

*The Federated Church of Hyannis
320 Main Street
Hyannis, Massachusetts*

The Fourth Sunday of Advent



*Sunday Morning Worship Service
with Lessons and Carols
December 24, 2023~10:00 AM*

~Reminder – please silence all cell phones before the Worship Service begins ~

PRELUDE *“Mary’s Little Boy Child”*, Jean Harrison Roy Campbell

WORDS OF WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Love Nancy and David Wilbur

**PASSING OF THE PEACE WITH THE CONGREGATION,
PRESENT AND ONLINE**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Reader: Joy to the world

People: This is the culmination of all our waiting.

Reader: Joy to the world, the Lord is come

People: Let us sing for joy.

Reader: Let us sing to the glory of God

People: Let us sing in the name of Christ who offers us hope in the midst of despair.

Reader: Peace in the chaos of life

People: God’s love-graciously, wonderfully, silently offered.

Reader: God’s love is the hope of the world.

People: Amen

CHOIR INTROIT *“What Gift Can We Bring”*

***HYMN #125** **“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”**

INVOCATION (all)

Oh Lord, our God, whose chosen dwelling is the heart of the lowly, we thank you that your love took the form of the little child. Make us humble in faith and love, that we may know the joy of the gospel that is hidden from the wise. Fill our hearts with joy and our tongues with praise, as we near the time of our Savior’s birth. Forgive us our lack of faith, and help us when we limit you by the boundaries of our minds. May Christ be born anew in our lives this blessed season. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER (all)

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. And lead us not into

temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

ANTHEM *“Do You Hear What I Hear”*, Regney/Shayne Choir

THE WORD OF GOD

Lay Reader Andre King

Old Testament: Isaiah 9:2-7

Pew Bible page 555

New Testament: Luke 2:1-14

Pew Bible pages 832, 833

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE *“Prisoners of Expectations”* **Rev. Dr. Paul R. Adkins**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Philip Scudder

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”* Roy Campbell

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

LESSONS & CAROLS

First Lesson

Reading: Luke 1:26-38.....Bob Jones

Please join us in singing **Hymn: #138 “What Child is This”**

*What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the son of Mary.*

Second Lesson

Reading: Luke 1:39-45.....Jan Cliggott

Please join us in singing **Hymn: #97 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”**

*Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before Him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!*

Third Lesson

Reading: Luke 2:1-7.....Rene King

Please join us in singing **Hymn: #111 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”**

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

Fourth Lesson

Reading: Luke 2:8-20.....Gary Sylvester

Please join us in singing **Hymn: #132 “Away in a Manger”**

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

Fifth Lesson

Reading: Luke 2:25-35.....Meghan Reilly

Please join us in singing **Hymn: #110 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”**

*While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light*

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

Sixth Lesson

“The Word Made Flesh” Reading: John 1:1-5, 9-14.....Bob Phear

Please join us in singing **Hymn #135 “Silent Night”**

*Silent night, holy night, all is calm and all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child, Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, ooh Sleep, sleep in heaven, heavenly peace.*

RESPONSE **“O Holy Night” John S. Dwight** **Hugh Findlay (Recorded 2022)**

BENEDICTION

Closing Hymn #127 “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day”

*I heard the bells on Christmas day, their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat Of peace on earth, good will to men.*

*I thought how, as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along the unbroken song Of peace on earth, good will to men.*

*And in despair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song Of peace on earth, good will to men."*

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, With peace on earth, good will to men."*

*Then ringing, singing on its way, the world revolved from night to day--
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime, Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

Please join us for Coffee Hour following the Worship Service.

Altar Flower Dedications ~ Christmas 2023



- ❖ Given by Jan Cliggott in memory of Ed Cliggott, Jim Kelley from the Cliggott family and in honor of Elaine Kelley from Jan Cliggott
- ❖ Given by Barbara Cross in memory of Robert and Lillie Cross
- ❖ Given by Lee DeLong in memory of Ken (Bud) DeLong
- ❖ Given by Steve and Susan Donald in memory of their parents
- ❖ Given by Carolyn and Susan Fish in memory of Walter and Dede Fish with much love
- ❖ Given by Patty Hill in memory of David and Cynthia Hill
- ❖ Given by Bob & Rita Jones in memory of our parents and loved ones
- ❖ Given by Rene King in loving memory of all the Lus extended family members.
- ❖ Given by Meghan Reilly in memory of Nana, Granddaddy, Da & Grammie
- ❖ Given by Della Schultz in memory of Rev. Dr. Carl Schultz, Jr., Rev. Dr. Carl Schultz, and Janet Schultz
- ❖ Given by Philip and Sherrie Scudder and Family in memory of Tom and Millie Smith, Dick and Marge Scudder, David Scudder, Harold and Rubydean Reed, Al and Betty Wilson, Max and Laurel Marken, Art, Nancy and Paul Tinsman, Devon Beitelshees, Conrad Schuessler, Val Ragainis, Keith and Janet Rich, Bob and Marion Tuttle and Sara Baker
- ❖ Given by Rob Stewart in memory of Prudy Thacher Stewart and the Chase Thacher Stewart families
- ❖ Given by Gary Sylvester, in memory of Bonnie Ann Smith Sylvester, Mark Guy Sylvester and Lisa Marie Sylvester Courmier
- ❖ Given by the Walker Family in memory of Dad Jim, Sister Cheryl and Brother Richard
- ❖ Given by Nancy Wilbur in memory of Mary Jane and Samuel Kester
- ❖ Given by Carol Wroblewski in memory of Genowefa and Daniel Wroblewski

Mission of the Month

Our Mission for the month of December is to collect new hats and mittens for our local school children. Please bring your items to the church, and they will be delivered to the schools. Thank you, as always, for your generous support.

This Week

Sunday, December 24 – Worship Service, 10:00 am (BH)
NA 6:00 pm (BH)

Monday, December 25 – Christmas Day
AA, 7:30 pm (BMR)

Tuesday, December 26 – NA, 7:30 pm (BMR)

Wednesday, December 27 - Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 pm

Saturday, December 30 - AA, 12:00 pm (BMR)
NA, 7:30 pm (BMR)

Sunday, December 31 – Worship Service, 10:00 am (BH)
NA 6:00 pm (BMR)

Church phone: 508-775-0298 Church email: info@federatedchurch.org

