

Wilbraham United Church

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Pageant Sunday



December 17, 2017

10:00 A.M.

PRELUDES: *the Handbell Choir* "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"
"Joy to the World" Polish Carol
arr. Dobrinski

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF PEACE: Please greet each other with the Peace of God.

CHORAL INTROIT: "Carol of the Bells" Leontovich

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" # 211

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The time is coming when people will sing praise to the Lord.

People: *We come to praise "God With Us," and give thanks for the coming of Jesus*

Leader: Come, let us rejoice together

People: *As fresh water brings joy to the thirsty, so we rejoice in the God of our salvation.*

All: *Praise be to God!*

JUNIOR/SENIOR CHOIR: "Christmas Antiphonal" Hopson

THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE: "JOY"

Reader 1: In a world of despair, where depression rates run high, where there has been so much sadness and loss, God, we call upon you to come.

Reader 2: In a world where joy is a distant memory, we call upon you, Great God of Joy, to come.

Reader 1: In this season of Advent, we wait for the coming of Joy into our world. We await the birth of the Anointed One, the Promised Child, who comes into our lives in a new way.

Reader 2: Come, Messiah, Come, and Save Us

Light the pink candle

All: Dear God, we pray for the joy that is found in Jesus, that those who seek it may truly find it. May we celebrate in the joy found in You. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE:

“Advent Candle Song”

Light ONE candle, Christ is coming, Christ the HOPE of the world.

Light One candle Christ is coming, Christ is coming soon!

Light TWO candles, Christ is coming, Christ the PEACE of the World.

Light TWO candles Christ is coming, Christ is coming soon!

Light THREE candles, Christ is coming, Christ the JOY of the world.

Light THREE candles, Christ is coming, Christ is coming soon!

A Welcome

Prayer of Invocation, Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us to pray.

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.

CHOIR: “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” 11th cent. plainsong

OUR STORY BEGINS ON THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM.

Hymn: “What Child Is This” # 219

MARY AND JOSEPH ARRIVE AT THE INN.

JESUS IS BORN.

Choir: “Echo Gloria” Wilson

THE SHEPHERDS AND THEIR ANIMALS ARE IN THE FIELDS

Choir: “How Far Is It to Bethlehem” Pethel

THE ANGEL APPEARS TO THE SHEPHERDS.

***Hymn:** “Angels We Have Heard On High” # 238

THE SHEPHERDS GO TO THE MANGER.

Junior Choir: “Hawaiian Carol” McNair

THE SHEPHERDS WORSHIP BABY JESUS AT THE MANGER.

Dance “Mary Did You Know” Lowry

THE WISE MEN LEARN OF JESUS’ BIRTH.

HEROD HAS A PLAN.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE THREE KINGS.

***Hymn:** “We Three Kings” # 254

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND SELVES

Pastor Susan

arr. Krug

Bell Choir Anthem: "Still, Still, Still"

***Doxology:** (*Refrain from Hymn # 254*)

*Star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

***RECESSIONAL HYMN** "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

240

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Susan

***POSTLUDE** "Joy to the World"

Handel

****All, who wish to do so, may stand.**

The *altar poinsettias* this morning are given to the Glory of God as our annual Christmas memorials. Please see the listing in this bulletin. Our thanks and appreciation to Audrey Hunt, Phyllis Walsh, Jo Miner and Connie Law for their time and talents with the arrangement on the altar.

Attention Visitors! Is this your first visit to United Church? We bid you a very warm welcome and invite you to sign our Friendship Pad located in each pew. ♦ **Immediately after the service, please continue down the central hallway and join us for fellowship and refreshments in our Fellowship Hall.**

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Interim Pastor: Rev. Susan L. Gibson

Director of Music: Mark Jacobson

Director of Christian Education: Paul Nesbit

Head Usher: Tom Toman

Ushers: John Tarbell, Judy Hoffman, Jim Trimble, Ed Bernard

Greeters: Natalie True, Suzanne Zeckhausen

Nursery Care: Kim Ryan and Gail Wholley

Guest participants: Connie Stiefel- Flute; Andrew Villamaino – Trumpet; John Colkos –Percussion; Don Williams – Guitar, Drew Weinberg – Percussion; Nick Capen – Ukulele; Rev. Barbara Turner Delisle - Dancer

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR CELL PHONE OFF BEFORE THE SERVICE.

☺ ☺ ☺

FIRST 6 PEWS, DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE PULPIT, ARE A "SCENT FREE ZONE"

☺ ☺ ☺

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE FOLLOW USHER'S/HEAD USHER'S DIRECTIONS TO EXIT THE SANCTUARY

Missed church? Watch the service on Wilbraham Public Access, Channel 191, 8 PM on Mondays and 8 AM on Tuesdays. **Services are also available on-line. Go to www.wilbraham-ma.gov On the left, click Public Access Schedules - Channel 191. Find the service you'd like to watch by selecting a date on the calendar and a time, ie 8pm Mondays or 8am on Tuesdays. Click Watch Now. ☘**

TO REACH OUR CHURCH STAFF:

Interim Pastor Susan L. Gibson,	slgib1960@icloud.com	ext. 103
Director of Music, Mark Jacobson	markjacobson104@gmail.com	ext. 106
Dir. of Christian Ed., Paul Nesbit	christianed@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org	ext. 105
Bookkeeper, Betsy Johnsen	bookkeeper@WilbrahamUnitedChurch.org	ext 100
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Please Pray for

The family of Norm Smith, Nancy Peck, Jim and Gloria Russell, Joan Hoffmann, Patti Keiser, Sue Periera, Cindy Pepper, Kathy Birkhaeuser, Shey McABee, those affected by the hurricanes. The people of Las Vegas, New York, and Sutherland Springs. Our troops, our country and our world. Our congregation and Christ the King Epiphany as we discern our future together.



