

**FEDERATED CHURCH OF HYANNIS
ORDER OF WORSHIP
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

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

PRELUDE

“Prayer”, L. V. Beethoven

Roy Campbell

WORDS OF WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CHOIR INTROIT

“What Gift Can We Bring”

CALL TO WORSHIP (all)

Leader: We have come together on the last day of this year to worship God.

People: We have come to offer thanks to God for the year which will soon end, and for the new year with its opportunities and challenges.

Leader: We don't know what the days ahead will bring. We can only be faithful and trust in the providence of God.

People: We praise God for guidance as we make our way from today to tomorrow... May God be with us always.

***HYMN #275**

“All Beautiful the March of Days”

*1 All beautiful the march of days,
As seasons come and go;
The hand that shaped the rose hath wrought
The crystal of the snow,
Hath sent the hoary frost of heav'n,
The flowing waters sealed,
And laid a silent loveliness
On hill and wood and field.*

*2 O'er white expanses sparkling pure
The radiant morns unfold;
The solemn splendors of the night
Burn brighter through the cold.
Life mounts in ev'ry throbbing vein,
Love deepens round the hearth,
And clearer sounds the angel hymn,
"Good will to men on earth."*

*3 O Thou from whose unfathomed law
The year in beauty flows,
Thyself the vision passing by
In crystal and in rose,
Day unto day doth utter speech,
And night to night proclaim,
In ever-changing words of light,
The wonder of Thy name.*

INVOCATION (all)

O Lord, our God, whose chosen dwelling is the heart of the lowly, we thank you that your love took the form of a 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 own making. 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

"Let There Be Peace on Earth", D. Wagner

Choir

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament: Isaiah 35:1-10

New Testament: Luke 2:8-20

Lay Reader Bob Phear

Pew Bible page 578

Pew Bible page 833

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN OF REFLECTION #115**

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

*1 In the bleak mid-winter,
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter,
Long ago.*

*2 Our God, heav'n cannot hold Him,
Nor earth sustain;
Heav'n and earth shall flee away
When He comes to reign;
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.*

*3 Angels and archangels
May have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim
Thronged the air;
But His mother only,
In her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the beloved
With a kiss.*

SERMON

“Good News”

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 #495 “They’ll Know We Are Christians”**

*1 We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity
May one day be restored*

*Refrain
And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, By our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
By our love*

*2 We will walk with each other
We will walk hand in hand
We will walk with each other
We will walk hand in hand
And together we'll spread the news
That God is in our land [Refrain]*

*3 We will work with each other
We will work side by side
We will work with each other
We will work side by side
And we'll guard each man's dignity
And save each man's pride [Refrain]*

***BENEDICTION**

CHOIR AMEN

POSTLUDE “The Gift of Love”, Folk Tune

Roy Campbell

**Please stand if you are able*