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

November 29, 2026 First 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.

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

(RED) – The red, United Methodist Hymnal | (BLACK) – The black, Faith We Sing Hymnal

GATHERING MUSIC

Piano: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. T. Keesecker

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME **Rev. Paul**

CALL TO WORSHIP **Marge Trimble**

One: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
All: The Word was in the beginning with God. Through the Word, all things came into being.
One: The Word of God was a person, a flesh-and-bone human who lived and walked among us.
All: The Word is Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, Prince of Peace and Word Made Flesh.
One: Come together, children of God, and worship the one who dwelt among us.
All: Let us worship the Word through whom all things have life!

***GATHERING HYMN** *# 108(RED) God Hath Spoken by the Prophets*

Lighting the Advent Wreath **Karen Gatchell & Beth Brosnihan**

Let us join in our Advent Prayer:

God of ancient miracles and modern-day surprises, we thank you for the gift of hope that was born in Bethlehem long ago. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the holy child, fill us with a deep desire to chase away the darkness of despair by lighting candles of hope today. This we ask in the name of the Bethlehem child, who taught us to pray together,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth is 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, for ever and ever.



***SONG OF PRAISE #** *211* vs.1 *(RED)* *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, Shall come to thee, O Israel.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

OLD TESTAMENT **Isaiah 64: 1-9**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us

and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Our God is still speaking **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM **Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19**

One: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!

All: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

One: O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

All: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

One: But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself. Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

All: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.



GOSPEL **Mark 13: 24-37**

"But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
"Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man

going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God**.

***HYMN -** *#204(RED)* *Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

SERMON **Rev. Paul**

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Chancel Choir: *O Come Emmanuel* arr. M. McDonald

***Doxology #221** *(RED) vs. 4*

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
Yet what can I give him, give him my heart.

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

***PARTING HYMN** - *# 196(RED)* *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *#211 (RED)*

Go now in peace, go now in peace,
May the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH

Organ: *Postlude on "Hyfrydol"* arr. D. Lasky

***BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

Welcome Visitors! *Is this your first visit to Wilbraham 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.*

The Altar flowers this morning are given in memory of Goldrino Balatico, (Amie Singh's father)

Please be aware that our services are livestreamed and recorded for our online community. While we focus the cameras primarily on the pulpit, chancel and lectern, wide shots of the sanctuary may include congregants. If you or your family prefer not to appear on camera, please ask an usher to direct you to our designated non-camera seating area. Thank you for helping us worship together both in person and online!

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Paul Nesbit
Music Director: Roberta Morkin
Technical: Deb Trimble
Ushers: Poppy Nelson & Marty Lyman
Liturgist: Marge Trimble
Greeter: Gennie Keddy
Advent Wreath Lighters: Karen Gatchell & Beth Brosnihan

Rev. Paul Nesbit:	Pastor (pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x 103
Bobbie Morkin:	Music Director (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x106
Hillary Funk:	Administrative Assistant (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. Paul or the Church Office.

Please Pray For:

Catherine Gardner - Connie Law
Sharon McAbee - Shey McAbee
Michelle McBride - Bill McCullough
Claire McCullough - Ed McCorkindale



Jean Michon - Jim Trimble
Marge Trimble - Jairo
The Hungry - The Homeless
The victims of violence and their families
Our troops, our country and our world

"News for the Pews" for the Week

Church Merchandise makes great Christmas presents! *We will be putting in one order for mugs and tote bags at the end of the day on Sunday November 29th*. We are putting together one large order to reduce shipping costs for each person who wanted to purchase a mug or tote bag for Christmas.
There are 3 different sizes of mugs:

- 11 oz mug dimensions: 3.8″ in height, 3.2″ in diameter = $10.00
- 15 oz mug dimensions: 4.7″ in height, 3.3″ in diameter = $13.50
- 20 oz mug dimensions: 4.3″ in height, 3.7″ in diameter = $16.00
- And the tote bag is $30

Please let Victoria know after church on Sunday or you can email her at victoriaowen58@gmail.com. Thank you!

