

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 3, 2017

10:00am

Hymns can be found in the New Century (black) hymnal unless noted otherwise.

*Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP & ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Adapted from Isaiah 2:2-5

Erin, Rob, Kate & Drew Forker

Pastor: As the days grow shorter and the nights longer, as the world seems to grow darker, we gather in the light of Christ,

One: Even as we await the coming of the Christ Child.

All: We gather to be strengthened and sustained with peace for this Advent journey.

One: Our hope is in the prophet's words: that in the days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established and all nations shall stream to it.

Two: Then every nation shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks,

All: And none will learn war anymore.

One: Let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, so we can learn God's ways of justice and walk in God's paths of peace.

All Singing: *Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.*

WELCOME & INVOCATION

Sarah Sarchet Butter

*OPENING HYMN NO. 110

"Now Bless the God of Israel"

FOREST GREEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Garrigan-Byerly

One: God our Savior,

All: With the prophets, we yearn for your peace. We are anxious about our world, its direction, its leaders. With great concern, we watch refugees flee, nations threaten, and the environment suffer. We are stunned by revelations of disrespectful and degrading behaviors. We confess our complicity through silence, blind eye, or laughter. We confess our yearning for justice, and also our resistance to invest in the processes and changes that that could bring it. *(silence)*

One: Ever-coming One,

All: Come to us now with your life-changing grace. Forgive our inaction, and focus our attention. Help us change the things that you would change and love the people you would love. Help us live with authenticity and integrity, embodying love and forgiveness in all of our relationships, and inspire us to work for a just world that reflects your kingdom coming.

Carol Response

“Lamb of God”

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O Lamb of God from Bethlehem where Mary gave you birth,

Grant us your mercy, gracious Lord, Redeemer of the earth.

O Lamb of God, forgive us, for we still live in sin.

O, come to us, abide with us, and grant us peace within

One: We sing and pray in the name of the Coming One, **All: AMEN.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Children are invited to the chancel and will then proceed to Children’s Church.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of Christ be with you, **All: and also with you.**

Please stand and share a greeting with one another.

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:1-8

Pew Bible P. 812

SERMON

“Living Paradox”

What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?
 What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?
 This, this is Christ the King, the bread come down from heaven.
 Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

What light of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven?
 What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given?
 This, this is Christ the King, the sun come down from heaven.
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is given.

What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven?
 What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given?
 This, this is Christ the King, the sweetest wine of heaven.
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given!

OUR VILLAGE LIFE AND OFFERINGS

*Please sign and pass the fellowship book, which is located at the end of each pew.
 Please use the prayer request slips, connection cards, and offering cards
 found in the blue folders, and place them in the offering plate.*

Moment for Mission

Martha Cruz, UCC Christmas Fund

Offertory

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”
 Rebecca Worthington, soloist

arr. Gustav Holst

***Doxology and Presentation**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God all creatures here below;
 Praise God for all that love has done;
 Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts;

All: **We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Sanctus

GLORIA

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts, all praise be given!

All your glory fills the earth; all your power fills the heavens.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Blessed is the one who came, bringing love and light divine.

Blessed is the One who comes in the bread and in the wine.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Words of Institution

Song of Consecration

VENI EMMANUEL

O send your Spirit now upon these gifts; make them to be Christ's body and Christ's blood. All honor and glory are yours, for now and forever more. Amen! Amen! To God the glory be. Amen! Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

*Sharing the Bread and Cup

This is Christ's open table and all are welcome. If you are seated in the center of the sanctuary, please come forward using the center aisle, take the bread, dip it into the cup of grape juice, partake, and return to your pew via the side aisle. If you are in the transepts, servers will come to you. Gluten free bread and cup is offered by the piano. If you prefer to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your heart.

Communion Anthem:

"O Tree of Jesse"

Gerald Near

O Root of Jesse, coming to flower in Jesus, who in turn bears fruit in all who are grafted into the royal line of God's family. Come: let us never be severed from the roots and branches that nourish us in every moment.

