

West Parish of Barnstable

Gathered in London 1616 - Present Meetinghouse Erected in 1717

A Church in the Congregational Tradition

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

West Barnstable, Massachusetts



THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

4th Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

10:00 a.m.

*“She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger,
because there was no room in the inn.”*

Luke 3:7

All are invited to stay for the full service today.
Church School is offered for the children at our 4:30 Saturday contemporary service.

OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME

As a congregation which covenants to walk together in Christian love,
believes that all persons are created equal before God,
and affirms the inclusive love of Jesus Christ,
we welcome to our work and worship all people
regardless of race, gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation,
ability, or economic circumstance.

Adopted at Annual Meeting, June 26, 2005

GOD GATHERS US

WELCOME

Pastor Reed Baer

SOLO

Celtic Advent Carol

Michael Barrett & David Angerman

John Murelle

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE (Maren Tirabassi & Howard Thurman)

*One: We will light four candles
and I will be willing to light
every taper in my life,
for love asks for all that is needed
and then ... for everything else,*

*for this is how incarnation happens,
how God comes.*

Two: We light four candles
or a hundred or a thousand more
whatever it takes
to remind ourselves to live in love.

As ordinary and gentle as the holy welcome
that turns the world upside down,
comes hope, peace, joy, and love
to illuminate our Advent.

**All: I will light Candles this Christmas,
Candles of joy despite all the sadness,
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,**

**Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long.**

PRELUDE

Were You There on That Christmas Night?

HANDBELLS

Natalie Sleeth/arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Grace to you, and peace from God.

Many: As Advent people we give thanks to the One who is faithful.

One: Let us proclaim the wonder of the God who came, is coming, and will always come.

**Many: In word, action, and with gentleness of spirit, we celebrate the Advent
of our God!**

* HYMN #136 (Red)

“On This Day, Earth Shall Ring”

PERSONENT HODIE

(Translation: “*Ideo, Gloria in excelsis Deo*” = “Therefore, Glory to God in the highest”)

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

One: O come, O come, Emmanuel,

**All: to the empty-handed and the heavy-hearted, to the despairing and the
despised.**

One: Enter this world,

All: giving love to the lonely and hope to the downcast.

One: Dwell among us, and teach us your ways,

All: saving the lost and strengthening the weak.

One: Be made incarnate within us,

All: that we might cast away fear and live boldly by faith.

One: With gratitude that you come to be with us, we worship joyfully this day.

**All: This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray together,
saying...**

THE 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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 WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| SCRIPTURE | Luke 2:1-7 | |
| SOLO | Stranger in the Straw John Murelle | Don Blackley |
| SERMON | “Christmas, When Loves Comes to Town” | Pastor Reed |

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS

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| *HYMN #140 (Red) | “What Child Is This, Who Laid to Rest” | GREENSSLEEVES |
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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

CALL TO PRAYER

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| SPECIAL MUSIC | Sussex Carol HANDBELLS | English Carol |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|

INVITATION TO OFFERING OUR GIFTS

*In thanksgiving to God and giving witness to generous hearts,
our financial gifts support our ministries here and in the wider community.
Text to Give instructions are on the back page.*

GOD SENDS US FORTH

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|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| * HYMN #134 (Red) | “O Little Town of Bethlehem” | ST. LOUIS |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------|

WORDS OF SENDING

| | | |
|----------|--|------------|
| POSTLUDE | Episode on "Truro" (Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates) Tune from Thomas Williams' "Psalmodia Evangelica" (It is our custom to remain seated in silence during the Postlude) | Lani Smith |
|----------|--|------------|

* All who wish, please stand.

PRAYER LIST

*May the presence of Jesus Christ be with those on our prayer list and with those who care for them.
The prayers of the congregation are asked for:*

New to the Prayer List

Peter Abraham (Rich's brother)
Roberta Booze (Robin Miller's mother)
Margaret and Bill Brummel (Roger Henson's sister and brother-in-law)
Josephine Bugryn (Joy Indomenico's sister)
Sandyi & Ken Campbell (friends of Dianna Henson)
Chris G. (friend of Christie Burns and Reed Baer)
David Darling
Ellen Davis
Judy Desrochers
Betsy Eidem (friend of Carol Allen)
Sean F (friend of Rebecca Moberg & the Moberg family)
Tim Foster (friend of Carol Allen)
Steve Gaddis (Susan Moeller's nephew)
Jenny Giering (friend of Christie Burns)
Jay Griffin (Peggie Bretz' brother)
Sharon Griffin (Peggie Bretz' sister-in-law)
Lee Haselton
Barbara Hall (friend of the Siedsmas)
Jeanie Hill and family (friends of Greg Williams)
Brian Hughes (neighbor of Joyce Joakim)
Mike Hovan (friend of Dan Enos)
Jason (nephew of Joy Indomenico)

Scot Johnson
Rosanne Kean (friend of Robin Fryer)
Marty Lichterman (one of Van Northcross's best friends)
Ann Lee (friend of Robin Fryer)
Bob Lonkart
Marisa Lonkart (Georgia's and Bob's daughter-in-law)
Jackie Mague
Brad Martin (friend of Marianne and Greg Williams)
Stewart Nelson (friend of Lynn & Randy Parker)
Jack Parmer (friend of Carol Allen)
Randy Parker
Joan Perry
Sylvia Powers (friend of Barbara Rogers)
Savannah
Alexis Teixeira (Cousin of Barbara Walsh)
Ernie Walsh
Tom & Rhys White (Bruce and Pat White's family)
Lee Williams (mother of Tripp Grohe's friend, Mark Williams)
Nancy Woodman (friend of Marianne Williams)

Please notify the church office (508-362-4445) of any additions, deletions or changes you wish to make.

