

## NOTES

**Welcome to worship at The Church of the Pilgrimage.** We hope you will join us for coffee hour following the service, and return to worship with us again soon!

**Children will proceed to Sunday school** following the time for children. Children under three are welcome anytime in the cribroom downstairs in the church building where our nursery worker Kristen Moses will watch over them. Parents of infants may also use the glider in the balcony of the sanctuary to soothe tired little ones.

We ask that everyone seated beside the center aisle fill out the **fellowship pad** and pass it down your row for others to sign it too. Please include your local address if you are a visitor and would like to be sent a newsletter. Thank you!

**Prayer concerns** may be voiced during Celebrations and Concerns or written on a note and placed in the prayer box in the upper vestibule before worship begins so that Pastor Helen can read them out at the prayer time.

**Printed copies of the morning sermon and the readings** are available on the marble table in the upper vestibule. **Hearing devices** may also be found on that table.

**The Good Samaritan Fund**, which assists with such expenses as rent, utility, food and health bills, is received on the second Sunday of the month. If you wish to contribute, there are specially marked envelopes located in the pews for that purpose.

Missions will be sponsoring the **Alternative Christmas Fair** once again today and also next Sunday December 18. Heifer International honor cards; Equal Exchange products; Granola Project; stuffed animals and jewelry from Uganda; and gift items from Saint Rock, Haiti will be available.

**Today is your last chance to order a poinsettia** and be included in next Sunday's bulletin insert listing the donors and those memorialized or honored. The suggested donation for a poinsettia is \$15. Volunteers will be welcomed to take flowers to shut-ins following next Sunday's service. All other flowers may be picked up **after** the Christmas Eve services or the following Sunday.

**Caroling at the Newfield House** will happen TODAY at 2pm. All levels of singing ability and all ages are welcome. Come spread Christmas joy and love to the residents of Newfield House, just minutes from our church. See Barbara Northrop or Marna Blomberg for questions.

**A Post Election Reflection Session with Associate Conference Minister Don Remick**, will be held this week here at our church Wednesday, December 14th, from 9:30 to 11 am in Allerton Hall.

What is the role of a faith community in these times? Come, listen, and share your thoughts.

**The Women's Walking Group** will walk next on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting at 9 am at Nelson Park. We head to Kiskadee Coffee House after our walk. Walkers of all ages and paces are welcome!

**Leadership Retreat** -- Committee chairs, please inform your committees that the Annual Leadership retreat is taking place on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Anyone wishing to **donate flowers in January**, please call Joyce Ashley at 508-746-1077. Thank you!

### **Fridge Notes: Beginning December 12, 2016**

**December 12:** Monday Meals of Hospitality, 11am, Allerton Hall.

**December 13:** Church Council Meeting, 7pm, Marks Room.

**December 14:** Post Election Gathering/Reflection, 9:30am-11am, Allerton Hall. Board of Trustees Meeting, 7pm, Allerton Hall. Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm.

**December 18:** Fourth Sunday of Advent, Worship, 10am Church School Christmas Workshop in Allerton Hall. Pageant Rehearsal after worship.



*As an Open and Affirming Congregation we invite all into our faith, to fully share in all church life, including our work, worship, rites, and sacraments, with the assurance that we are all created in God's image, reconciled by Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.*

THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE  
8 TOWN SQUARE  
PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS 02360  
PHONE: 508-746-3026  
FAX: 508-746-4362  
SHELLIE SOUZA, OFFICE MANAGER  
BRIAN GILDEA, SEXTON  
WEBSITE: [WWW.8TOWNSQUARE.ORG](http://WWW.8TOWNSQUARE.ORG)  
EMAIL: [OFFICE@8TOWNSQUARE.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@8TOWNSQUARE.ORG)

## *The Church of the Pilgrimage*

*United Church of Christ*

*Plymouth, Massachusetts*

The Third Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 11, 2016

10:00 a.m.



