

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

Christmas

December 25, 2022

10:00 a.m.

“Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things....”

Hebrews 1:1-2

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

PRELUDE

"Away In The Manger"

Sven Borglund

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-7

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: I will wait for the sound of reindeer hooves on the roof.

Two: I will wait for that jolly old elf to slide down the chimney.

Three: I will wait for the Grinch's heart to grow three sizes.

Four: I will wait for Rudolph to get over missing out on reindeer games.

One: I will wait for Mr. Potter of Bedford Falls to turn from his greedy ways.

Two: I will wait for a bell to ring so Clarence can get his angel wings.

Three: I will wait for the time when we can come running down the stairs to see all the presents.

Four: I will wait for the coffee to brew so I can be as excited as the grandkids.

One: I will wait for this service to be over so I can head out for coffee hour.

Two: I will wait for the sun to go down over the yardarm.

Three: I will wait for Christmas to arrive.

Four: I will wait for a lot of things, but I will no longer wait for hope, for peace, for joy and love, the gifts Christ brings to the world.

One: Today, Christmas Day, we light the Christ candle to remind us that darkness does not have the last word. May this light guide and inspire us as we work to spread God's joy and delight through this world. Amen.

(The Christ candle is lit)

*HYMN #160 (Green)

"Go, Tell It On The Mountain" GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Reed Baer

One: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill toward all.

Many: For out of God's own being, Jesus has come to bring love and light to all people.

One: Jesus is our Emmanuel – God With Us – come to gather our tears and laughter, our work and play into God's love.

All: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill toward all.

UNISON PRAYER

We come before you in awe, O God, freshly aware of your glory and your love embodied in the midst of this world. Here amid the dirt and straw, amid noise of cattle and labor of birth, we perceive your work. We dare to believe that it is you, God, coming to be among us in Jesus, and so we praise you with songs of joy. Amen.

CHRISTMAS HYMN SING

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-14 The Message

WONDER-FULL

A Story Based on That First Christmas

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS

*HYMN #153 (Green)

"What Child Is This?"

GREENSLEEVES

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO PRAYER

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

One: O God, we celebrate your birth among us as a human child. Renew your church as the Body of Christ. O Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Many: be born in us today.

One: On this holy day Christians all over the world are celebrating Christ's birth. Open our hearts to faith. O Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Many: be born in us today.

One: On the first Christmas, there was no room at the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home, and all who live in poverty. O Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Many: be born in us today.

One: Christ came as a light shining in the night. Bring comfort to all who suffer any kind of pain or sadness in our world. O Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Many: be born in us today.

One: Shepherds in the fields heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to share the gospel of love. O Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Many: be born in us today.

One: Angels sang, "Peace to God's people on earth." Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in this country, in Ukraine, in Russia, in all the world. O Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Many: be born in us today.

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING YOU OUR GIFTS

In thanksgiving to God and giving witness to generous hearts, throughout the year your financial gifts support our ministries here and in the wider community.

Today, we invite you to come forward and receive our gifts to you!

OFFERTORY

Noel En Musette

Louis Claude Daquin/arr. Steven Scott

GOD SENDS US FORTH

*HYMN #152 (Green) "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing"

SUSSEX CAROL

RESPONSIVE WORDS OF SENDING

One: Glory to God in the highest!

Many: Jesus is born! God has come to us and shared our common lot, and so we can rejoice!

One: Go forth rejoicing in the love of God, the peace of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Many: Amen, and Merry Christmas!

One: Merry Christmas, indeed!

POSTLUDE Go Tell It On The Mountain - Traditional Spiritual/Carl Simone

* All who wish, please stand.



Christmas Poinsettias



Mindy & Steve Abbott

*in loving memory of Howard and Lois Abbott
and Fred and Martha Strauss*

Jean Birch

in celebration of my grandsons-Alexander and Christopher

Barbara Cameron

in honor of my family

Rik and Sandy Clark

*in memory of our parents: Allen and Doris Clark
and Bill and Eleanore MacCallum*

Paul and Lisa Fackler

*in memory of Dorothy and Walter Fackler
in memory of Bruce and Kay Ota*

Joyce Joakim

in honor of family

Bobbie Jordan

in memory of my parents, Lloyd and Ida

Dan Lupfer & Liz Knox-Lupfer

in celebration of our children and grandchildren

Toni and LeRoy Malouf

*in memory of our parents Clara and Alfred Malouf
and Alice G. and Warren T. Watts*

