

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

January 11, 2026

10:00 a.m.

“When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was.”

Matthew 2:9

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 #143 (Red) *"We Three Kings of Orient Are"* vs. 1, 4, 5

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Associate Pastor Christie Burns

*One: Jesus said: I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,
but have the light of life.*

**Many: We have seen the light of Christ like a star shining in the sky; and like
the magi, we have come to worship.**

*One: Glory be to God, and to Jesus Christ, the Word of Light, in whom God is made known in
the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

PRELUDE

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

French Carol, arr. M. Ham

UNISON PRAYER

**The radiance of a star guided the travelers to the feet of Jesus where they
offered their most precious gifts - gold, frankincense and myrrh. You have
given us more than a star, O God, to guide us - you have revealed your glory
and your love in the person of Jesus - Light of the world.**

**As we offer our thanks for such wondrous gifts to us, we recognize our
responsibility to be bearers of his light and love into the areas of people's lives
darkened by pain and fear, poverty and oppression, sorrow and hopelessness.**

**We confess the times when we choose to go our own way rather than be
guided by you - the times when we are reluctant to allow the power and
radiance of Christ to flow through us.**

**Strengthen us with your Spirit to follow wherever you lead us and to reveal
your glory and love through all we do and say. This we pray in Jesus' name.
Amen.**

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.

AN INTRODUCTION TO STAR WORDS

ANTHEM “Were You There on That Christmas Night” N. Sleeth

(During the singing of the anthem, the ushers will pass trays with stars
– take one without looking at the reverse side)

AN INTRODUCTION TO STAR WORDS, PART II

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12

SOLO “Star of the East” A. Kennedy

MESSAGE “Follow the Star for Another Way Home” Pastor Reed

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS

*HYMN #168 (Green) “As with Gladness Men of Old” vs.1-3

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

The First Noel/Noel Nouvelet

*SONG OF PRAISE

**O God, may we who bear your name
By gentle love your grace proclaim,
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare
And your anointing Spirit share. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOD SENDS US FORTH

*HYMN #167 (Green)

"Arise, Your Light is Come!"

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

J. S. Bach,

In Dulci Jubilo

F. W. Zachau

(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:*

Christopher Allen (Carol & David Allen's grandson)

Betsy Eidem (friend of Carol Allen)

Emy and Yessica (friends of Christie Burns)

Gina Jacinto (Joanna Wallace's friend)

Nelson Jenkins (Tripp Grohe's friend)

Dave & Barbara Kern (friends of Joanna Wallace)

Sue Maki (Joanna Wallace's friend)

Bill McEwen (Susan McEwen's husband)

David Mendelow (Sandy Clark's friend)

Greg Opp (family member of Bobbie Jordan)

Randy Parker

Carol Polidoro

Gary Toy (Bobbie Jordan's brother)

Marvin Toy (Bobbie Jordan's brother)

Rev. Dr. Craig Yohn

The Week of January 11, 2026

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 (M) 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. Murelle Rehearsal (M) AA (J)
Saturday	1/17/26	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	1/18/26	9:15 am 10:00 am 3:00 pm 5:00 pm	Outreach (G) Worship J. Murelle Recital (M) 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 Robin Fryer and Carol Allen.
- ◆ **The flowers gracing the Meetinghouse today** were given by Robin Fryer in memory of Tom DeMarco. They were arranged by Carol Allen.
- ◆ **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, Vanco, 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.



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