



Pilgrim Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
Service of Worship
December 18, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Special Music and Pageant

**MUSIC IN TODAY'S SERVICE LICENSED
FOR STREAMING/PODCAST by OneLicense**

- PRELUDE: The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came – Robert Lau
- GATHERING SONG: Dona Nobis Pacem
- OPENING HYMN: Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn*
- ANTHEM: For Unto Us A Child Is Born from *Messiah* – by G.F. Handel
- OFFERTORY: Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming – by Michael Praetorius
- HYMN: Joy to the World!
- POSTLUDE: Pat-a-Pan – Robert W Thygerson

**From The New Century Hymnal, Copyright 1995 The Pilgrim Press Permission is granted for this one time use.*

Today's service will be recorded.



PILGRIM
Congregational Church



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

**Welcome to Pilgrim Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation**



Mission Statement

*A welcoming home to all
spiritual seekers
Making a difference in our world,
By fusing our Christian faith with
everyday life and
Serving God by serving others.*

Statement of Welcome

*We honor the Biblical call to love one another as God
first loved us. We welcome into the full life and
ministry of the church all people of any race,
nationality, religious background, educational
background, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation,
marital status, economic status, and physical, mental,
and emotional abilities.*

Children at Pilgrim

Children are an important part of our worshipping community. We try to make them feel at home! All are welcome. Professional childcare for infants and toddlers is available in Pilgrim Hall from 10:15 to the end of the service.

Visual and Hearing Aids

Hearing devices may be picked up from the table in the narthex.
Large Print bulletins and
Sermons texts are available.

Pilgrim Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Service of Worship December 18, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent | Special Music and Pageant

PRELUDE

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came – Robert Lau

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash and Max Evrard

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Max Evrard

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

*GATHERING SONG

Dona Nobis Pacem

*LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Jim and Judy Moffitt

One: We light these candles as people of Peace.

One: Yearning for God's Shalom.

All: God's peace which surpasses all understanding.

One: We light these candles of hope, peace, joy and love,

All: And we invite the Christ-Child to be born among us, that we may live into hope, peace, joy and love.

One: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, the Prince of Peace: Come!

All: And may this Reign of Peace have no end.

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

Emmanuel, we praise you for welcoming us into your presence this morning. Help us in this hour to welcome one another fully and wondrously. And may the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn—Black Hymnal 107

1 Awake! Awake and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
sing out your joy, for Jesus is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
to open wide the heavenly door,
and lives now inside us forever.

2 To us, to all in sorrow and fear,
Emmanuel comes a-singing,
whose humble song is quiet and near,
yet fills the earth with its ringing.
Music to heal the broken soul
and hymns of loving kindness,
the thunder of the anthems roll
to shatter all hate and injustice.

3 In deepest night Christ's coming shall be,
when all the world is despairing,
as morning light so quiet and free,
so warm and gentle and caring.
One without voice breaks forth in song,
a lame one leaps in wonder,
the weak are raised above the strong,
and weapons are broken asunder.

4 Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night,
though cold the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light,
be strong and loving and fearless;
Love be our song and love our prayer,
and love, our endless story,
may God fill every day we share,
and bring us at last into glory.

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

Isa. 12:6; 26:9; 35:6; Matt. 11:5

Marty Haugen, 1983; rev. 1993

1 A - wake! a - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In deep - est night Christ's com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though

an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, whose hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 cold the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall

Je - sus is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing.
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less;

Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 Mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing
 One with - out voice breaks forth in song, a lame one leaps in
 Love be our song and love our prayer, and love, our end - less

geth - er, to o - pen wide the heaven - ly door, and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of the an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak are raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry, may God fill ev - ery day we share, and

lives now in - side us for ev - er. . . .
 shat - ter all hate and in - jus - tice. . . .
 weap - ons are bro - ken a - sun - der. . . .
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

SCRIPTURE READING

Rev. Reebee Girash

Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

One: Here ends the reading. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

For Unto Us A Child Is Born from *Messiah* – by G.F. Handel
Pilgrim Church Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

LORDS PRAYER

Our Father (Creator), 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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

OFFERTORY

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming — by Michael Praetorius

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen *or*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Reebee Girash

A PILGRIM CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The story of the birth of Jesus in scripture and song.

