



January 31, 2021

Video Worship Service

**Welcome & Announcements ~ Jan Richardson**

### **Welcoming the Light...**

God is here! Among us, within us, bringing Light to our lives!

**We light this candle to remind us of God's Light that can never be extinguished.**

### **Opening Litany** (*inspired by Mark 1:21-28*)

Friends in Christ, what hopes do you bring to worship?

**We bring hope for health and wholeness.**

What afflictions do you bring to worship?

Physical pain?

**From illness and injury.**

Emotional pain?

**From sad and serious life situations.**

Mental pain?

**From dis-ease of many kinds.**

With all these afflictions,

it's a miracle that any of us have made it to worship today!

**But where else would we be?**

**We yearn to know God's powerful love  
and to know that wholeness is possible.**

In today's gospel, a person with an "*afflicting spirit*" interrupts Jesus  
**and Jesus frees him.**

And where does the miracle of his story and our stories begin?

**When we bring all of who we are**

**—hopeful, afflicted, bold—**

**into relationship with the Divine.**

So come, let us enter worship with our whole selves

**—hopeful, afflicted, and bold—**

—written by the Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel, pastor of Plymouth United Church, UCC, in Spring, Texas. Posted on:

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Epiphany%204%20B>

### **Spiritual ~ *There is a Balm in Gilead*, #612 VU**

Words, Music: African-American spiritual. **Public Domain.** Harmony: © 1985 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Used with permission of OneLicence.net Annual Renewal A-605521 An audio version - by The Adventist Vocal Ensemble, sung unaccompanied -- has been downloaded from this video link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fcMxl\\_6xsk&ab\\_channel=RonaldEllis](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fcMxl_6xsk&ab_channel=RonaldEllis)

## Prayers of who we are

Source: John van de Laar, [Sacredise](#). Posted at: <http://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/?p=5084>

## Congregational Theme Time ~ *Listening for the Voice of Authority*

Here's a story about a dog at a baseball game...

<http://childrenssermonstoday.blogspot.com/2012/01/voice-of-authority.html>

## Sung Response ~ *Don't Be Afraid #90 MV* (recorded by Barbara-Lynn and Dave Goodwin)

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## A Reading from Mark 1:21-28 (Linnea Good, biblical storyteller, by video)

*The synagogue at Capernaum is the setting for Jesus to teach with innate, personal authority, and to drive out an unclean spirit from a man.*

## Minister's Message/Reflection

## Song of Faith: *Flowers Will Bloom in the Desert*

Words by Walter Farquharson © 1985 Administered by Hope Publishing Company; Music by Ron Klusmeier © 1987 Used with permission of OneLicence.net Annual Renewal A-605521. Accompaniment track with words and images: <https://vimeo.com/497740706> <https://musiklus.com/product/flowers-will-bloom-in-the-desert/>

## Prayers of/for Community & The Prayer Jesus Taught

## Benediction

And now in the wholeness and the goodness of God, we go forth.

Go and laugh with friends; reconcile with those who have hurt you; be kind to strangers, and feel the Divine smile upon us. Now and forevermore. **Amen.**

<https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/epiphany-4-year-b-january-31-2021/>

## Closing Song ~ *Go Light Your World*

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*Mp3 download from a Video shared by Islington United Church Soloist: Cynthia*

Smithers. <https://youtu.be/XqIDjm0AiFg>