William and Heiti Manning

in memory of loved ones

Jacqui Martin

*in memory of John Palmer Jenkins
and Peter Pineo Jenkins, Jr.*

Van and Wendy Northcross

*in memory of Judy Rockwell
in honor of our families*

Richard Serodio

dedicated to all who fight for equality

Peter and Betsy Smith

*in memory of Dr. Harold R. and Helen C. Smith
in memory of Newton J. and Muriel P. Buren*

Sharon and Bob Wyman

*in loving memory of Sunny and Wesley Merritt
and Evelyn and Edward Wyman*

1717 Meetinghouse Foundation

*in memory of:
Robert Buyer, Edmund Lukas, Robert Lonkart,
Marjorie Keary, Sally Allen, John Palmer Jenkins,
Anne Moreau Thomas, Jacquelyn Mague, Peter Jenkins*

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

Dan Joakim (Joyce Joakim's son)

Mary Jane Eicholzer

Peter Abraham (Rich's brother)

Karolina Atsalis (friend of the Abrahams)

Kate Bihler (friend of Robin Fryer)

Margaret and Bill Brummel (Roger Henson's sister and brother-in-law)

Josephine Bugryn (Joy Indomenico's sister)

Faith Clark (sister of Rik Clark)

Ellen Davis

Judy Desrochers

Betsy Eidem (friend of Carol Allen)

Jay Griffin (Peggie Bretz' brother)

Sharon Griffin (Peggie Bretz' sister-in-law)

Christine Hayes (Stepmother of Lauren Abraham)

Mike Hovan (friend of Dan Enos)

Jason (nephew of Joy Indomenico)

Joy Indomenico

Martha Lant (sister-in-law of Peggie Bretz)

Marisa Lonkart (Georgia's daughter-in-law)

Rev. Deborah Mahaney (friend of Robin Fryer)

Toula Ntasios (friend of Robin Fryer)

Nancy Opp (friend of Bobbie Jordan)

Jack Parmer (friend of Carol Allen)

Joan Perry

Sylvia Powers (friend of Barbara Rogers)

Savannah (friend of Sharon and John Hunt)

Sophie (Joyce Joakim's sister in law)

Shirley Stolte

Marilyn Swain (Janet Joakim's aunt)

Alexis Teixeira (cousin of Barbara Walsh)

Mary-Ann Tu

Steve and Heather Walker (friends of Sharon and John Hunt)

Barbara Walsh

Nancy Walsh, John Kolf and Jake McGuire (friend of the Hensons and her grandsons)

Joanne Wastrom (wife of former 1717 Trustee Bob Wastrom and friend of Donna & Tripp Grohe)

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 25, 2022

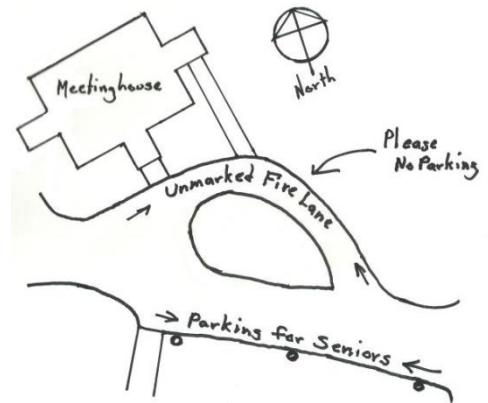
Sunday	12/25/22	10:00 am	Worship
Monday	12/26/22	5:00 pm	Office Closed AA (J)
Tuesday	12/27/22	5:00 pm 6:15 pm	Office Closed AA (J) Handbells (M)
Wednesday	12/28/22	5:00 pm	Office Closed AA (J)
Thursday	12/29/22	1:00 pm 5:00 pm	Office Closed Bridge Group (G) AA (J)
Friday	12/30/22	10:30 am 5:00 pm	Office Closed Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
Saturday	12/31/22		Happy New Year's Eve
Sunday	1/1/23	10:00 am	Worship

Key: FS = Family School; G = Guild Room; J = Jenkins Hall; M = Meetinghouse; Z = Zoom

- ◆ **Please join us for Coffee Hour over in Jenkins Hall after the service.**
- ◆ **The 2023 Flower Calendar is up!** Thank you to all who have sponsored the flower arrangements last year. Stop by the kiosk in Jenkins Hall and check the dates for next year and pick one to sponsor the flowers! For \$32, payable in the office, one of us on the flower committee will put together an arrangement for you and have it in place in the Meetinghouse.
- ◆ **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. Thank you.

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
Joseph Findlay, Sexton
Roberta Jordan, Deacons Chair

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