God’s pasture.

Leader: Enter the gates with thanksgiving, and God’s courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless God’s holy name.

People: For the Lord is good; God’s steadfast love endures forever, and God’s faithfulness to all generations.

Benediction

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Today’s liturgy was adapted from: “Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year B, Volume 1, Third Sunday after the Epiphany