

**FEDERATED CHURCH OF HYANNIS
ORDER OF WORSHIP ~ DECEMBER 10, 2023**

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

PRELUDE “*I Believe*”, Drake/Graham Roy Campbell

WORDS OF WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Peace Carol Wroblewski

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

CHOIR INTROIT “What Gift Can We Bring Him”

CALL TO WORSHIP (all)

Reader: Today is the second Sunday of Advent.

**People: We join with a hopeful throng in the lighting of the Advent candles,
symbols of our faith and signs of God’s love.**

Reader: We are a people of faith and hope.

People: Hope lives in us and will abide with us.

Reader: In an age when people so seldom find peace within themselves,
and when all the earth stands under the threat of total annihilation, we
hope and work for peace.

**People: Peace that is not merely the absence of war and conflict, but peace
that is the fullness of blessing for all – that is the peace for which
we dare to hope.**

Leader: Christ comes to bring peace to those who have been separated from God
and one another.

**People: In following Christ’s teachings, we nurture our hope for peace
even today.**

***HYMN #89** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*I Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.*

*2 Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art:
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.*

*3 Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child, and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring. Amen.*

INVOCATION (all)

Almighty God, light of the world, you caused light to shine out of darkness in the advent of Jesus Christ. You continually open to us the ways we are to prepare. We confess our unwillingness to live by the light and to walk in your ways. We often fail to respond to the needs of others, and our feet have wandered from the paths of justice and peace. We ask that the spirit of Christ be born anew within us, and that our hearts be stirred to glorify him with acts of compassion and service. 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

"Star in the Night", L. Spencer

Choir

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament: Psalm 121

New Testament: Matthew 3:1-6, 13-17

Lay Reader Pam Frazier

Pew Bible page 498

Pew Bible pages 784, 785

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN OF REFLECTION #74 “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”**

*1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!*

*2 My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy name.*

*3 Glory to God and praise and love
Be ever, ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heav'n. Amen.*

SERMON

“The Herald of Christ”

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Adkins

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER

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.*

***CLOSING HYMN #121 “Angels We Have Heard on High”**

*1 Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.*

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?

Why your joyous strains prolong?

Say what may the tidings be,

Which inspire your heav'nly song. [Refrain]

3 Come to Bethlehem and see

Him whose birth the angels sing;

Come adore on bended knee,

Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. [Refrain]

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *“Someone to Watch Over Me”*, G. Gershwin Roy Campbell

**Please stand if you are able*

Thank you from Carol...

I wish to THANK all the people who stepped up and helped when I became ill. Helping with the “Christmas Commons Fair” and helping Dot with the Diaconate duties was and is greatly appreciated. I also want to thank the many who sent “Get Well” cards, it was wonderful to feel the love. Thank you all so very much. Carol Wroblewski