The Week of December 19, 2021

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| Sunday | 12/19/21 | 10:00 am | Worship |
| Monday | 12/20/21 | 12:45 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm | Music Lessons (M) AA (J) Zoom Book Club |
| Tuesday | 12/21/21 | 2:45 pm 3:00 pm 5:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm | FS Christmas Show (J) Voices at Christmas (M) AA (J) Study Group (G) Finance (J) |
| Wednesday | 12/22/21 | 5:00 pm 6:15 pm | AA (J) Handbells (M) |
| Thursday | 12/23/21 | 1:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm | Bridge Group (G) AA (J) AA (J) |
| Friday | 12/24/21 | 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 8:00 pm | Office Closed Candlelight Service AA (J) Candlelight Service |
| Saturday | 12/25/21 | | Merry Christmas! |
| Sunday | 12/26/21 | 10:00 am | Worship |

- ◆ **Assisted hearing devices are available upon request.**
- ◆ **The ushers today are** Donna Grohe, LeRoy Malouf and Ted Gould.
- ◆ **Coffee Hour today is hosted by** Sharon and Bob Wyman.
- ◆ **The Coffee Hour sign up** is on the kiosk in Jenkins. If you can spare a little of your time to help with preparing and serving at our Sunday *Coffee Hour* it would be greatly appreciated. It's a wonderful way to socialize with old friends and to make new ones. Please pick a Sunday on the sign-up sheet at the kiosk in Jenkins Hall. Thank you.
- ◆ **Thank you to all who have sponsored flowers over the past year!** They enhance our services every week. The sponsor sign up calendar for 2022 is now posted on the kiosk in Jenkins Hall. As before, for \$32 payable in the church office you can provide flowers in honor or memory of someone and an arranger will have it in place in the Meetinghouse. Sign up now for your favorite dates!

Christmas Poinsettia Sponsors

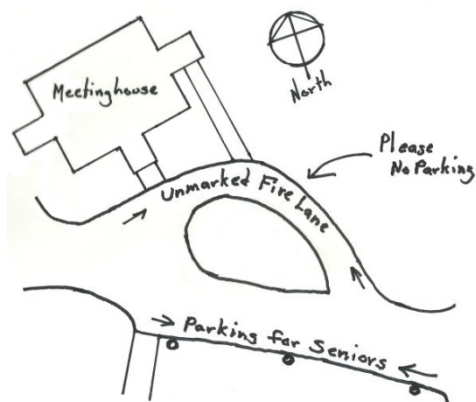
- Steve and Mindy Abbott in loving memory of Howard and Lois Abbott
and Fred and Martha Strauss
- Rik and Sandy Clark in memory of Eleanor and Bill MacCallum,
Doris and Allen Clark and Sharon Clark
- Clayton Family in memory of Paul Clayton
- Corinne Lilie my dear pets: Minette, Samantha and Magic
- Jacquie and Don Martin in honor of Elizabeth Crocker Jenkins and
her cousin, Jaquie's grandfather, Thornton Jenkins
- Bob and Shirley Stolte in memory of Alber and Lucia Stolte
and Alfred and Elizabeth Hodgkins
- Sharon and Bob Wyman in memory of Sunn and Wes Merritt
and Evelyn and Edward Wyman

The 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation in memory of:

William Breisky
Robert Jones
Holbrook R. Davis
Peggy Newton
Catherine Coffman Crocker
Miles Leonard
Lois Leonard
Rosita Fattler
William Reiland
Silja Emrich
Linda Oberly
Lucille McCallum
Judith Rockwell
Nancy Wood
Robert Wood
Frances Dickson
James W. Gould
Thomas Jenkins
Richard White
Robert W. Bamberg

Jane Alcock

We ask your cooperation in protecting the 1717 Meetinghouse by not parking your vehicle in or alongside the teardrop closest to the Meetinghouse. Although it is not marked, it is a FIRE LANE and preserves clear access to the Meetinghouse for Emergency Vehicles. However, more parking is available. At least three, maybe four, spaces can be used on the west side of the Tear Drop for those with mobility issues.



Text to Give

If you haven't tried it out, it's easy:

1. Text 866-586-0169 (the give-by-text number for West Parish) and in the body of the message enter the amount you wish to donate and send.
2. You will receive a registration link. Click on it, enter your contact and payment information then press "Process."
3. After registration is complete, you will receive a verification text and receipt via email.

You only need to register and set up your payment information once.

For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically.

Add "West Parish Give by Text" as a contact on your phone to make it even easier!

If you have questions or would like help setting it up, see Marianne Williams.

Church Staff

Reed Baer, Pastor and Teacher
Donna Murphy, Music Director
Kristen Lind, Family School Director
Wendy Northcross, Council Chair

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor
Susan McEwen, Office Administrator
Fred Clausen, Sexton
Susan Moeller, Deacons Chair

P.O. Box 219, West Barnstable, MA 02668

Tel. No. 362-4445

Fax No. 375-6431

E-mail: contact@westparish.org

Web address: ww.westparish.org

