

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

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Pregnant Pause: A pause that gives the impression that it will be followed by something significant.

“And Mary said, ‘Yes, I see it all now; I’m the Lord’s maid, ready to serve. Let it be with me just as you say.’” Luke 1:37

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

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

One: We light two candles this week to illuminate peace.

*For as God lights both gentle dawn
and a slash of lightning strike,
we affirm all the ways we seek peace -*

*kind persuasion with eye contact,
and a justice march with big signs,
a silent vigil of prayer and fasting,
and the gift of food, toys, or dignity
for the most vulnerable,
our quiet visits to therapist or recovery group,
and loud demands to change gun laws.*

Two: We light two candles so we will listen to the angel mandate of 'Peace on Earth.'
For ordinary, available, gentle and brave, are the hope and peace of 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.**

* HYMN #121 (Green) “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather, longing for gentleness among all:

Many: peace is the home we seek.

One: We gather, longing for healing where there has been harm:

Many: peace is the home we seek.

One: We gather, looking for generosity to inform all actions:

Many: peace is the home we seek.

One: We gather, longing for peace in all parts of life:

All: God is the home we seek.

PRELUDE

“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”

Basque Carol, arr. A.L. Page

UNISON PRAYER

We long for peace, O God, we long for peace.

We long for the day when the wolf will lie down with the lamb, when war is but a dim and unpleasant memory, when all peoples learn to wage peace, when personal enmity and greed and fear have long since been set aside.

All this and more we long for in our hearts, O God, and yet we also pray that you will equip us and embolden us now, where we live, as we live, to be partners with you, in ways small and large, to make this world a more peaceful place.

We pray in the name of the Prince of Peace, 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.

ANTHEM

“The Gift of Love” Trad. English, Arr. H. Hopson

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

SOLO

“We Wait”

R. Schram, J. Hopkins

MESSAGE

“A Pregnant Pause”

Pastor Reed

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS

*HYMN #122 (Red)

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

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

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.
We now accept Venmo, the qr code and instructions are on the back page.*

OFFERTORY

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

*SONG OF PRAISE

**All praise, eternal Christ, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free;
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOD SENDS US FORTH

*HYMN #149 (Green)

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

“Vom Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her”
(It is our custom to remain seated in silence during the Postlude)

J. Pachelbel

* All who wish, please stand.

All are invited to join together for fellowship and refreshments following the service.

Christmas Poinsettias

The plants are on order to grace the Meetinghouse during the Christmas season.



Use this form and drop it off or mail it with \$6.00 (cash or check) by Dec. 8th to the church office or P.O. Box 219, W. Barnstable, MA 02668

Donor(s): _____

Dedication to read: In memory / honor / celebration of:

(please print)

The plants will be available to take after worship on Sunday, December 29, 2024.

OUR 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

Bunny and Bart Chase (friends of Rik Clark)

Judy Ginns (friend of Sandy Clark)

Diane Ollerhead (friend of Robin Fryer)

Karolina Atsalis (friend of the Abrahams)

Doug Clay (brother of Sharon Hunt)

Ginny Dolan (friend of the Haven Family)

Betsy Eidem (friend of Carol Allen)

Susan Emery (Jane Ketchen's sister)

Ned Flynn (Ted's father)

Tom Fuller (friend of Jane and Greg Ketchen)

Bob Gravino (friend of Greg and Jane Ketchen)

Jay Griffin (Peggie Bretz' brother)

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

Steve Howland

Deidre Hunt (daughter-in-law of Sharon and John Hunt)

Dick Kiusalis (friend of Joanna Wallace)

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

Adrienne Locklear (family of Kelly and Macayla Washburn)

Sue Maki (friend of Joanna Wallace)

Mangan family (friends of Dianna Henson)

Norma McElhenny (friend of Jane Ketchen)

Greg Miller

Judy Moakler (friend of Jane Ketchen)

Brian Murphy

Peggy Nelson

Paul (friend of Ellen and Tom Davis)

Savanna Ramotar (friend of Sharon Hunt)

Cyndi Rausch (Allison McNaughton's sister)

Blake Schroeder (friend of Robin Fryer)

Joanne Stubbins

Nancy Sturgis (friend of Joanne Wallace)

Gary Toye (brother of Bobbie Jordan)

Mary-Ann Tu

Linda Watson (friend of Barbara Rogers)

Bruce and Tom White

Nancy Woodman (friend of Marianne Williams)

Gina Yacinto (friend of Joanna Wallace)

Rev. Dr. Craig Yohn

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

The Week December 8, 2024

Sunday	12/8/24	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship Village Tree Lighting and Carol Sing
Monday	12/9/24	10:15 am 5:00 pm 6:00 pm	FS Classes (J) AA (J) Meetinghouse Farm (G)
Tuesday	12/10/24	9:15 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm 6:15 pm 7:00 pm	FS Science (J) Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Choir Rehearsal (M) AA (J) Bell Choir (M) WITS at Pastor Christie's
Wednesday	12/11/24	9:15 am 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) FS Board (G) AA (J)
Thursday	12/12/24	8:00 am 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast at Jack's Out Back AA (J)
Friday	12/13/24	10:30 am 5:00 pm	Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
Saturday	12/14/24	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	12/15/24	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)

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

- ◆ **Please join us for Coffee Hour over in Jenkins Hall.**
- ◆ **The flowers gracing the Meetinghouse today** were given Peter and Betsy Smith in memory of our parents and loved ones. They were arranged by Carol Allen.
- ◆ **Thank you to all who sponsored the flowers this past year.** Look for next year's calendar going up in late December, find your special date(s), and sign up. Then send \$32 to the office and one of the members of the flower committee will put together an arrangement to put 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 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 circle closest to the Meetinghouse. Although it is not marked, it is a FIRE LANE and preserves clear access to the Meetinghouse for Emergency Vehicles.

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
Paula King, Music Director
Susan Moeller, Council Chair
Alycia Williams, Family School Director

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor
Susan McEwen, Office Administrator
Roberta Jordan, Deacons Chair
Chris Haven, Sexton

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