

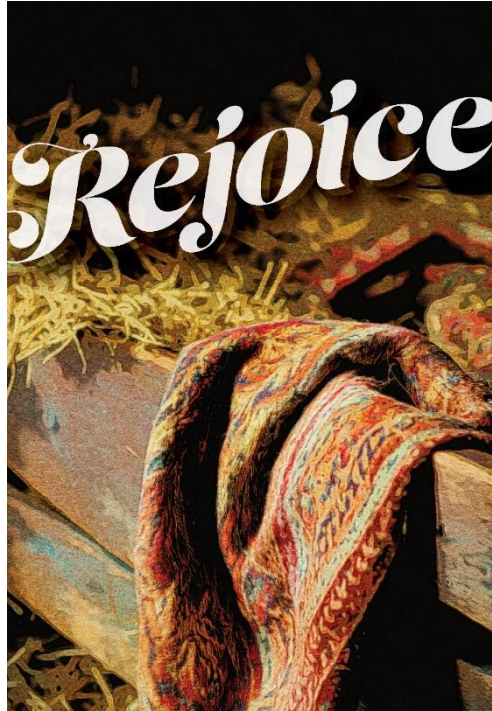
West Parish of Barnstable

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 22, 2024

10:00 a.m.

*“But to all who did accept him, to those who put their trust in him,
he gave the right to become children of God, born not of human stock,
by the physical desire of a human father, but of God.”*

John 1:12-13

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 FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Betsy & Jack Sinnigen

*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.**

* HYMN #404 (Green)

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

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!

PRELUDE

“Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella”

arr. Paula King

A RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Madeleine L’Engle

One: Christ didn’t wait till the world was ready, till nations were at peace.

Many: Christ came when the heavens were unsteady and prisoners cried out for release.

One: Christ didn’t wait for the perfect time.

Many: He came when the need was deep and great.

One: Christ didn’t wait till hearts were pure. He came to a people wounded within and without.

Many: To a world like ours, he came, and his Light would not go out.

One: Christ came to a world that didn’t mesh, to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.

Many: In the mystery of the Word made Flesh the Maker of the stars was born.

One: To come to him and give our feelings voice we need not wait till all is well.

Many: For to share our grief, to touch our pain, he came with Love: Emmanuel.

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

”Love Came Down at Christmas”

C. Rossetti, Gartan
Irish Melody

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-18 (Revised English Bible)

SOLO

“I Wonder as I Wander”

arr. J. Niles

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS

*HYMN #136 (Red) “*On This Day Earth Shall Ring*” v. 1,2,4

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 “Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People”

L. Bourgeois, arr. P.King

*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 #135 (Green) “*Angels We Have Heard on High*”

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

“Swiss Noel”

L.C. D’Aquin

(It is our custom to remain seated in silence during the Postlude)

* All who wish, please stand.

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



Poinsettia Sponsors



- Paul and Lisa Fackler in celebration of family and friends
- Jody Rice-Hines in memory of Kenneth Arden Hines, Jr. and Justine Williams Perry
- Heiti and Bill Manning
- Marianne and Greg Williams in memory of Max, Carmella, and Doug Stasiowski
in memory of Howard, Constance, and Ken Williams
in memory of Florence Stasiowski and Sharon Goguen
- Bobbie Jordan in memory of my parents, Lloyd and Ida
- Gretchen and Bob Naylor in memory of Anna & Raymond Naylor
in memory of Phyllis & Herb Hoffman
- Peter and Betsy Smith in memory of our parents, brothers and sisters
- Sharon and John Hunt in memory of family members who are looking down from heaven
- Janet Scarpato in memory of my brother, Roger W. Porter
- Ken and Diane Juthe
- Steve and Mindy Abbott
in loving memory of Howard & Lois Abbott and Fred & Martha Strauss
- Bob and Shirley Stolte in memory of Alfred & Elizabeth Hodgkins and Albert & Lucia Stolte
- Robin Fryer in memory of my nephew, Chad DeMarco
- Dan Lupfer & Liz Knox-Lupfer in celebration of our children and grandchildren
- Jane Skinner Ketchen and H. Gregory Ketchen in memory of our parents
Clara Skinner & Arlan Skinner and Charlotte Ketchen & Gould Ketchen
- The Lee Family in memory of Jackie & Al Mague
- Sharon and Bob Wyman in memory of Sunny & Wes Merritt and Evelyn & Edward Wyman
- Rick Serodio in honor of the citizens of Ukraine
- Rik and Sandy Clark in celebration of our parents and Faith
- Toni and LeRoy Malouf in memory of Alfred & Clara Malouf
in memory of Anna & Warren Watts and Frederik Antoine
- Laura Murphy in celebration of my chosen family
- The 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation in memory of:
Jean Birch, John Doriss, Shirley Whitelaw, Judy Desrochers, Laurel Jenkins, Shirley and
Richard Canning, Harold G. Andrews, Jr. -Restoration Organ Builder, Ernest and Barbara
Walsh, Hilda Goerhring and Benjamin B. Baker

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:

Karolina Atsalis (friend of the Abrahams)
Bunny and Bart Chase (friends of Rik Clark)
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)
Judy Ginns (friend of Sandy Clark)
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)
Norma McElhenny (friend of Jane Ketchen)
Greg Miller
Judy Moakler (friend of Jane Ketchen)
Brian Murphy
Peggy Nelson
Diane Ollerhead (friend of Robin Fryer)
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 22, 2024

Sunday	12/22/24	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
Monday	12/23/24	5:00 pm	AA (J)
Tuesday	12/24/24	4:30 pm 8:00 pm	Early Candlelight Service (M) Candlelight Service (M)
Wednesday	12/25/24	5:00 pm	Merry Christmas! AA (J)
Thursday	12/26/24	5:00 pm	AA (J)
Friday	12/27/24	5:00 pm	AA (J)
Saturday	12/28/24		
Sunday	12/29/24	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.**

◆ **Thank you to all who sponsored flowers last year!** The 2025 calendar is on the kiosk in Jenkins Hall, so sign up early for special dates that you may want. Sponsorship is still \$32 payable to Susan in the office. On the calendar, please write your name legibly as well as whether you would like the arrangement to be in honor or in memory of special. A member of the Flower Committee will contact you about any specific requests, put the arrangement together and have it in place in the Meetinghouse for you.

Also, a big THANK YOU to the arrangers - Lynn Parker, Kelly Washburn, Sharon Hunt, Carol Allen, and Kenyon Gregoire. If anyone would like to join us on this committee that brightens up the Meetinghouse every week, please let me know. Chris Haven, Flower Committee chair (since 2004!)

◆ **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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