

Wilbraham United Church



December 21, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Christmas Pageant



Wilbraham United Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ
and the United Methodist Church*

500 Main Street

Wilbraham MA 01095

Phone: (413)596-2511

www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org

Facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch

December 21, 2025

4th Sunday of Advent

10:00AM

We ask that everyone wear nametags so that we can be welcoming to all. There are listening devices available for those that may need them. An usher will be happy to assist you. Following the service, everyone is invited to our time of refreshments and friendship in our Fellowship Hall. Please make a left out of our sanctuary, down the hall, and up the stairs. If you are unable to use the stairs, an elevator is available.

*UMH – The “red” United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS – The “small black” book Faith We Sing Hymnal*

GATHERING MUSIC

Organ: The Coventry Carol

Bells: Silent Night

arr. D. Lasky

arr. C. Moglebust

WELCOME

Rev. Janet

*** GATHERING HYMN #237 vs. 1-3 (UMH)**

Sing We Now of Christmas

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alan Druckenmiller

Liturgist: We rejoice that Christmas is a special time that brings us together, to worship as one people, and to revel in the mysteries of the Divine. We are made glad in the knowledge that hope, peace, joy and love are the threads which bind us together and serve as a reminder of who we are as God's own.

People: Soon we will celebrate the birth of our Savior, who brought light and life to a hurting world. Let our hearts be open to receive God's gift of a wonder beyond all measure.

All: Thanks be to God

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Skip and Candy Dearborn

Advent---JOY

Reader #1: Soon we shall celebrate the birth of the Christ-child, and we give thanks to God with joy in our hearts. We give to God our gratitude for all that he had done for us.

Reader #2: We are made glad by the Good News and the great joy that God has blessed us with. Hope and peace and joy and love are ours because of a wondrous child born of light.

UNISON PRAYER

Holy God, The wait is coming to a close and a sense of excitement abounds with great joy. We can feel joy around us and we ask that you might help us to share that joy with a world that is waiting to be filled and needing to be healed, with your great light. Amen

SONG

Light One Candle
Junior Choir

N. Sleeth

CHRISTMAS PRAYER FOLLOWED BY LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

The Longing
Chancel Choir

B. Arbaugh and D. Nolan

READING OF THE PROPHECY

Isaiah 11:1-9

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

THE LIVING NATIVITY

THE ANGELS APPEAR

Music “In Excelsis Deo” from Angels We Have Heard on High

THE ANGEL GABRIEL APPEARS TO MARY

Hymn #2099 (TFWS) *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine*

MARY REJOICES IN THE MESSAGE FROM GOD

MARY AND JOSEPH TRAVEL TO BETHLEHEM

Hymn #230 Verses 1 & 2 (UMH) *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

JESUS IS BORN

Hymn #219 (UMH) *What Child Is This?*

SHEPHERDS AND THEIR ANIMALS ARE IN THE FIELDS

HYMN #236 Verses 1 – 4 (UMH) *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*

THE ANGEL APPEARS TO THE SHEPHERDS

HYMN #238 (UMH) *Angels We Have Heard on High*

THE SHEPHERDS WORSHIP BABY JESUS AT THE MANGER

SONG A Celtic Silent Night arr. P. Tierney
Chancel Choir and Praise Band

THE WISE MEN LEARN OF JESUS' BIRTH

HYMN #254 (UMH) *We Three Kings*

THE ARRIVAL OF THE WISE MEN

***PARTING HYMN # 246 (UMH)**

Joy to the World

***BENEDICTION**

MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH

Piano: Carol of the Bells (Ukrainian Bell Carol)

arr. M. Hayes

**All who are able to stand, may do so.*

Welcome Visitors! *Is this your first visit to United Church? If you wish to be contacted by a member of the church or our pastor, please leave your contact information with one of the ushers or place a visitor card in the collection plate. We invite you to join us in our time of Fellowship after the service. Our ushers or a member of the ministry team will be happy to accompany you and help you find your way!*

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Janet Sandquist-Skagerlind

Music Director: Roberta Morkin

Technical: Deb Trimble

Ushers: Joyce Pierangelo, Skip Dearborn

Liturgist/Narrator: Alan Druckenmiller

Greeter: Joyce Emerle



Wilbraham United Church Staff

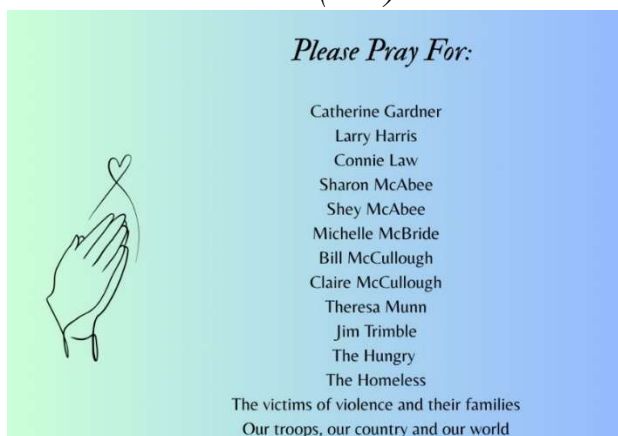
Rev. Janet Sandquist- Skagerlind: Pastor (pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x 103