Sung Prayer

“Prayer After Communion”

AWAY IN A MANGER

Lord, now in your mercy your servants release. As your word has promised, oh, grant us your peace. Our eyes your salvation and mercy behold, prepared for the nations as prophets fore-told.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 117**

“Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates”

TRURO

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Veni Emmanuel”

James Woodman

At conclusion of the postlude, ALL ARE INVITED TO share in refreshments and conversation in Village Common, located through the doors nearest the pulpit. Please come!

†††

Communion Bread today was baked with love and care by the Village Bread Ministry.

The Chancel flowers are given today by Diane Anderson to express gratitude to the Village Church community for hosting her ordination on October 1st and to say thank you for the many ways Village Church members and staff have supported and encouraged her call to ordained ministry.

Board of Finance hosts Fellowship & Refreshments in Village Common immediately following 10am worship. Thank you!

H.O.M.E. Store, Today! 11:15am – 1:30pm, Parlor and Office Lobby

Shop for lovely home-made Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers while supporting the Homeworkers Organized for More Employment.

TODAY

- 9:00 AM **Worship Advent II, Chapel**
Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter, Rev. Eric Ogi
- 10:00 AM **Worship Advent II, Sanctuary**
Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter, Rev. Liz Garrigan-Byerly
- Children's Church & Youth Programs**
Infant Through Threes, Family Worship Room 1st floor (9:50am)
Pre-K/ Kindergarten Students, Upper Floor (beginning at 9:50am)
Grades 1-5, begin in worship then proceed to Upper Floor
Grades 8, begin in worship then proceed to Upper Floor
6th & 7th Grade Youth Group, Youth Room (10am)
- 11:15 AM **Fellowship & Refreshments, Village Common**
HOME Store, Parlor and Office Lobby
Environmental Ministry, Room B15
- 11:30 AM **Holiday Stroll**
- 1:00 PM **Wellesley Chinese Language School, Upper Level, B14**
- 5:00 PM **Christian Meditation, Parlor**
- 7:00 PM **High School Youth Group, Youth Room**

Village Churchwomen Annual Holiday Tea, Tuesday, December 12th, 1pm

Join us in welcoming the Needham Retired Men's Glee Club, founded in 1964 & directed by John Whiteside, Organist/Choirmaster of St. Stephen's Church in Cohasset. You'll enjoy Broadway Musicals, Sing-a-Longs & festive Christmas tunes. Finger sandwiches and refreshments will follow the program. **RSVP by Dec. 8th** to sallykellogg@verizon.net or sign up in the church office lobby.

Men's Book Group, Saturday, Dec. 16th, 9am – 11am

This group meets regularly. If you're interested in joining please contact Ron Smith at rwsmithdd@yahoo.com.

A Musical Advent

Advent III ~ Dec. 10 ~ 9 & 10am ~ Christmas Cantata

by David Carrier & Senior Choir

Alternative Gift Fair

Purchase meaningful alternative gifts for friends and family by donating to life changing organizations. Please bring your checkbook in order to shop and give generously.

Youth Pageant Rehearsal, 9:30a-11:30a

Advent IV ~ Dec. 17 ~ “Christmas Sunday”

ONE Worship Service @ 10am

Youth Led Musical Pageant, Directed by Dr. Kevin McDonald

Christmas Eve Services ~ Dec. 24

10am ~ Morning Service of Carols & Communion in the Chapel

4pm ~ Family Worship with Children’s Pageant *

Mandatory Rehearsal for Participants: Saturday, Dec. 23 9am-Noon

Arrive to church Dec. 24 @ 2:45pm

8pm ~ Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship

10pm ~ Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship



"new life starts in the dark"

*BLUE CHRISTMAS:
A SERVICE OF HEALING*



Sunday, December 17th, 5:30pm
Wellesley Village Church, Chapel

*a contemplative service for all
a space to hold darkness, grief, and simply be
silence, song, scripture, anointing, poetry, prayer*

contact: Rev. Eric Ogi, eric@wellesleyvillagechurch.org