

9:55 a.m.

December 22, 2019



Welcome! As you arrive, please feel free to light a prayer candle in the chapel area to the right side of the sanctuary. The children will be with us throughout the service. Nursery care is available throughout the service, and there is also a crying room at the back of the sanctuary should your child become inconsolable.

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

Sylvia Berry, Organist

WORDS OF WELCOME

Barry Shelley, Moderator

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

'Hark! The Herald Angels Sing'

No. 150

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: It is the fourth Sunday of Advent. For this hour, for this moment we are holding on to the waiting, holding on to the preparation.

ALL: Christmas is coming, and it is coming soon.

Leader: Tonight we will celebrate the birth, but for this hour, for this moment, we create space for love.

ALL: Love comes down at Christmas, love fills our hearts and sometimes breaks our hearts.

Leader: So we gather to worship, with hearts full and broken, and we gather to prepare for the coming of our Lord. Let us begin our worship time on this, the fourth Sunday of Advent.

INTROIT

'A Gospel Song of Peace'

Sally K. Albrecht

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: A Prayer for Love

CHANCEL RINGERS

'The Little Drummer Boy'

Katerine K. Davis

arr. Henry Simeone

Chancel Ringers: Doug Anderson, Carol Bradford, Bill Cockshaw, Jill Larson, Leigh-Ann Larson, Leo Larson, Sharon Quesnel, Murray Kidd

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION *(together)*

Holy One, on this fourth Sunday of Advent, we remember the Word made flesh, God and humanity joined as one. We celebrate that Jesus revealed you to us more than any other human being before or since. Like Jesus, we are fully human and we seek to be more like him, to be more open to you and to be filled with your Holy Spirit that we might follow in your way.

Lord, we are sorry that we have not always acted like your sons and daughters, we have been selfish and strayed from the path, forgive us.

Lord, we are sorry that we have not always been beacons of light in a world of darkness, forgive us.

Lord, restore us into full relationship as your sons and daughters, may we know and accept your forgiveness, that is so freely offered and help us to be all that we can be, all that we were created to be. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

KYRIE No. 162
‘What Child Is This’ verse 1
What Child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthem 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.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE *(please stand)*

*PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

People: and also with you

*GLORIA No. 134
‘Emmanuel, Emmanuel’
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.



THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Jesus' Christmas Party

Based on the story "Jesus' Christmas Party" by Nicholas Allan.

The congregation is invited to join in singing hymns during the pageant

#144 O Little Town of Bethlehem vs. 1

#158 Her Baby, Newly Breathing vs. 1

#151 The First Noel vs. 2

#149 Angels From the Realms of Glory vs. 2

#172 We Three Kings vs. 1

#155 Angels We Have Heard on High vs. 1

PAGEANT SONG 'Go Tell It On the Mountain'

Soloists: Levi Swisher-Rosa, Jessica Gross, Angeliza Campbell

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

1:18 -25

HOMILY

Rev. Patricia Hayes

ANTHEM

'O Come to Set Us Free'

VENI EMMANUEL,
arr. Mary McDonald

Come, o come, our Savior Messiah, Hallelujah. Come to set us free.

We await Your holy birth, Jesus, Light of the World; King of Kings and Lord of lords, come to set us free.

Prince of Peace, He is God, our Redeemer; Come to set us free, hallelujah!

Glory to the Son of God, Light and Life of the World: King of Kings and Lord of lords, come to set us free.

O come, o come Emmanuel. Come to set us free. Emmanuel!

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Pastor: Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people, sharing regularly in the worship of God and enlisting in the work of this local church as it serves this community and the world? **(I do)**

Congregational Affirmation: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

MORNING PRAYERS

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

OFFERTORY 'Gospel Magnificat' Patti Drennan
My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my savior. He has seen in me a humble servant. Now generations will call me blessed, for God has done great things for me, and holy is His name. He gave food to the hungry with food to eat and banished all the rich away. The promise of His mercy fills me with joy today!