Magnificat from Evensong by Steve Parsons

We Three Kings

Born a King on Bethlehem plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.

Refrain:

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to Thy perfect light.**

Frankincense to offer have I; Incense owns a Deity nigh:
Prayer and praising, all men raising, worship Him God on high.

Refrain

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume; Breathes a life of gathering gloom:
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain



Silent Night

1 Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright.

Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child. Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

2 Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.

Glories stream from heaven afar. Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born.

3 Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light.

Radiant beams from Thy holy face with dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth. Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.



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.

O Come, Thou Day-spring, 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 Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie.
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above.
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King and Peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.



Away in a Manger

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply
echo back their joyous strains. Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

What Child is This?

What child is this who, laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom Angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain: (Congregation)

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and Angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.**

*BENEDICTION

Sarah Jane Fuller

*HYMN

Joy to the World! – Red Hymnal 130

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

let every heart prepare him room

and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let men their songs employ,

while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,

repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,

repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 He rules the world with truth and grace

and makes the nations prove

the glories of his righteousness

and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,

and wonders, wonders of his love.

Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

ANTIOCH C.M.

Attr. to Georg F. Handel, 1685-1759

Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns: Let men their
 3 He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,

And heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven and na - ture
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his

And heaven and na - ture sing, And
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
 And won - ders of his love, And

sing, And heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love. A - men.

heaven and na - ture sing

POSTLUDE

Pat-a-Pan—Robert W Thygerson

*Please be in a posture of praise.

SOURCE NOTES

The Opening Prayer is by Maren Tirabasssi. Cover photo, Joy to the World!, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56347>[retrieved December 12, 2022]. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/babasteve/31844535845/>.

PAGEANT CAST

Acadia, Em, Luca, Eleanor, Luke, Deven, Lesley, Elizabeth, Sadhna, Aiden, Neil, Nancy, Elena, Tara, Molly, Dan, Lily, Juliette, Jennifer, Matt, Sydney, Isabella, Mairi, Madeleine, Simona



POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

Michael Scott Morton

Celebration of Mary and her love for the Pilgrim family

Fran and Bruce Nickerson

In honor of Cathy Roka; In memory of Peg and Lou Hamburger

Marge Saradjian

In memory of Nerses & Zarouhi Saradjian and Dr. and Mrs. JF Ludloff

Mary and Peter Mackie

In memory of Paul Mackie

Mary K and Chris Reaske

In gratitude for our children and grandchildren

Elizabeth Garbarino

In memory of David Garbarino

Reebee and John Girash

Kimberly Provo

In loving memory of my parents, Gail and James Romano



Euphorbia pulcherrima
'Poinsettia'

Jennifer Snipe

In memory of Joseph Berthiaume and in Honor of Lily's birthday

Bob Beckwith

In memory of Carolyn Beckwith

The Moffitt-Clarks

Duncan Todd and Sarah Carothers

In memory of Thomas, Virginia, & Dana Todd and In memory of Charlie & Bootsie Carothers



A special thank you to our Greeter, Bob Beckwith, our Zoom hosts, Mike Stevens and Nick Zorn, our Advent Candle lighters, Jim and Judy Moffitt, and our social time hosts, Lesley Morrison and Susan Moffitt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 25 – Christmas Hymn Sing 10:30am

January 1 – More Christmas Hymns! Led by Jim Munkres and friends 10:30am

January 8 – Epiphany Service with Communion

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC

55 Coolidge Avenue, Lexington, MA 02420 | 781-862-0357 |

www.PilgrimCongregational.org

Office: Admin@pilgrimcongregational.org | Pastor: Pastor@pilgrimcongregational.org

Pastor's cell (for urgent matters): 781-475-3741

Music Director: Dot.Bowe@pilgrimcongregational.org

Choir Director: Max.Evrard@pilgrimcongregational.org

Director of Educational Ministries: Sarah.Fuller@pilgrimcongregational.org

www.PilgrimCongregational.org

Sunday Worship 10:30am