

It's Saturday



Let's Do Church!

WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 3, 2022

4:30 p.m.

BE THE CHURCH

Fight for the powerless.

Peace

*The wolf will romp with the lamb,
the leopard sleep with the kid.*

*Calf and lion will eat from the same trough,
and a little child will tend them.*

*Cow and bear will graze the same pasture,
their calves and cubs grow up together,
and the lion eat straw like the ox.*

*The nursing child will crawl over rattlesnake dens,
the toddler stick his hand down the hole of a serpent.*

*Neither animal nor human will hurt or kill
on my holy mountain.*

*The whole earth will be brimming with knowing God-Alive,
a living knowledge of God ocean-deep, ocean-wide. Isaiah 11:6-10*

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 #149 *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven great news we bring.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o’er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long,
beneath the angel-strain have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
and we, through bitter wars, hear not the love-song they bring:
O hush the noise and end the strife, to hear the angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way, with painful steps and slow,
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
when with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

WELCOME

Pastor Christie

*One: Welcome home, whether this is your first visit or you have been here for years.
We are glad you are here with us today. Hello, I'm Pastor Christie, here's, Pastor Reed
and here's Steve Gregory and 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

from The Season of Waiting (and waiting... and waiting...) by Kate Bowler

One: Sometimes in the darkness we dare not hope because it feels too expensive.

All: There is no energy available for that, humanly speaking.

One: But hope isn't wishful thinking. It's an anchor into the future.

All: Because of this, we can bless even our darkening days, knowing that the earth will once again tilt toward the light. And it will be a glory that blazes everywhere, though now we catch only glimpses.

One: In the meantime, and that's what we have—the meantime let's come into the light and bless the waiting, because it will not be in vain.

OPENING PRAYER

Oh God, as if it couldn't be possible, these are still darkening days, for our struggling earth, for our countries, and their leaders, our friends and families, and for ourselves. Blessed are we with eyes open to see the world as it really is, who say: Where are you God? And where are your people? The smart ones who fight for

good and have the power to make it stick? Oh God, help us in our fear and confusion, amid so much uncertainty. Shine your light upon us. God have mercy. Christ have mercy. Spirit have mercy. Come, Lord Jesus. Shine in our darkness and show us the way. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

One: On the Second Advent Sunday, we light two candles.

We come to this season with those precious to us,
gifts of peace God has unwrapped in our lives –
family or friend, near or distant, living or remembered.

People: We light a candle of our deepest **hopes** (*pause, light*)
and a candle for the **peace** we have learned
from one or more whom we trust. (*pause, light*)

One: Isaiah the prophet looks to a time
when people who walk in uncertainty
will hold hands and walk forward
with God's starlight to guide.

People: Emmanuel, God be with us, in the week to come.
Touch a flame of hope and peace on the wick of our lives
so that we may shine all around us. Amen



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

Text to Give 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.

INVITATION

Enjoy this life.

PRAYER OF COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

We offer a Covid-safe communion cup and wafer system of grape juice and cracker
and Communion by intinction.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God, you are the alpha and omega, the beginning and the end and all that comes in between. We give thanks for the simple things of life: bread and juice and remembrance. Thank you for remembering us even now, even today. Amen.

The children and their teachers may now go over to Jenkins Hall for Saturday School.

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED



SPECIAL SONG

Christmas Time is Here

Vince Guaraldi



SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

Isaiah 11: 6-10

MEDITATION

The Smells of Christmas

Rev. Christie Burns

GOD SENDS US FORTH



CLOSING SONG #150

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the night sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

WORDS OF SENDING



Love God.

SONG OF SENDING

Go In Peace

Rob Leveridge

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

Our "Saturday School" is underway, a special class for our youth, 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.

Christie holds coffee hours 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at Bread & Roses in Hyannis on Mondays. Call, text, or email her for an appointment: 508-494-6409; associatepastor@westparish.org



by recycling this bulletin.

Text to Give!

West Parish is now accepting donations via text! It's easy:

1. Text 866-593-7761 (the give-by-text number for West Parish) and in the body of the message enter the amount you wish to donate and send.
2. You will receive a registration link. Click on it and enter your contact and payment information, and then press "Process."
3. After registration is complete, you will receive a verification text and receipt via email.

You only need to register and set up your payment information once.

For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically.

Add "West Parish Give by Text" as a contact on your phone to make it even easier!

Church Staff

Reed Baer, Pastor and Teacher
Donna Murphy, Music Director
Kristen Lind, Family School Director
Wendy Northcross, Council Chair

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor
Susan McEwen, Office Administrator
Joseph Findlay, Sexton
Bobbie Jordan, Deacons Chair

Box 219, West Barnstable, MA 02668

Tel 362-4445 Fax 375-6431 contact@westparish.org www.westparish.org

Week of December 3, 2022

Saturday	12/3/22	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	12/4/22	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship Village Tree Lighting & Carol Sing
Monday	12/5/22	11:30 am 5:00pm	Christie's Coffee Hours at Bread + Roses AA (J)
Tuesday	12/6/22	9:30 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm 1:30 pm 5:00 pm 6:15 pm	FS Science (J) FS Science (J) Music Lessons (M) Choir Rehearsal (M) AA (J) Handbells (M)
Wednesday	12/7/22	9:30 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	FS Science (J) FS Science (J) Bible Study (G & Z) AA (J) Women in the Spirit (Baer/Burns house)
Thursday	12/8/22	1:00 pm 5:00 pm	Bridge Group (G) AA (J)
Friday	12/9/22	9:30 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) FS Science (J) Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
Saturday	12/3/22	1:00 pm 4:30 pm	Peter Jenkins Funeral (M) Worship Service

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



Christmas Poinsettias

Sponsor our Christmas Poinsettias!

The plants are on order to grace the Meetinghouse during the Christmas season.

Use this form and drop it off or mail it with \$ 12.00 (cash or check) by Dec. 11th
to Susan in the church office or P.O. Box 219, W. Barnstable, MA 02668

Donor _____

Dedication to read: In memory / honor / celebration of

(please print)

The plants will be available to take after the Worship service on Sunday, January 1, 2023.

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**

