

Wellesley Village Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ



Sunday, December 5, 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 5, 2021

10:00 am

Hymns may be found in the New Century (black) hymnal or in this bulletin.

*Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Kristjon Imperio, Organist

Philip Moore

WELCOME & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter

*OPENING HYMN NO. 116 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs. 1,2,3,6,7

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Mighty God, in this season when we keep awake seeking the Prince of Peace, we confess that we have not made the way for peace in our own lives.

All: Forgive us, o God, for our inattention to the violence, exploitation, and exclusion that deny peace.

One: We confess we are distracted, divided, deluded, seeking our own security, power, and wealth, even as it harms others.

All: Forgive us, o God, for tolerating the intolerable indifference towards suffering that the princes and principalities of this world have constructed.

One: Forgive us, o God, for accepting silence, assent, and injustice, rather than holding out, demanding the just peace that you desire. Show us the way, Wonderful Counselor, as we prepare for peace to reign on earth, and in the depths of our own hearts.

(time for silent prayer)

One: Through Jesus Christ, who is to come.

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S HOPE AND PEACE

One: Beloved children of the Everlasting Mother and Father, hear this good news – God is lifting up the lowly and sending the powerful away. We are forgiven for the ways that we forsake peace of our own benefit, and called into solidarity with all who are oppressed.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Sarah, Brian, and Daniel Hall

adapted from Isaiah 40:1-5

One: As we continue our Advent Journey today, we light the candles of Hope and Peace.

(The first and second candles are lit.)

We hear the prophet proclaiming: “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace!

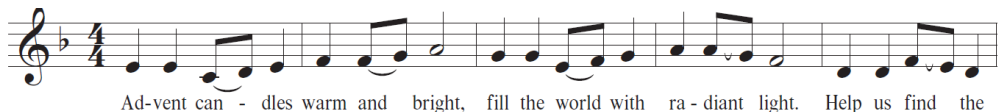
All: “The wolf shall live with the lamb, the calf and the lion and the yearling will lie down together; and a little child shall lead them. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be filled with Peace.”

One: As we light the second Advent candle, let us brighten our hearts with hope and peace,

All: For the Promised One is coming!

RESPONSE SONG

“Candles of Advent”



*SHARING THE HOPE AND PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The Hope and Peace of Emmanuel be with you. **All: and also with you.**

Please stand as you are able and share a greeting with one another.

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:46-55 pew Bible pp. 831-2 Rev. Megan Berkowitz

SERMON "Prophet of Peace"

RESPONSE HYMN NO. 119 "My Soul Gives Glory to My God"

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

This is Christ's open table and all who wish to partake are welcome!

Invitation

Rev. Bob Feeny

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you; **All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts; **All: We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise...

Sanctus

GLORIA

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts, all praise be given!

All your glory fills the earth; all your power fills the heavens.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Blessed is the one who came, bringing love and light divine.

Blessed is the One who comes in the bread and in the wine.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Song of Consecration

VENI EMMANUEL

O send your Spirit now upon these gifts;

make them to be Christ's body and Christ's blood.

All honor and glory are yours, for now and forever more.

Amen! Amen! To God the glory be. Amen! Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

Words of Institution

***The Gift of the Bread and Cup**

*Please come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.
If you are in a transept, please go down the side aisle to the back of the church
and come up the center aisle to receive communion.
Gluten free bread and cup are offered by the piano.*

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

**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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Sung Prayer

"Prayer After Communion"

CRADLE SONG

**Lord, now in your mercy your servants release.
As your word has promised, oh, grant us your peace.
Our eyes your salvation and mercy behold,
prepared for the nations as prophets fore-told.**

CALL TO TIME OF OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Offertory

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Patrick Liebergen

*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, shall come, O Israel.*

*O come, O come, great Lord of might,
(Come to the King, let carols ring!)
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
(Come see the birth, praise Him on earth!)
in ancient times once gave the law
(Come to the Lord, praise Him adored!)
in cloud and majesty and awe.
(Come to praise the Child!)*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Come to the Child, sing to Him, praise Him,
Come to the King, let carols ring, sing to the Child praise Him!
Sing of His birth, praise Him on earth, sing to the Child, praise Him!
Glory to God, sing praise to the Lord!
Sing with joy for the Lord shall come!
Come to the King, let carols ring, sing to the Child, praise Him!
Sing of His birth, praise Him on earth, sing to the Child, praise Him.
Glory to God, sing praise to the Lord! Glory to God, sing praise to the Lord!*

