

It's Saturday



Let's Do Church!

WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 23, 2023

4:30 p.m.

An Unrehearsed Pageant

“There were shepherders camping in the neighborhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God’s angel stood among them and God’s glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The angel said, “Don’t be afraid. I’m here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide. A Savior has been born in David’s town, a Savior who is Messiah and Master. This is what you’re looking for; a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger.”

Luke 2:8-12

OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We are:

PROGRESSIVELY UNTRADITIONAL: 21st century minds in a 1717 Meetinghouse!

JOYOUSLY INCLUSIVE: Radically open and affirming, all ages, races, gender, and sexual orientation, everyone is welcome exactly as you are.

EXPRESSLY “ON THE WAY”: Faith is a journey. Journey with us!

COMMITTEDLY IN THE COMMUNITY: In helping others, we become our true selves.

GOD GATHERS US



WELCOME

Pastor Christie

One: Welcome home, whether this is your first visit or you have been here for years. We are glad you are here with us today. Hello, I'm Pastor Christie, he's Pastor Reed. Our worship band is led by Steve Gregory with assistance from Bob Moscato and Joan Gregory on guitars and vocals, and together we are

All: ONE diverse community

Growing up in faith

Reaching out in love

One: It is good when God's people are together here, and so we can rejoice, because,

All: It's Saturday, Let's do church!

CALL TO WORSHIP and CANDLE LIGHTING

On the Fourth Advent Saturday, we light four candles, so bright we see all the world around us and feel, not crowded but amazingly loved.

We light a candle of deep hope (pause, light)

peace shared, (pause and light)

joy like fireworks of the heart (pause, light)

and now a candle of love connecting all people
all creatures, earth, air, ocean with the Story of a Bethlehem warming shelter
and angel wings. (*pause, light*)

In the gospel of Luke; Jesus called children, welcomed the outcast and the guilty,
celebrated those on the edges, and taught with parables of seed and stone.

**Emmanuel, be with us in this Holy Week as we prepare for Christ's coming;
lighting candles for hope, peace, joy, and love. For tomorrow, we know that
Christ will come again, and we will all rejoice in the birth of a newborn child
called Jesus. Amen.**



THE LORD'S PRAYER (we will sing this in echo fashion)

**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 all our sins...

And lead us not...into temptation...but deliver us from evil.

Unison:

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory

Echo:

Forever..... and ever....

Our Father...who art in Heaven...hallowed be thy name.

A TIME OF PRAYER CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS



A SONG OF PRAYER

(During this music, those desiring to do so may come forward and light a candle while making a special prayer)

INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

AN UNREHEARSED PAGEANT by Sarah Buteux

Cast List

Director

Assistant Director

Pageant Narrator

Innkeeper

Shepherd

Angel Herald

The Star

Pageant Carols from the Red Hymnal

Part I - Mary and Joseph

Narrator

Sing #134 “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (v. 1-2)

Innkeeper

Director

Assistant Director

Director

Part II - The Animals

Pageant Narrator

Sing #137 “Away in a Manger” (v. 1-2)

Assistant Director

Shepherd

Director

Listen to “Do You Hear What I Hear?”

Assistant Director

Director

Assistant Director

Director

Part III - Angels

Pageant Narrator

Sing #116 “Angels We Have Heard on High” (v. 1-2)

Angel Herald

Director

Assistant Director

Director

Part IV - Shepherd

Pageant Narrator

Sing #488 “Go Tell it on the Mountain” (v. 1-2)

Shepherd

Assistant Director

Director

Assistant Director

Director

Part V - Wise Persons and Star

Pageant Narrator

Sing #143 “We Three Kings” (v. 1 and 5)

The Star

Director

Part VI - Conclusion

Pageant Narrator

Director

Assistant Director

Director

Sing # 134 “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (v. 3 - 4)

The End

GOD SENDS US FORTH

WORDS OF SENDING

SUNG BENEDICTION

“Seeds of Peace”

Go in peace

Go in kindness

Go in love

Go in faith

Leave the day

The day behind us

Day is done

Go in grace

Let us go

Into the dark

Not afraid

Not alone

Let us hope

By some good pleasure

Safely to

Arrive at home

Let us hope

By some good pleasure

Safely to

Arrive at home.