Bobbie Morkin: Music Director (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x106

Deb Trimble: Administrator (admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x100

David Wapner: Sexton (wucbuilding@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x107

*If you are in need of Pastoral Care, please contact Rev. Janet or the Church Office.
After office hours, Rev. Janet can be reached at (978)350-3463.*



“News for the Pews” for the Week of December 21, 2025

The Church will be closed **December 25th** through Thursday January 1st for the holiday. Deb will be back in the office on Monday January 5th. Rev. Janet will be on vacation from December 29 through January 5th. In the event of an emergency please contact Rev. Janet or notify the office.

On January 4th the Rev. William Ault will lead us in worship.

Year End Pledge Reminder: As we approach the end of the year, there are two worship service dates left in 2025. This prompts this reminder regarding the IRS rules that we must follow regarding reporting of gifts, from which there can be no exceptions.

To qualify as a gift for tax year 2025, the gift must be either:

- 1) if mailed, be postmarked on or before Wednesday, December 31, 2025, or
- 2) be delivered during church office hours by Wednesday, December 24, by the time the church office closes (1:30 P.M.), or
- 3) be placed in the offering at either of the worship services on Wednesday, December 24 or on December 28th.

Further, if the gift is a check, the check must be dated on or before December 31, 2025.

We must point out this example: a check dated on or before December 31 that does not meet the criteria listed above will be counted as a gift received in 2026. If made to fulfill a 2025 pledge, it will be noted and appear as “Pledge – Prior Year” in the 2026 accounting.

The Fellowship Commission would like to remind our church membership that **pledge cards** for 2026 can still be turned in. If you have forgotten to turn yours in, please do so as soon as possible. We’re already entering the budgetary process for the new year and knowing our expected pledge income is a key part of that planning. Just a friendly reminder – if you are a “one and done” pledger – your check is gratefully received, but we’d still like to receive a card from you for our bookkeeping purposes. If you need a card they are available in the Narthex or you can see Deb in the office.

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, December 21, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship

11:15 a.m. – Fellowship Hour (FH)

5:00 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)

Monday, December 22, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

Tuesday, December 23, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

8:30 a.m. – Men's Breakfast Group

6:30 p.m. – Search Committee (ZR)

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

**4:00 p.m. – Family Christmas Eve
Service**

7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 25, 2025

Church Office closed

Friday, December 26, 2025

Church Office closed

Saturday, December 27, 2025

Church Office closed

Sunday, December 28, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship

11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Hour (FH)

5:00 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)



**Christmas at
Wilbraham
United
Church**

Sunday December 21
10:00 a.m. - Christmas Pageant with live
Nativity

Wednesday December 24
4:00 p.m. - Family Christmas Eve Service
7:00 p.m. - Service of Lessons and Carols

All are welcome!

500 Main St
Wilbraham, MA 01095
(413)596-2511
wilbrahamunitedchurch.org



2025 CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS



Given by

The Colkos Family
Skip & Candy Dearborn
Ellen Gatchell
Karen Gatchell
Sandy & Larry Harris
Judy Marek
Poppy Nelson & Family
Alesia, Al, Wendy & Jim
Samantha, Kelsey & Aleena
The Plumb Family
David, Keith, Paul and John Scarlett
Carianne Stebenne

Tim & Kathy Timpson
The Toman Family
The Toman Family
The Toman Family
Phyllis Walsh

In Loving Memory or Celebration of

Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Douglas & Bill
Loved Ones
Our Parents & Siblings
Eunice & Don Lamb, Ken Lamb, Chris Burnor
Terry Nelson
Alan & Lois Peck
Poppy & Grammy
John Marek, Theresa O'Neill, Linda Plumb
Richard and Evelyn Scarlett
Kimberlee Kelley, John & Betty Clark, Tom & Marie Kelley
Loved Ones
Vivian Toman- Remembering Always
Nancy Swanson – In Loving Memory
Louise Capron - Thinking of you
Kandi Duffy, Barbara Schwartz, Linda McDonald