*O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer, our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
O come, O come, Emmanuel. Sing to the Child. O come.*

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.**

OUR COMMON LIFE

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 114** *“Return, My People”*

WELCOME TO VISITORS AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Creator of the Stars of Night”

Richard Warner

You are invited to remain seated until the conclusion of worship.

Pastor: Our worship has ended; **People:** **Let our service begin!**

Pastor: Go in peace.

†††

We are glad you're here today!

*ALL ARE INVITED
to share in coffee and conversation
in Village Common.*

*Our Reopening Task Force advises that we require vaccinations
if folks want to eat/drink during coffee hour.
Unvaccinated folks will need to remain masked.*

*If you are watching our livestreamed service,
please join us for Coffee Hour following virtual worship at approximately 11 am.
The link is found here or from the website home page and the weekly enews Village News.*

Year-End Giving Notes

Special year-end gifts to Wellesley Village Church are a wonderful way to express gratitude for the blessings of the past year. Your gifts will help the church with unmet needs and enable us to end the year with financial strength. Checks may be placed in the offering or mailed to the church. Please visit our website for on-line giving, or call Marina at 781-235-1988 ext. 18 or email her at marina@wellesleyvillagechurch.org for any questions, or to notify her of a stock transfer.

Thank you for ALL of your gifts to Village Church!

Giving Options



Our community is sustained by the gracious gifts of time, service, and financial resources that we share. In an effort to make financial giving more streamlined, we now offer online options. You can find the link in the weekly Enews or scan this QR code. Gifts may always be mailed to the church office or left in collection baskets. May God bless the giving and receiving of gifts and make more of us together than we can be apart.

TODAY

- 9:00am** **Worship**, *Chapel*, Rev. Diane Seaborn, Preacher; Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter; Rev. Bob Feeny
- 10:00am** **Worship**, *Sanctuary and Livestream*, Rev. Megan Berkowitz, Preacher; Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter; Rev. Bob Feeny
Childcare, *Family Worship Room*
Children's Church, *Courtyard or Upper Room*, Michaela McDonald
Middle School Youth Group, *Cloister Garden or Chapel*, Rev. Pam Emslie
- 11:15am** **Coffee & Fellowship**, *Village Common*
Zoom Fellowship, *immediately after live-streamed worship*
Handbell Choir Rehearsal, *Sanctuary*
- 5:00pm** **Worship**, *Congregational Church of Weston* (masked)
- 7:00pm** **High School Youth Group Tonight**, Rev. Pam Emslie
- 7:30pm** **Village Church Parents Group**, *via Zoom*

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES -

Please see Enews for details.

Empty Nesters+

Mondays, 9:30am, Elm Bank Reservation

Seniors Connect

Tues., Dec. 7, 2pm - 3:15pm, via Zoom

Knitting and Sewing Ministry

Wednesdays, 10-11:30, via Zoom

Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesdays, 10am-11:45am, via Zoom

Village Table Cooks

Every other Thursday, Friday & Saturday, Village Hall Kitchen

Village Churchmen

Thurs., Dec. 16, 12pm-1:30pm via Zoom

Village Churchwomen's Annual Tea

Tues., Dec. 14, 1pm - 3pm, via Zoom

Village Church Dads Group

Tues., Dec. 14, 7pm, home of Ed Berger

EMBODYING GOD'S LOVE IN A BEAUTIFUL AND BROKEN WORLD

Let's join together to support and care for our neighbors during Advent.

Support for Afghan Refugees in Partnership with Temple Beth Elohim - *Today*

Our friends at Temple Beth Elohim are sponsoring and have welcomed two families of Afghan refugees to new homes and new lives in our area. The Service Ministry team has invited us to support these families as they work to settle here in a place that must surely seem far away from all they have known. Today we are bringing gift cards for Walmart, Target, BJ's or other wholesale stores in amounts no greater than \$50 each. There is a special gift card collection box, as part of the offering, in which you can drop your cards for delivery to the Temple.

