

December 23, 2018 Fourth Sunday in Advent

Thought for the Week

Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
—Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Gathering To Be Part of Christ's Resurrection

Praise and Thanksgiving "People Look East" (vs. 1, 4) #202

Welcome, Announcements, Registration, Sharing Joys and Concerns

*(If you have a prayer request, please fill out one of the prayer cards
in the pew rack and give it to the pastor or an usher.)*

Centering Music and Lighting the Candles

***Call to Worship**

God has done great things for us!
God's love is heralded in the promise of the Christ.
Holy is God's name!
God's promises are fulfilled in the coming of the Christ.
God's mercy extends from generation to generation.
God's salvation is offered in the gift of the Christ.

***Opening Prayer**

Lord, be with us today as we encounter Mary and hear the wondrous news that she received. Remind us that, like Mary, each one of us is a bearer of your Good News. You call us to proclaim hope, peace, joy, and love in your name. Open our hearts and our spirits today to receive your love with great joy. This we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

***Singing** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vs. 4-6) #211

Confessing Who We Are

Lord, we are so excited. Christmas Day is almost here. Slow us down again. Cause us to look at the blossoming of the branch and remind us that your love is blossoming in our lives. As we hear Mary say "Yes!" to your good news, remind us that you call us too to be bearers of good news to those in need. Forgive us when we fail to do that. Heal our wounds and bind up our spirits. Enable us to go into the world offering our lives, our gifts, our talents, for your glory. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen. (silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

God's love and faithfulness are already at work in you. Know that you are healed and forgiven. Rejoice in God's love and blossom.

Anthem "To a Maid Engaged to Joseph" R. Edwards

Lighting the Advent Candles

Preparing to Pray "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" #2193

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Opening Ourselves to Listen, Witness and Serve

Old Testament Lesson Micah 5:2-5a

Epistle Lesson Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel Lesson Luke 1:39-55

Message "Do You Want for Christmas?"

***Singing** "Once in Royal David's City" #250

Offering our Tithes and Offerings

***Offertory Response** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" #94
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,
whose power up-lifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

May what we give today, and in the days to come, be bathed in the knowledge that yours is the most perfect gift and the one we need the most. We pray in the name of the Christ child, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

***Singing** "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" #218

Sending Forth

***Singing** "God Be With You" #672

God be with you till we meet again; by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able

1 Church Street East Harwich, MA 02645

Church Office: (508) 432-3734

Email: HarwichUMC@gmail.com Website: www.harwichunitedmethodistchurch.org

Thrift Shop: (508) 432-7322

Pastor John Robbins

Pastor's Email: j_robbbins@verizon.net Pastor's Cell: 781-264-3122

Marisha Dubiel, Music Director

December 23, 2018

Thanks to This Morning's Leadership

Greeters: Pam and David Purdy
 Acolyte: Jeanne Decker
 Liturgist: Juell Buckwold
 Fellowship Hour: Pies and Pralines
 Fellowship Coordinators: Pat Thayer and Ruth Crocker
 Flower Coordinator: Linda Carberry (508-896-7100)

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, December 23

8:15am Choir Rehearsal
 9:30am Worship
 10:30am Fellowship

Monday, December 24

5:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Upcoming

January

1/6 Worship with Teen Challenge
 1/6 Administrative Council
 1/11 9am Thrift Shop Board

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to all: Thank you for worshipping with us. May you find joy in God's holy presence as we celebrate together this morning. Please enjoy coffee and refreshments following the service.

Reminder to Continue Support of the Harwich Family Food Pantry: John Chatham monitors the bin near the steps upstairs and takes donations to the pantry when there is a meaningful amount. Let's boost our efforts and keep John busy with food for those who do not have enough.

Fellowship Hour

A new year is almost upon us. Please remember to sign up to prepare coffee and bring goodies!

Birthdays

12/28 Juell Buckwold

THOSE WHO ARE IN OUR PRAYERS

On-going Health Concern: Rev. Yoo Cha Yi , Thelma Bly, Jackie Winne, Todd Winne, Jo and Fred Buess, Greg Legeyt, Greg Major, Dan Murphy, Jim, Gene Levy, Patrick Shanahan, Michael Chatham

Recent Illness or Surgery: Joy Jenkins, Don Howell, Bruce Zeller

Loss of Loved One: Family of Linda Guinen, Nick Dillmann and family

Strength and Guidance: those grieving during this season, children separated from their parents at the border, families and communities dealing with violence, HUMC and Pastor John Robbins, our nation and its representatives, those affected by natural disasters including residents of California and Puerto Rico, those stuck in the middle of unrelenting violence including the people of Syria and Gaza, family of Darrell Bates and Terry Bassett, Jennifer, Adam, Mashpee Wampanoags, Edwin Baldayac's brother

Joys: The birth of Henry Fear Gould, great grandson of Don and Mary Gould

Ministry: The earth, life of HUMC, our children & youth, homeless on Cape Cod

Please remember in your prayers those who are home bound.

The church office will be closed Monday, December 24th.

The Thrift Store is closed until Thursday, January 3rd.

Correction: The Church email address is harwichumc@gmail.com

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CHRISTMAS FLOWERS 2018

Herb and Valerie Bell	In loving memory of our parents who are gone
Linda Carberry	In loving memory of my Birth Mother
John and Sharon Chatham	In memory of loved ones
Dot Harrington and family	In loving memory of the best husband and father, Dick, with love
Carl Johnson	In loving memory of my late wife, Janet Lee Johnson
Pam and Dave Purdy	In loving memory of Linda Guinen
The Rabbine family	In loving memory of those who have gone before us
Jackie Winne	In celebration of Jesus' birth
Karl Young	In loving memory of Jean H. Young

Christmas Greetings from Friends and Family

Merry Christmas and many blessings
Marcy Vigneau

May the blessings of the season be with you
Carl Johnson

Blessed Christmas to all
Pat and Gordon Thayer

Have a joy-filled New Year
The Bells

Merry Christmas
Nick Dillmann

Wishing you peace, love and joy at Christmas and in 2019
Mary Dulemba

God Bless you this Christmas Season
Pam and Dave Purdy

Our warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and many blessings in the New Year
Laurie and Pierre Bonin

Blessings of the wonderful Christmas season to all of my church family
Rose Higgins

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