Please pray for the members of our Senior Minister Search Committee and their diligent work.

Members are: Tom Toman, Deb Trimble, Kim Neelans, Phyllis Walsh, Steve Niederfringer and Tina Bazarian

“News for the Pews” for the week of December 17, 2017

Heifer Market Place! Outreach Commission is sponsoring a Heifer Market Place. For the next three Sundays (December 3, 10, and 17), you will have an opportunity to purchase animals in honor of friends or family. These make great Christmas presents while making a difference in people’s lives! Stop by the Market Place in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour.

NOVEMBER PLEDGE INCOME REPORT

Annual Pledge Income Budget \$210,000

Pledge Income through November \$208,345

We thank you for your gifts. It is now apparent that we will exceed our 2017 pledge income budget. While we began the year with a budgeted deficit of \$64,182, cost reductions and some unusual gifts have significantly reduced the deficit this year. Increasing your pledge for 2018 will help reduce it further.



JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Come and hear the anew the old, old story, sing carols, light candles, pray for peace, and receive the gift of grace

10:00am Family Service

7:00pm Service of Lessons and Carols



This Week at Wilbraham United

www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org

TODAY, December 17th – 3rd Sunday of Advent

10:00am Pageant Service
3:00-6:pm Carolling and Supper – Fellowship
6:00pm Al Anon – Youth Room

Monday, December 18th

9:15am Yoga – Discovery Room
7:00pm Finance Commission - LIB
7:00pm Thrift Shop – Zeckhausen

Tuesday, December 19th

9:30am Staff Meeting – LIB
6:00pm Girl Scouts- Sunday School Room
6:30pm Daisy Scouts- Howard Room
6:30pm Search Committee - Zeckhausen

Wednesday, December 20th

3:30pm Girl Scouts – Howard Room
4:30pm Girl Scouts-Sunday School Room
6:00pm Cub Scouts – Howard Room
6:00pm Al Anon – Youth Room

Thursday, December 21st

4:00pm Prayer Study – Zeckhausen
4:00-5:30pm Brownies – Howard Room
6:00pm Al Anon – Youth Room
7:00pm Bells rehearsal &
7:45pm Sr. Choir rehearsal – Choir Rm

Friday, December 22nd

9:30-12:30 pm Thrift Shop –8 & 10B

Saturday, December 23rd

9:30 -10:30am Thrift Shop
10:00am Jr. Choir Pageant Rehearsal

Sunday December 24th Christmas Eve

10:00am Christmas Eve Family Service
11:15am Fellowship & Refreshment
6:00pm Al Anon – Youth Room
7:00pm Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols

2017 CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS

Evie Auchter

*Noel and Steve Chambers &
the Flynn Family
Skip and Candy Dearborn
Norma Hill
Audrey Hunt*

*Ross and Ruth Karlson
Patty Keiser and Family
The Kmelius
Bob and Connie Law*

*Jeanine and Rob Little and
Family
Greg and Martha Lyman*

*Michelle McBride and
Sharon McAbee
Judy Marek and Chrissy
Plumb
Terry and Poppy Nelson
and Lorene Perkins
Carol and Fried Piel*

*The Ryan Family
Bill Sanderson*

Bill and Nan Shepard

The Toman Family

The Tucker Family

Herb Vieira

*Gail Wholley
Suzanne Zeckhausen*

*In loving memory of Nancy, Bob
and Tim*

In lovgng memory of Doris Chambers

In loving memory of our Parents

In lovgng memory of Loren Hill

*In loving memory of Ray Hunt and Margaret,
Dan, and Don Murray*

In memory of loved ones

In memory of loved ones

In lovgng memory of Peggy Kmelius

*In memory of our parents, Willamnd and Kathryn
Law and J. Warren and Helen Chadwick; our
brothers, James W. Chadwick, Jr. and William M.
Law*

*In lovgng memory of our fathers, George Shuster
and Arthur Little*

*In loving memory of our parents, Jack and Polly
Lyman and Bob and Eleanor Welch*

*In loving memory of Gerald David McBride--
Michelle and Brian's father and Sharon's friend*

*In loving memory of John Marek, Eunice Nelson
Lamb, and Donald Lamb*

In memory of loved ones

*In loving memory of Bob and Woodie Latour
and Kurt and Florentine Piel*

In loving memory of our Grandparents

*In loving memory of Beverly Sanderson and
John (Bob) Merher*

*In loving memory of Steven L. Register and
Diana H. Register*

*In loving memory of Vivian Toman and Louise
Capron*

*In loving memory of Donald C. Tucker and
Donald W. Tucker*

*In memory of Josephine Gilson Vieira, beloved
Wife*

In memory of my dear friend, Vivian

In loving memory of Dr. Paul W. Zeckhausen

