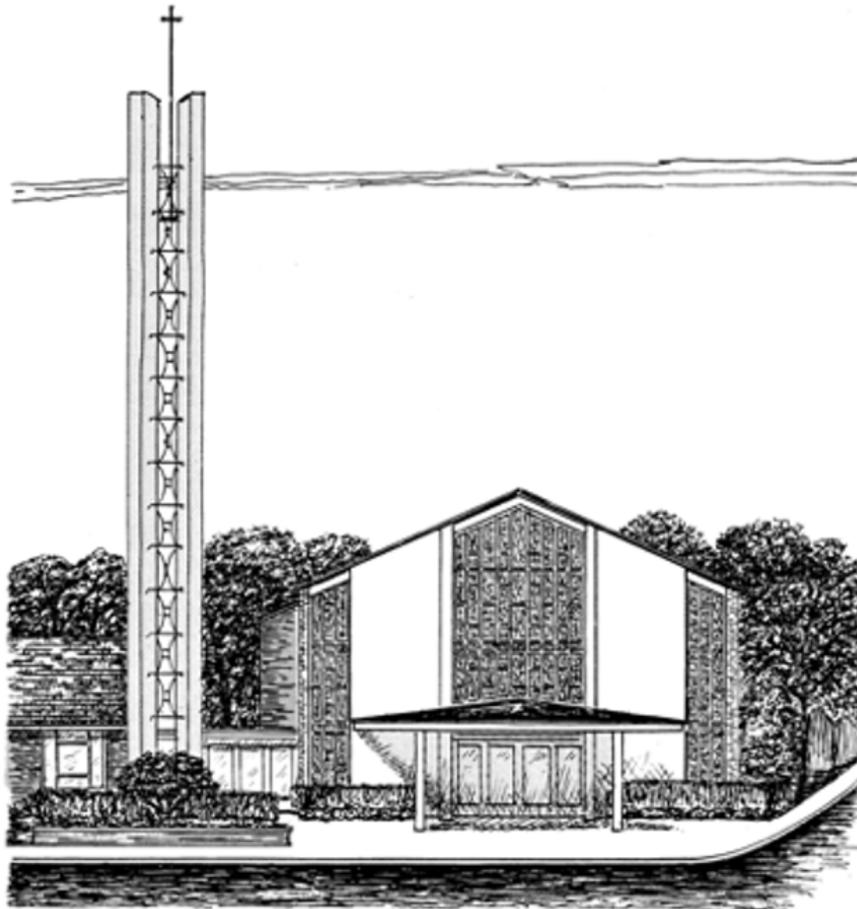


Rockport United Methodist Church

January 3, 2021



R. Jerome Crowley

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Second Sunday of Christmas

January 3, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Opening Ourselves to Worship

Prelude & Welcome

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

Leader: Sing praise to God, who gathers us here;

People: From the ends of the earth we come.

Leader: With a word of promise, a spring of water, a loaf of bread, and a cup of wine,

People: God turns our mourning into dancing, our sorrow into joy.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you have given us everything; we have failed to respond with gratitude. In Jesus Christ, you have given us your Word; we answer with empty promises and lies. In Jesus Christ, you have given us your light; we try to hide ourselves from your glory. In Jesus Christ, you have given us your life; even this precious gift we have not received. Have mercy on us, O God; forgive us. In Jesus Christ, give us the faith and power to become what you created us to be: beloved children, full of grace and truth. 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

Shine upon us, God of glory, and by your Spirit reveal to us the grace and truth of Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. Amen.

New Testament Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-14

Hymn

He is Born

The Children's Time to Lead Us

Gospel Lesson

John 1:1-18

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

Hymn

Love Came Down at Christmas

Sermon

Rev. Lorrin Radzik

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed Page 881

**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

Let us pray to the Lord, saying, to you, O Lord, we pray: come and save your people.
Hope of the prophets, joy of the people, source of all life and song of salvation, to you, O
Lord, we pray: **come and save your people.**
Remember those who are lost and scattered, wandering without direction or hope...
Gather them up into your flock and fold; put a new song of praise upon their lips. To you,
O Lord, we pray: **come and save your people.**
Remember those who are hungry and thirsty, languishing because of what they lack...
Satisfy their needs through your abundant love; lead them to springs of water that never
fail. To you, O Lord, we pray: **come and save your people.**
Remember those who are sick and suffering, held in the grip of illness and pain... Set
them free from their affliction; heal them and renew their strength. To you, O Lord, we
pray: **come and save your people.**
Remember those who are sad and grieving, unable to laugh, to dance, to sing... Give
them the peace that can never perish and the joy that can never be taken away. To you, O
Lord, we pray: **come and save your people.**
Come and save your people, O Lord, so that we may rejoice in your goodness and be
radiant in your presence, singing songs of thanks and praise to the glory of your holy
name. **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

We give you thanks, God of all creation, the power of your life-giving Word, making the winds blow and the waters flow. Receive these gifts from our hands, and use them to bring peace and blessing to all your children; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Proclamation of Thanksgiving – Psalm 98:1-6

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

People: The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

Leader: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

People: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

People: With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God, Alleluia!

Benediction

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Today's liturgy was adapted from: "Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year B, Volume 1, Second Sunday of Christmas"