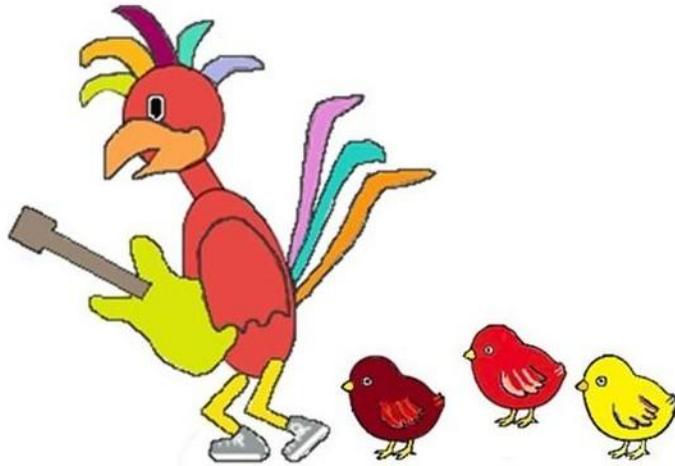


It's Saturday



Let's Do Church!

WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 10, 2026

4:30 p.m.

Baptism of Jesus

And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:16-17

BE THE CHURCH

Fight for the powerless.

OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We are:

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

Embrace diversity.

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



*OPENING SONG

Down to the River to Pray

**As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown?
Good Lord, show me the way**

**O, sisters, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O, sisters, let's go down
Down in the river to pray**

**As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown?
Good Lord, show me the way**

**O, brothers, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
Come on, brothers, let's go down
Down in the river to pray**

**As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way**

**And who shall wear the starry crown?
Good Lord, show me the way**

**O, fathers, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O fathers, let's go down
Down in the river to pray**

**As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown?
Good Lord, show me the way**

**O, mothers, let's go down
Come on down, don't you wanna go down?
Come on, mothers, let's go down
Down in the river to pray**

**As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown?
Good Lord, show me the way**

**O, sinners, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O, sinners, let's go down
Down in the river to pray**

**As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown?
Good Lord, show me the way**

WELCOME

Pastor Christie

One: Welcome home, whether this is your first visit, or you have been here for years. Here at West Parish, no matter who you are, and no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We are glad you are here with us today whether you are joining us online or in person. Hello, I'm Pastor Christie, and here is Pastor Reed, and we have Steve Gregory as our director of music with the band, 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

Today we celebrate a special baptism;
the baptism of Jesus of Nazareth.

God says:

Look! See my chosen servant,
the One in whom I utterly delight;

**I have placed my Spirit on him,
he will bring true justice to the nations.**

When Jesus was baptized, the heavens opened up,
and Spirit came down like a dove;
and there was a voice from heaven saying:

**“This is my dearly loved Son,
with whom I am delighted.”**

The joy of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God,

at the baptism of Jesus,

you revealed him to be your Son,

and anointed him with the Holy Spirit,

Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit

faithful to their calling as your people;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns

with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

Forgive often.

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



A TIME FOR CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

A SONG OF PRAYER

INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS

We now accept Venmo, the QR code and instructions are on page 8.

Care for the poor.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

**THE BREAD OF LIFE
AND THE CUP OF NEW BEGINNINGS
ARE SHARED**



Our service of communion is open to all seeking Christ's presence.
Whether children receive the elements we leave to their parents' discretion.
We shall be receiving communion by the ancient practice of intinction.
Come forward, take a piece of the bread, dip it in the cup,
and consume it on the way back to your seat.
We offer a communion cup and wafer system of cranberry juice and cracker.

INVITATION

When it came to love, Jesus did not just talk the talk – he also walked the walk.

In his time, sharing a meal with others was never a casual matter. But Jesus welcomed everyone – when he sat at table with all those society pushed to the margins, the ill, the tax collectors, those condemned as sinners, he proclaimed that *God's love knows no bounds*.

We proclaim again the comfort and challenge of that witness: all are invited now to share God's table, and be nourished by the bread of life.

THE STORY BEHIND THE LAST SUPPER

We gather at this table to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, and gave it to those sitting around him, saying, *"take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."* In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: *"This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."*

Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

**Hear us, O Christ and breathe your Spirit upon us and upon this bread and juice.
May they become for us your body, vibrant with your life, healing, renewing, and making us whole as the bread and juice which we now eat, and drink are changed into us. May we be changed again into you, bone of your bone, flesh of your flesh, loving and caring in the world.**

THE COMMUNION

Look, the Body of Christ is broken for the life of the world.
Here is Christ coming to us in bread and juice.
The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come for all things have been made ready.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Life-giving God,
May we, who share Christ's body, live his risen life;**

**We, who drink Christ's cup, bring new life to others;
We, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
So that we and all your children shall be free,
And all creation will live to praise your name. Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED



SPECIAL SONG

I'll Be Your Water

Keb Mo



SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

MEDITATION

Baptism of Christ

Rev. Christie Burns

GOD SENDS US FORTH



CLOSING SONG

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

Green #327

**I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.**

**I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.**

**When you heard the wonder of the word, I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living God, to whom you now belong.**

If you find some one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your bawling cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

WORDS OF SENDING



SONG OF SENDING

Go in Peace

Sam Baker

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.

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

Christie holds coffee hours at Nirvana in Barnstable Village on Tuesdays from 11 to noon.
Call, text, or email for an appointment: 508-494-6409 associatepastor@westparish.org.

“Saturday School” is underway, a special class for our youngsters, held over in Jenkins Hall, led by Pastor Reed and an adult lay teacher/volunteer, during the last 20 minutes of the service. Interested in joining in as a teacher or an extra pair of hands, speak to Reed after church.

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”, note that in the description.

Church Staff

Reed Baer, Pastor and Teacher
Paula King, Music Director
Susan Moeller, Council Chair
Chris Haven, Sexton

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor
Susan McEwen, Office Administrator
Bobbie Jordan, Deacons Chair
Alycia Williams, Family School Director

Box 219, West Barnstable, MA 02668
508-362-4445 contact@westparish.org www.westparish.org

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The Week January 10, 2026

Saturday	1/10/26	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	1/11/26	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
Monday	1/12/26	5:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	AA (J) Meetinghouse Farm Board (G) AA (J)
Tuesday	1/13/26	11:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 6:45 pm	Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Choir Rehearsal (J) Bell Choir Rehearsal (M) AA (J) W. Barnstable Festival Comm. (G)
Wednesday	1/14/26	9:00 am 1:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Bible Study (G & Z) FS Board (G) AA (J)
Thursday	1/15/26	5:00 pm	Rooster Crows Articles Due AA (J)
Friday	1/16/26	9:00 am 10:00 am 3:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Knitting Group (G) J. Murrelle Rehearsal (M) AA (J)
Saturday	1/17/26	4:30 pm	Worship

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