Giving Tree for Hoops and Homework - *Today through Dec. 10*

Express your care for needy children this Christmas! Starting today you may select a child from the online Giving Tree, *which you will find in this link* or in the Enews. The gift preferences are noted alongside the child's initials. Each child will receive a toy, an article of clothing (ideally a sweatshirt or a hoodie) and a \$50 gift card. (A Visa or Walmart or Target gift card would be welcome.) You may sign up to purchase the toy and clothing or the gift card or both.

Please bring these items to the church parlor before Friday, Dec. 10 (9am - 5pm): your UNWRAPPED gifts (no wrapping paper needed) and/or \$50 gift card, along with a greeting card and identification as to which child they are for.

This project is sponsored by the Service Ministry in conjunction with Hoops & Homework. Hoops and Homework is an impressive after-school program in Framingham that benefits a vulnerable population of elementary school children. See Enews for more details.

Poinsettia donations - *Today through Wed., Dec. 15*

If you would like to donate a poinsettia in celebration of a loved one or in memory of a loved one, please find the form in one of these locations: online in the enews; or in the church on the bulletin table at the Sanctuary main entrance or in Village Common. The plants will be taken to those in need of encouragement or support.

Donations for Wellesley Food Pantry

Non-perishable food items for Wellesley Food Pantry may be dropped off in the box in Village Common Lobby at any time. The need is great! This is sponsored by Service Ministry.

Virtual Alternative Christmas Gift Fair - *Today through Christmas*

In your gift giving this year please consider gifts that improve lives. The Alternative Gift Fair offers Village Church families and friends an easy way to make Christmas gift donations to those in need through 9 organizations with strong Village Church connections.

This year the Fair is virtual! For links and info., see your weekly Enews, or visit our website at: wellesleyvillagechurch.org. Or, if you're viewing this bulletin electronically, [follow this link](#) for all the details and links.

CareNotes Pamphlets - *available in Village Common*

Help yourself to pamphlets covering topics ranging from mental & spiritual wellness to facing the holidays when a loved one is sick or has recently died. Please take what you need and share with friends and family.

**WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH IS
AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION OF
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (UCC)**

At Wellesley Village Church, we believe in a vision for God's Beloved Community where all people are welcomed and enthusiastically affirmed, as well as honored and celebrated as made in God's holy image. This intentional inclusivity welcomes people of all races, sexual orientations, gender identities/expressions, abilities, family dynamics and configurations, and so much more. We recognize that our world and our church community do not always live into this vision, and yet as a church, we are continually working to widen our welcome and witness. If you have suggestions for how we can better welcome you and those you love, please reach out to Pastoral Resident Megan Berkowitz at megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org.

**VISITORS INFORMATION
WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH!**



Please visit our Welcome Table outside and/or come to coffee hour in Village Common, located through the doors near the pulpit. We would love to meet you!

WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH WEBSITE



For information about Wellesley Village Church, please visit our website, which may be accessed using your smartphone.

Lay Leadership

Cynthia Sibold ~ Moderator

John Snyder ~ Vice Moderator

Leif Hille ~ Immediate Past Moderator

Senior Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter

sarah@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Associate Pastors

The Rev. Pam Emslie

pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

The Rev. Diane P. Seaborn

diane@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Pastoral Residents

The Rev. Bob Feeny 3rd Year

bob@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

The Rev. Megan Berkowitz, 1st Year

megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Ministry Directors

Michaela McDonald – Children’s Ministry

michaela@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Dr. Kevin McDonald – Youth Music,

Interim Director of Music,

Director of Sanctuary Choir

kevin@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Ed Broms – Associate Music Director

ed@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Kristjon Imperio – Organist &

Handbell Choir Director

kristjon@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Meg Sweeting – Church Administrator

meg@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Chris Toppin Riordan – Communications

christine@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

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www.wellesleyvillagechurch.org