*DOXOLOGY 'In the Bleak Midwinter'
What can I offer, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise one, I would do my part;
But what I can, I offer – all my heart.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 'Good Christian Friends, Rejoice' No. 164

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

(please be seated for the closing music)

CLOSING MUSIC

Participating in today's service are:

Rev. Patricia Hayes, Senior Minister
Ann-Marie Illsley, Acting Associate Minister
Murray Kidd, Music Director
Sylvia Berry, Organist
David Wilcox, Sign Language
Loren Stott, Sign Language
Joyce Carroll, Hospitality Team Leader

All are invited to light lunch following the service, then to the Christmas Concert at 1pm. Tuesday our candlelight service is at 7pm.



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WEDNESDAY DINNERS: No dinner December 25th or January 1st



**You are cordially invited
To a Celebration of the ministries
Of the Reverends Patricia and Fred Hayes
On Epiphany Sunday, January 5, 2020**



This will be RP's and Fred's final Sunday with us after 14 years of faithful service.

- * We begin with a special worship service with RP's farewell sermon and Communion.
- * Expect surprises and presentations during worship and also during the buffet luncheon to follow in Fellowship Hall.
- * A festooned basket will gladly receive your cards and notes.
- * Deacon Jeff Illsley is receiving monetary contributions for the Thank You gift to be presented to RP and Fred.
- * RP is looking forward to a dessert table with all her favorites. Can you bake or make a special yummy dessert?

Come join the Celebration on Sunday, January 5th!



We pray for those who cannot be with us at church:

Steve & Carolyn Bennett, Carole Duhamel, Louise Duhamel, Russ Gillpatrick, Janet Hodnett, Edie Liolios, Ruth Melanson, Geneva Prince, Arthur Sawyer, Barbara Smith, and Anna Thomas.

And for those who are ill or need extra prayer:

Kathy Alden, Lindsay Alden, Carol Beffert-Banks, Brian Benson (nephew of Sandra Hill), Linda Berry (Sylvia's mother), Bob Brown (friend of Luanne Cockshaw), Carole Clark, Nancy Clark (Carole's daughter), Luanne Cockshaw, Luke Creedon, Bobby Dornan (friend of Janet Hodnett), Denise Duhamel (granddaughter of Carole), Mark Duhamel (Carole's son), Lucy Guarnieri (cousin of Elizabeth Vann), Dan Harrigan (Cara's husband), Stephanie Hathaway, Rev. Fred Hayes, Tatum Hayes & Family (Jay Sparling's friends), Dick Hill, Gayle Howard (Matt's cousin), Heidi Kilpatrick (Barbara Moody's friend), Sheila Klecha, Patty Linder (friend of Denise Cahill), Kayleigh Lopez (Lisa Sparling's niece), Carl Manoogian (George's son), Linley Menard, Patricia Merianos (Dot Quimby's daughter), Sandy Peterson Nuzum (friend of Barbara Moody), Jaymie O'Connor (friend of Sarah Sparling), Mary Poole, Hannah Ramos (Sandra Hill's grand-niece), Luane Rich, Monica Schmidt (friend of Lily Radau's), George Sparling (Jay's cousin), Rich Vick, and Norma Williams.

For those in the military, especially:

Scott Allen, Kathleen Crooker Hamilton, Michael J. Harris, Andrew Johnson, Jeff Kennedy, Alex (Pasha) Ozelius, Major Steven Simmons, Derek Stanley and Bradford Townsend.

Bereavement:

We pray for the family of Nancy Davis.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun. 12/22

8:00am Adult Ringers
9:55am Worship w/Pageant - Advent 4 (followed by lunch)
1:00pm Christmas Concert

Tue. 12/24

7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wed. 12/25

Merry Christmas

Sun. 12/29

9:55am Worship
11:30am Junior/Senior Youth Group Lunch, Post Holiday Party & LaSalatte



Please check Channel 5 (TV), the website, or the church answering machine if it is actively snowing before heading to church. We do cancel if people are being asked to stay off the roads or if there is no power at the church.

 **CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 1350 Pleasant St., Brockton, MA 02301-2840
 Tel: 508-586-3022 Fax: 508-583-7156
 Web: brocktonucc.org Email: office@brocktonucc.org.