CLOSING MUSIC

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

Irving Berlin

Poinsettia Sponsors

Barbara Cameron in honor of my friends

Sandy and Rik Clark in memory of our parents: Eleanore, Doris, Bill, and Allen

David and Susan Cochrane in memory of Gordon and Eleanor Cochrane

Jean Birch in memory of her husband and parents

Kristine in memory of Janet's brother Roger

Ken and Diane Juthe in memory of our parents: Randy & Evelyn and Mert & Bertha

Jane Skinner Ketchen & Greg Ketchen in memory of Clara Vergnani Skinner & Arlan Skinner and Charlotte Parker Ketchen & Gould Ketchen

Corinne Lilie in memory of Mary Ann Regan

Kristen Lind in honor of the wonderful faculty at West Parish Family School and all the church volunteers who oversee and assist us

Dan Lupfer & Liz Knox-Lupfer in celebration of our children and grandchildren

Heiti and Bill Manning in celebration of family and friends

The Moeller Family in memory of Alice, Jake, Bill & Helen who all loved Christmas

Laura Murphy in celebration of Martha Rosewell

Reed & Christie in celebration of Katie, Julia, Camden, Lydia, Chris, Tyler, and Mel

Van & Wendy Northcross in memory of Judy Rockwell and our Northcross family

Lynn & Randy Parker to our 3 children and 5 "grands" who bring us joy!

Rick Serodio to those who seek peace

Peter & Betsy Smith in memory of our parents and loved ones

Bob and Shirley Stolte in memory of loved ones

Alan & Maggi Tyson in celebration of Bey, Libby, Grady & Lilah

Marianne & Greg Williams in memory of Florence Stasiowski and in memory of Sharon Goguen

Sharon and Bob Wyman in memory of Sunny & Wesley Merritt and Evelyn & Edward Wyman

1717 Meetinghouse Foundation in memory of: Mary Jane Eicholzer, John Bjork, James Otis Ellis, Sr., Patricia Davies White and Joyce Joakim

WE ARE GLAD YOU WORSHIPPED WITH US TODAY!

All people, young and old and in-between, are lifted up wherever they are on the journey. We look forward to worshipping with you again soon!

Pastors Christie Burns and Reed Baer

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES—Bring your relatives and friends!

10:00 a.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols 4:30 p.m. Candlelit Family Service

No worship service on Saturday, December 30st

We resume worship on **January 6th and celebrate Epiphany with STAR GIFTS.**

WANT TO HELP MAKE THIS SERVICE CONTINUE? 85% of folk who come to church for the first time do so on the elbow of a friend or acquaintance. So spread the word, pass out the informational postcards – people LIKE being asked if they would like to come, just as they like being asked to a party!

Would you like to play in the Saturday Band? Contact Steve G.



by recycling this bulletin.

Need to get connected? Wi-Fi: Meetinghouse **Password:** 1717Rooster

Venmo @WestParish or scan the QR code.



venmo

To make a donation, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera or search “@WestParish” on the Venmo app.

Be sure you select “West Parish of Barnstable” under the charity profiles.

If you would like your donation to go toward something specific like “Deacons”, just note that in the description.

Church Staff

Reed Baer, Pastor and Teacher

Donna Murphy, Music Director

Kristen Lind, Family School Director

Susan Moeller, Council Chair

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor

Susan McEwen, Office Administrator

Chris Haven, Sexton

Bobbie Jordan, Deacons Chair

Box 219, West Barnstable, MA 02668

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The week of December 23, 2023

Saturday	12/23/23	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	12/24/23	10:00 am 4:30 pm	Worship
Monday	12/25/23	5:00 pm	Merry Christmas! Office Closed AA (J)
Tuesday	12/26/23	8:30 am-4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Cape Cod Learning Tours (J) AA (J)
Wednesday	12/27/23	8:30 am-4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Cape Cod Learning Tours (J) AA (J)
Thursday	12/28/23	8:30 am-4:30 pm 2:30 pm 5:00 pm	Cape Cod Learning Tours (J) Music Rehearsal (M) AA (J)
Friday	12/29/23	8:30 am-4:30 pm 10:30 am 5:00 pm	Cape Cod Learning Tours (J) Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
Saturday	12/30/23		No Service this week

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

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment.

Care for the poor.

Forgive often.

Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity.

Love God.

Enjoy this life.

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

