

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

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

10:00 a.m.

*“And Mary said...
He bared his arm and showed his strength,
scattered the bluffing braggarts.
He knocked tyrants off their high horses,
pulled victims out of the mud.
The starving poor sat down to a banquet;
the callous rich were left out in the cold.”*

Luke 1:46, 51-53

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 THIRD ADVENT CANDLE (Maren Tirabassi & Howard Thurman)

*One: We will light three candles
to sparkle with joy.
For God lights constellations
and the tips of angel wings
light years far away,
and light years as near as breath.*

*We light (and help to blow out)
ninety-five candles on a birthday cake,
the high circle of a Ferris wheel,
the smile of a pumpkin,
marshmallow of a 'smore,
branches of a Christmas tree,*

*and the luminarias that say
this is a home/church that welcomes all,
every age, race, education,
ability, orientation, ethnic origin,
gender identity, job status,*

*old friend or stranger becoming new one,
those who claim their history
and their identity,
others who close their lips to listen
and feel the joy in their hearts.*

Two: We raise three candles, and know we cannot do it by ourselves
for each of us have only two hands.

For ordinary, available, gentle, brave,
and with wide-open doors,
is the hope, peace and joy 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 #134 (Green) “Joy to the World! The Lord is Come”

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In this season of waiting,

Many: may patience be our companion.

One: In this season of demands,

Many: may gentleness be our companion.

One: In this season of expectations,

Many: may simplicity be our companion.

One: In this season of sharing,

Many: may gratitude be our companion.

One: In this season of good news,

All: may prayer be our companion.

PRELUDE

“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” Trad. Basque Carol
piano arrangement (P. King) based on organ arr. L. Page

UNISON PRAYER (Rev. William H. Willimon)

**Almighty God, you not only created a world where once there was chaos,
you not only brought forth humanity from the dust of the earth,
you not only gave us your holy law and your trustful prophets,
you also drew near to us.**

**For your advent in our empty world, your light shining in our darkness,
your word into our silence, we give thanks.**

**Today, O Lord, give us hearts open and receptive to your advent, spirits
expectant for your presence, lives ready to rise up and follow you at your call.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOD SENDS US FORTH

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

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE “Prepare the Royal Highway” M. Sedio
(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.

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

Dave & Barbara Kerns (friends of Joanna Wallace)

Chloe Alexander & Alasdair McEwen

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

Christopher Allen

(Carol & David Allen's grandson)

Karolina Atsalis (friend of the Abrahams)

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)

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)

Stephen Merritt (Sharon Wyman's cousin)

Greg Miller

Robin Miller

Brian Murphy

Peggy Nelson

Jordan Northcross (Van Northcross' brother)

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



Poinsettia Sponsors



Steve & Mindy Abbott

in loving memory of our parents:

Howard & Lois Abbott and Fred & Martha Strauss

Barbara Cameron

in memory of Vincent Conroy and Jean Birch

Rik & Sandy Clark

in memory of our parents

Rev. Betsy Garland & Kim Baker

in celebration of great-grandchildren: Willa and Itsuki

Bobbie Jordan

in celebration of family

Ken & Diane Juthe

in memory of our loved passed family members

Greg & Jane Ketchen

in memory of Gould & Charlotte Ketchen

Clara & Arlan Skinner and Susan Emery

Liz Knox-Lupfer & Dan Lupfer

in celebration of our children & grandchildren

Heiti & Bill Manning

in celebration of our children, grandchildren,
and loved ones

Toni & LeRoy Malouf

world peace

Laura Murphy

in celebration of family and friends

Gretchen & Bob Naylor

in memory of Anna & Ray Naylor
and Phyllis & Herb Hoffman

Jan Scarpato

in memory of my husband, Bob

Peter & Betsy Smith

in memory of Dr. Harold R. & Helen C. Smith,
Newton J. & Muriel P. Buren,
Carol R. Woodruff and James W. Buren

Annie Taber & John Linhares

in memory of family who are no longer with us

Sharon & Bob Wyman

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

The 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation in memory of Thomas Davis, Russ Gessner,
Donald Foster, Steven Howland, Everard Munsey,
Barbara Rogers, Rick Serodio, and Jay Tracy

The Week of December 14, 2025

Sunday	12/14/25	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
Monday	12/15/25	5:00 pm 7:00 pm	AA (J) AA (J)
Tuesday	12/16/25	11:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Choir Rehearsal (M) Bell Choir Rehearsal (M) AA (J)
Wednesday	12/17/25	9:00 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Bible Study (G & Z) AA (J)
Thursday	12/18/25	5:00 pm	Rooster Crows Articles Due AA (J)
Friday	12/19/25	9:00 am 10:00 am 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
Saturday	12/20/25	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	12/21/25	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 hosts today are Rich and Lauren Abraham.
- ♦ **Thank you to everyone** who has sponsored the flowers for the Meetinghouse this 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, 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

P.O. Box 219, West Barnstable, MA 02668
Tel. No. 508-362-4445 Fax No. 508-375-6431
contact@westparish.org www.westparish.org