Rev. Dr. Helen Nablo, PASTOR  
Linda Kegel, WORSHIP LEADER  
Kelley DePasqua, MUSIC DIRECTOR

**Michael Eaton, ORGANIST**  
**Jenny Healy, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN ED**

# The Church of the Pilgrimage UCC

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!*

**PRELUDE** *Good News from Heaven the Angels Bring*  
-Johann Pachelbel 1653-1706

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

Come, O Come, Emmanuel,

**To the empty-handed and the heavy-hearted, to the despairing and the despised.**

Enter this world,

**Giving love to the lowly and hope to the downcast.**

Dwell among us, and teach us your ways,

**Saving the lost and strengthening the weak.**

Be made incarnate within us,

**That we might cast away fear and live boldly by faith.**

With gratitude that you come to be with us, we worship joyfully this day.

\***HYMN** No. 130 *Oh Christ, How Shall I Meet You*

**LIGHTING THE 3<sup>rd</sup> ADVENT CANDLE** Bill McCoy & Laurie Bibby

#### \***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Tune: Dix

*Light a candle bright and tall*

*For the joy this season brings.*

*Joy like fountains brimming full.*

*Through our world now let it ring!*

*Shine within our hearts today*

*Come, O Joy, to us we pray.*

#### \***THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(debts/debtors)*

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

\***GLORIA PATRI** No. 36

#### ANTHEM

*Before the Paling of the Stars*  
Words by Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)  
Music by Donald Bailey

Before the paling of the stars, before the winter morn,  
Before the earliest cock crow, Jesus Christ was born:  
Born in a stable, cradled in a manger,  
In the world His hands had made, born a stranger.

Priest and king lay fast asleep in Jerusalem,  
Young and old lay fast asleep in crowded Bethlehem;  
Saint and Angel, ox and ass, kept a watch together  
Before the Christmas daybreak in the winter weather.

Jesus on his mother's breast in a stable cold,  
Spotless lamb of God was He, shepherd of the fold:

Let us kneel with Mary maid, with Joseph bent and hoary,  
With Saint and Angel, ox and ass, to hail the King of Glory.

#### THE SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM *(see insert)*

Kathleen Lucille Lander

Daughter of Laura and William Lander

Born May 3, 2016

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Jenny Healy

----Children depart for Sunday School----

#### SHARING OF CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

#### PASTORAL PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Luke 1: 26-38 NT53 or 831

**SERMON** *The Joy Committee* Reverend Dr. Helen Nablo

#### OFFERTORY SENTENCES

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*I Wonder As I Wander*

Traditional Appalachian Carol; arranged by Ruth Elaine Schram

Ally Lynch, soloist

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,  
How Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die  
For poor, orn'ry people like you and like I;  
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,  
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all;  
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,  
And the promise of ages it then did recall, it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,  
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,  
Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,

He surely could have it, 'cause he was the king, he was the king.

I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

#### \***DOXOLOGY and PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison)*

Offering these gifts, we pray for open hearts – that we might receive your great good news, share good news, be good news. Bless the gifts and the givers we pray. Let it all be joy. Amen.

\***HYMN** No. 123 *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

#### BENEDICTION and CHORAL RESPONSE *(seated)*

#### POSTLUDE

*Noël (Chant de Roi Rene')*  
-Alexandre Guilmant 1837-1911

*At the time of the postlude you may remain seated or proceed to greet the pastor and go to coffee hour.*

**Our Deacons-in-Charge** are Val Baumann and Mark Coombs.

**The flowers** are in loving memory of loved ones. Given by Sandi Mann Santos and family.

**Our ushers** are Matt Anderson, Michaela Coombs, Jimmy Durmis, and Katrina Bingham-Maas.

**Our greeters** are Tina, Matt and John Kennedy.

### Christmas Eve and Christmas Services

December 24 – Family Service, 7pm

December 24 – Christmas Meditation with Communion, 11pm

December 25 - -Christmas Carol Sing with Communion, 10am

\*Those who are able, please stand.

Please turn off all electronic devices so that we can be fully present to the Spirit and to one another.