

# *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**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas

January 4, 2026

10:00 a.m.

*“In the beginning was the Word....”*

John 1:1

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

\*HYMN #120 (Red)

*“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

*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.*

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

PRELUDE

*“Sussex Carol”*

trad. English, arr. M. Ham

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*One: We are people of worth and value. When we honestly acknowledge the shame and guilt of our lives, there is a possibility of transformation. Let us pray, putting our trust in the accepting grace of God.*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Breathing, speaking, singing God, your words breathe out of silence into being, becoming oceans and lands, planets and stars, creatures and peoples. You breathe your love on us. Forgive us, O God: when we have hoarded your love for ourselves and denied it to others; when we have failed to cherish the gracious gift of your wisdom sent to guide us, to lead us, to rescue us as in days of old; when we have not recognized in each person our brother or sister, your child, adopted and loved by you. Forgive us. Lead us back to the intimate shelter of your sheepfold. We pray in Christ’s name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*One: No one has ever seen God.*

**Many: Yet Jesus Christ, God's own child, has revealed God to us.**

*One: We have seen Christ's glory, full of grace and truth.*

**ALL: Know, therefore, that your sins are forgiven. This same Christ, therefore, pardon you and deliver you from all your sins.**

*One: May you receive grace upon grace.*

**Many: May you receive grace upon grace.**

**ALL: Amen.**

ANTHEM

*"Of Eternal Love Begotten"* plainsong, harm. W. Douglas

**THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED**

SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-18

SOLO

*"Shepherd Me, O God"*

M. Haugen

MESSAGE

*"Incarnation Matters"*

Pastor Reed

**THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS**

\*HYMN #116 (Red)

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

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

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 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

*"Puer Nobis Nascitur"*

adapt. M. Praetorious, improvisation P. King

\*SONG OF PRAISE

**To God, all glorious heavenly Light,  
To Christ revealed in earthly night,  
To God the Spirit now we raise,  
Our joyful songs of thankful praise. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**THE BREAD AND CUP ARE SHARED**

(Our service of communion is open to all seeking Christ's presence.)

INVITATION

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

(It is our practice to wait until all have been served before eating of the bread and drinking of the cup)

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We give you thanks, O God, that you have come to us through Jesus Christ, showing us your way; with eyes to see your light, ears to hear your word, and hearts to receive your gifts of bread and wine. Send us out into the world rejoicing, ready to share your love and light with the people we meet; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**GOD SENDS US FORTH**

\*HYMN #167 (Green)

*"Arise, Your Light Has Come"*

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

*"Noel"*

L.C. Daquin

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

\* 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:*

**Chloe Alexander & Alasdair McEwen**

(Susan McEwen's daughter-in-law & son)

**Christopher Allen**

(Carol & David Allen's grandson)

**Rick Clay** (Sharon Hunt's brother)

**David Coward** (Betsy Miller's brother)

**Bill and Dottie Brower**

**Betsy Eidem** (friend of Carol Allen)

**Emy and Yessica** (friends of Christie Burns)

**Ned Flynn** (Ted's father)

**George Flynn** (Betsy Miller's brother)

**Jay Griffin** (Peggie Bretz' brother)

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

**Deidre Hunt**

(Sharon and John Hunt's daughter-in-law)

**Gina Jacinto** (Joanna Wallace's friend)

**Nelson Jenkins** (Tripp Grohe's friend)

**Dave & Barbara Kerns**

(friends of Joanna Wallace)

**David Kuehn**

(friend of Robin Miller and Kim Baker)

**Martha Lant** (Peggie Bretz's sister-in-law)

**Meredith Leonard** (Debbie Barrette's mother)

**Cheryl Lickteig** (Jeanne Douglass' friend)

**Adrienne Locklear**

(Kelly and Macayla Washburn's family)

**Sue Maki** (Joanna Wallace's friend)

**Jacquie and Don Martin**

**Bill McEwen** (Susan McEwen's husband)

**David Mendelow** (Sandy Clark's friend)

**Greg Miller**

**Robin Miller**

**Brian Murphy**

**Peggy Nelson**

**Jordan Northcross** (Van Northcross' brother)

**Greg Opp** (family member of Bobbie Jordan)

**Randy Parker**

**Colleen Pastore** (friend of John Hunt)

**Carol Polidoro**

**Savanna Ramotar** (Sharon Hunt's friend)

**Andrea Schwamb** (friend of Robin Miller)

**Joanne Stubbins**

**Jim Sweeney** (Randy Parker's brother-in-law)

**Gary Toye** (Bobbie Jordan's brother)

**Marvin Toye** (Bobbie Jordan's brother)

**Roy Urbach** (Karen Datlowe's friend)

**Nancy Woodman** (Marianne Williams' friend)

**Rev. Dr. Craig Yohn**

### The Week of January 4, 2026

<b>Sunday</b>	1/4/26	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
<b>Monday</b>	1/5/26	5:00 pm 7:00 pm	AA (J) AA (J)
<b>Tuesday</b>	1/6/26	11:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Choir Rehearsal (M) Bell Choir Rehearsal (M) AA (J) WITS at Pastor Christie's
<b>Wednesday</b>	1/7/26	9:00 am 1:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science(J) Bible Study (G & Z) FS Faculty (G) AA (J)
<b>Thursday</b>	1/8/26	8:00 am 3:00 pm 5:00 pm	Mens' Breakfast at Jack's Out Back J. Murelle Rehearsal (M) AA (J)
<b>Friday</b>	1/9/26	9:00 am 10:00 am 3:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Knitting Group (G) J. Murelle Rehearsal (M) AA (J)
<b>Saturday</b>	1/10/26	4:30 pm	Worship
<b>Sunday</b>	1/11/26	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)

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

- ♦ **Please join us for Coffee Hour in Jenkins Hall after worship.** Our host today is Ted Gould.
- ♦ **The flowers gracing the Meetinghouse today** were arranged by Susan Jeghelian.
- ♦ **Thank you to everyone** who has sponsored the flowers for the Meetinghouse last year. The **2026 Flower Calendar** is now up on the sign-up board in Jenkins Hall. Please sign up for sponsoring the flowers along with a dedication. The cost is \$32 and can be paid by cash, check, or Venmo with “Flowers” in the memo. One of the members of the flower committee will contact you to about the arrangement.
- ♦ **The Coffee Hour Host sign up** is on the board next to the kitchen pass thru window in Jenkins Hall. 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.
- ♦ **Prayer List** – please notify the church office of any additions, deletions, or changes you wish to make. Call 508-362-4445, email [office@westparish.org](mailto:office@westparish.org), leave a note, or stop on by.

**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 such as "Deacons Fund", 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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