

December 2, 2018 First Sunday in Advent

Thought for the Week

The spirit of Christmas needs to be superseded by the Spirit of Christ. The spirit of Christmas is annual; the Spirit of Christ is eternal. The spirit of Christmas is sentimental; the Spirit of Christ is supernatural. The spirit of Christmas is a human product; the Spirit of Christ is a divine person. That makes all the difference in the world.

—Stuart Briscoe (1930-)

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's promises will be fulfilled.

Praise be to God.

The days are coming when all shall be revealed.

Thanks be to God.

The signs of God's Good News are all around us.

Open our eyes, Lord, to see your promises fulfilled.

***Opening Prayer**

Lord, open our ears to hear, our eyes to see, and our hearts to love, that we may better know your ways and follow your paths. Strengthen our love for one another, and for all your creation, as we prepare to celebrate the coming of the One who calls us to turn from our false gods to you, O Holy One, the only source of our salvation. Amen.

***Singing** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vs. 1-3) #211

Confessing Who We Are

Lord, we struggle with letting anger, frustration, and fear overshadow our lives. And in our anxiety, we go against your ways. We feel pressure to give, and then resent giving. Help us, Lord. Heal our spirits. Encourage us to look to you for hope. Enable us to know your presence... ever guiding, healing, loving, and encouraging us. Forgive us, we pray. Return us to your light. **In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.** (silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

The prophet Isaiah says, "The days are coming when all God's promises will be fulfilled." These promises of hope, peace, joy, and love are for you. Receive them.

Anthem "Light an Advent Candle" B.S. Mayo

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 Jeremiah 33:14-16

Epistle Lesson 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Gospel Lesson Luke 21:25-36

Message "Hope and Expectation"

***Singing** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" #213

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

Gracious God, bless these gifts, use them to your glory, and increase our own faith in your ability to provide for our daily needs. Amen.

Sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Sharing the Bread and Cup

***Singing** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" #206

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

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Marisha Dubiel, Music Director

WELCOME TO

HARWICH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



December 2, 2018

Thanks to This Morning's Leadership

- Greeters: Leslie and John Albee
- Acolyte: Josh Vigneau
- Liturgist: Valerie Bell
- Fellowship Hour: Pam and David Purdy
- Fellowship Coordinators: Pat Thayer and Ruth Crocker
- Flower Coordinator: Linda Carberry (508-896-7100)

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. With this announcement as a reminder, let's boost our efforts and keep John busy with food for those who do not have enough.

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, Bill Crocker, Lil's sister Mary Lopez, Glenn Bryant, Bryce G., Robert G. Katherine M., Ellie D., Cindy Farrell-Starbuck, Lil Murphy, Judy, Ellen, Ruth White, Pat

Recent Illness or Surgery: Ruth Crocker, Irene Eber, George Lewis, Robin White, Amber Grass, Maryanne Timmons, Paul Marsh, Peter Manning, Ed McGrath, Brad McGrath, Ruth Crocker's grandson Matthew, Mary Gomez , Don Howell, Izzy Thompson, Pam Purdy, Joan Stevens, Kathy Bell, Jim Mulligan, Linda Carberry, Bruce Zeller, Jo Buess, Cathy Bell, Rose Higgins, Irene Cooper

Loss of Loved One: family of Linda Guinen, Lisa

Strength and Guidance: children separated from their parents at the border, DACA children and others facing deportation, families and communities dealing with school shootings and other violence, HUMC and Pastor John Robbins, our nation and its representatives, those affected by natural disasters including the citizens of Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guatemala and the western U.S., those stuck in the middle of unrelenting violence including the people of Syria and Gaza, James G. and 8 grandchildren, family of Darrell Bates and Terry Bassett, Jennifer, Adam, Mashpee Wampanoags, Edwin Baldayac's brother

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

Please remember in your prayers those who are home bound.

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, December 2

- 8:15am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30am Worship
- 10:30am Fellowship/Decorating of Church Building

Wednesday, December 5

- 6:30pm United Methodist Women potluck dinner with grab-bag gift

Thursday, December 6

- 1:00pm Bible Study—Christmas: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
- 5-8pm District Resource Day on prayer @ East Greenwich (RI) UMC

Upcoming Events

December

- 12/9 Christmas caroling
- 12/11 Billy's House dinner
- 12/24 5 pm Christmas Eve service

January

- 1/6 Teen Challenge at worship

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