

**FEDERATED CHURCH OF HYANNIS
ORDER OF WORSHIP ~ DECEMBER 17, 2023**

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

PRELUDE “I’m Dreaming of a White Christmas”, Irving Berlin Roy Campbell

WORDS OF WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Joy Larry and Pam Frazier

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

CHOIR INTROIT *“What Gift Can We Bring Him”*

CALL TO WORSHIP (all) (Isaiah 9:2-7)

Reader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light...

People: those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone

Reader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

People: and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

Reader: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

People: Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Reader: Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end ...

People: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

***HYMN #123** **“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

*1 Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

Refrain:

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

*2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord;*

*Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel. [Refrain]*

*3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. [Refrain]*

INVOCATION (all)

**Lord God,
You still shine despite in the land of darkness.
We still seek the great light.
Our desire is to reflect your light.
May our hearts be a place be a place wherein you dwell.
Holy Spirit, flow like living water.
May this place, may the body of Christ be your home. 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

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel", Parker/Shaw

Choir

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament: Psalm 118:21-29

New Testament: Luke 1:35-40

Lay Reader Patty Hill

Pew Bible page 493

Pew Bible page 831

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN OF REFLECTION #138 “What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest”**

*1 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.*

*2 Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through,
The Cross be borne, for me, for you:
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

*3 So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The Virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

SERMON “Welcoming the Faith of Mary” (Luke 1:38, 45) Rev. Robert Swanson

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**

CHOIR AMEN

POSTLUDE

“Prayer”, Beethoven

Roy Campbell

**Please stand if you are able*

Please join us for Coffee Hour following the Worship Service.

Rev. Robert Swanson is joining us again this week. He has served as a missionary and pastor for 38 years. He is the author of The Bible Reader's Companion and teaches at the Cape Cod Academy of Lifelong Learning. He and Heather have 3 children, 10 grandchildren and they live in Centerville.

**The Flowers are given today in loving memory of
Winthrop V. Wilbur Jr by his family.
Win was born on this day, December 17, 1931**