Looking for a drummer for our **Praise Band**. Hope to play once a month or every other month for our 10:00 church service. If you are interested, you can contact Bobbie Morkin (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) or Patti Colkos (tricia30@charter.net)

The sign-up sheets for **Christmas Poinsettia orders** are now available!
It's printed here in your bulletin and can be found in this week's church email!



Can you display a **Holly Fair** *sign* on your lawn and/or know a person or place of business who would be willing to host one until December 12th? High traffic areas are great. Contact Bill Sanderson (linwood36@yahoo.com) to take a sign.

- HELP needed to *supervise parking* for the **Holly Fair**. We need 5 volunteers for 8 a.m. to around 11:30 a.m. Once the early crowd starts to leave parking will take care of itself. To volunteer contact Bill Sanderson (linwood36@yahoo.com)

Calling all cookie bakers! We're looking for your favorite cookies, bars and barks for our *Word Famous Cookie Walk*. Items can be dropped off to the church kitchen by Friday morning, December 11th, and you can reach out to Chrissy Plumb with any questions (413)218-4410 -or- cplumb1993@gmail.com. We are grateful for any amount you can bake - it all contributes to making this a highlight of the fair!!

See your *Shopping Card team* to place **special orders** for Christmas! We are taking special orders for cards not normally in stock through December 8th. Orders received by then will be guaranteed delivery before Christmas! Order forms are available at the Shopping Card table in the Narthex or in the Church Office. See Deb for questions about special orders.
Help support the church's Shopping Card ministry and do your Christmas Shopping at the same time. Shopping e-cards can also be ordered anytime online. Speak to Deb about enrolling in the Shopping Card program.

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, November 29, 2026
10:00 a.m. –Worship
11:00 a.m. – Fellowship (ZR)
3:00 p.m. -Handbell Concert (Sanc)
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

Monday, November 30, 2026
Church Office 9:30 – 2:30
10:00 a.m. – Pastor's Office Hours
10:00 a.m. – Piece Makers
5:00 p.m. – Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesday, December 1, 2026
Church Office 9:30 – 2:30
2:00 p.m. -Bible Study (ZR)
7:00 p.m.– Evening Bible Study(ZR)
7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Wednesday, December 2, 2026
Church Office 9:30 - 2:30
11:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting (Office)
5:00 p.m. – Pastor's Office Hours
6:00 p.m. - Scouts (TS)
7:00 p.m. – Phys Ops (ZR)

Thursday, December 3, 2026
Church Office 9:30 – 2:30
6:00 p.m. - Broom Sisters (11B)
6:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir (Sanc)
6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)

Friday, December 4, 2026
Church Office closed
WUP SHOW(FH)

Saturday, December 5, 2026
Church Office closed
WUP SHOW(FH)

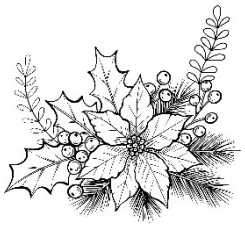
Sunday, December 6, 2026
10:00 a.m. –Worship
11:00 a.m. – Fellowship (ZR)
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)
WUP SHOW(FH)

TODAY @ 3 p.m.



2026 CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Please order and pay by Dec. 14, 2026



Name _____

Type of Plant	**Cost per plant**	**# Of plants**	**Total Cost**
Poinsettias- 6in. pots, approx.4-6 blossoms	$16		

Total $_____ Pmt Method ( )cash ( ) check nbr_____

In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____

( ) I wish to have my plant(s) delivered to a special-care person designated by the church. Will be delivered 12/21 by Called to Care members.
( ) I will pick up my plant(s) after the 7:30 Christmas Eve Service
( ) I will collect my plant(s) after the Dec. 27th service

Orders MUST be returned to Church Office by noon on Monday, Dec 14, to insure getting a plant.