



### *Epiphany*

Unclench your fists  
Hold out your hands.  
Take mine.  
Let us hold each other.  
Thus is God's Glory  
Manifest.

*Madeleine L'Engle*

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

- PRELUDE: Noel in G - Louis Daquin
- OPENING HYMN: Go Tell It On The Mountain\*
- ANTHEM: What Child is This?  
Arr. Stan Pethel
- OFFERTORY: Epiphany Carol -  
Francis Patrick O'Brien
- COMMUNION HYMN: Be Known to  
Us In Breaking Bread
- CLOSING HYMN: Hark! The Herald  
Angels Sing (Jesus the Light of the  
World)\*
- POSTLUDE: Pat-a-Pan -  
Robert W Thygerson

*\*From The New Century Hymnal, Copyright 1995 The  
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***Today's service will be recorded.***



**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, UCC | January 8, 2023

PRELUDE

Noel in G - Louis Daquin

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ONE: Peace be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

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

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

(inspired by Isaiah 60)

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come,

**All: And the glory of our God has risen upon us!**

One: God has pity on the weak and the needy,

**All: God redeems their life from oppression and violence.**

One: Precious in God's sight are the widows, widowers, and orphans of war.

**All: Precious in God's sight are the addicted and confused.**

One: Precious in God's sight are the abused and neglected.

**All: Precious in God's sight are the poor and desperate.**

One: Precious in God's sight are all who sit on the margins.

**All: Precious in God's sight are all who long for justice.**

One: The glory of our God will rise upon them.

**All: The glory of our God will rise upon us all.**

# \*OPENING HYMN

## Go Tell It On The Mountain - Black Hymnal 154

African-American spiritual  
Arr. John W. Work II, 1907

Luke 2:8-20; Isa. 18:3; 52:7

*Refrain*

G D7 G

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hill and ev - ery - where.

*Last time, end*

G Em C G/D D7 G

Go tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born!

G D7 G

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

*to Refrain*

G A7 D7

Be - hold through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
Rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
And God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Refrain:

Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills, and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
that Jesus Christ is born.

1 While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. [Refrain]

2 The shepherds feared and trembled  
when lo, above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth. [Refrain]

3 Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. [Refrain]

UNISON PRAYER

**Radiant Morning Star,  
you are both guidance and mystery,  
Visit our rest with disturbing dreams,  
and our journeys with strange companions.  
Grace us with the hospitality  
to open our hearts and homes  
to visitors filled with unfamiliar wisdom  
bearing profound and unusual gifts. Amen.**

ANTHEM

What Child is This? Arr. Stan Pethel with John & Zac Girash

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 2:1-12

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sarah Jane Fuller

STAR WORDS 2022

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

## OFFERTORY

Epiphany Carol - Francis Patrick O'Brien

## \*DOXOLOGY

Red Hymnal 515

**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

**Bright Morning Star,  
your light has come,  
and the birth of Jesus  
has overwhelmed us with joy.  
Like the magi of long ago,  
may we be drawn to you  
and offer you such gifts as we are able. Amen.**



## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



\*COMMUNION HYMN

Be Known to Us In Breaking Bread - Red Hymnal 280

280

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

James Montgomery, 1771-1854

ST. FLAVIAN C.M.  
"Day's Psalter," 1562

1 Be known to us in break-ing bread, But do not then de - part;  
2 There sup with us in love di - vine; Thy bod - y and thy blood,

Sav - ior, a - bide with us, and spread Thy ta - ble in our heart.  
That liv - ing bread, that heaven - ly wine, Be our im - mor - tal food. A - men.

1 Be known to us in breaking bread, But do not then depart;  
Savior, abide with us, and spread Thy table in our heart.

2 There sup with us, in love divine, Thy body and thy blood,  
That living bread, that heavenly wine be our immortal food. Amen

## THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION

*Our service of communion is open to all who wish to participate.  
The sacrament is a gift from God, and all are welcome to receive it.*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, in your light we see light. And so too we see the veils of our ignorance and pride, the ways we treat ourselves and others without your mercy, love or justice. Let the brightness of your morning burn through our fog of aimlessness and sin and put a new song in our hearts. Teach us to see your world illumined anew, as with the eyes of Jesus. We pray with his words, saying,**

### THE LORD'S 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.**

### ASSURANCE



THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (Jesus the Light of the World)  
Black Hymnal 160  
(next page)

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Pat-a-Pan - Robert W Thygerson

SOURCE NOTES

The Call to Worship is adapted from Jeffrey Nelson in Before the Amen: Creative Resources for Worship. The Opening Prayer and Prayer of Dedication are from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers. The Prayer of Confession is from First Church in Cambridge, UCC.

## Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

(Jesus, the Light of the World)

John 8:12; 9:5

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.; adapt. George D. Elderkin; alt.

1 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing, Je-sus, the light of the world;  
 2 Joy-ful, all you saints a-rise, Je-sus, the light of the world;  
 3 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored, Je-sus, the light of the world;  
 4 Hail the Bear-er of God's peace! Je-sus, the light of the world;

Glo-ry to the Christ-child bring, Je-sus, the light of the world.  
 Join the tri-umph of the skies, Je-sus, the light of the world.  
 Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Word, Je-sus, the light of the world.  
 Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je-sus, the light of the world.

*Refrain*

We will fol-low the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the  
 dew-drops of mer-cy are bright, Shine all a-round us by  
 day and by night, Je-sus, the light of the world.

The original version of Charles Wesley's hymn has received various alterations throughout the years. This adaptation by George Elderkin utilizes a repeated ascription, "Jesus, the light of the world," and a refrain to create a rousing carol of praise.

Tune: ELDERKIN 7.7.7.7. with refrain  
 George D. Elderkin  
 Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1993

1 Hark! the herald angels sing,  
 Jesus, the light of the world;  
 Glory to the Christ-child bring,  
 Jesus, the light of the world

2 Joyful, all you saints arise,  
 Jesus, the light of the world;  
 Join the triumph of the skies,  
 Jesus, the light of the world.

3 Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
 Jesus, the light of the world;  
 Christ, the everlasting Word,  
 Jesus, the light of the world.

4 Hail the bearer of God's peace!  
 Jesus, the light of the world;  
 Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
 Jesus, the light of the world.

Refrain:

We will follow the light, beautiful light,  
 come where the dew-drops off mercy are  
 bright,  
 Shine all around us by day and by night,  
 Jesus, the light of the world.

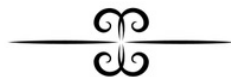
A special Thank You to Stephanie Shore and Marjorie Kelland for preparing Communion and to our Zoom host, Duncan Todd.

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Sunday Worship 10:30 am



### **Pilgrim Church Staff**

Rev. Reebee Kavich Girash, Pastor

Dot Bowe, Music Director

Max Evrard, Choir Director

Sarah Jane Fuller, Director of Educational Ministries

Kim Provo, Office Administrator

April Chung, Nursery Care Provider

Romeo Alves, Church Sexton

### **Pilgrim Church Officers and Committee Contacts**

**Moderator** - Duncan Todd | **Vice Moderator** - Lesley Morrison

**Clerk** - Jeff Boehm | **Treasurer** - Dave McClave

### **Pilgrim Committee Chairs**

**Communications** - Lisa Boehm, chair

**Educational Ministries** - Lesley Morrison, chair

**Finance & Administration** - Bob Beckwith, chair

**Forever Pilgrim Fund** - Bob Beckwith, chair

**Investment Committee** - Dave McClave, chair

**Mission Committee** - Doug Johnston, chair

**Pastoral Relations Committee** - Bob Beckwith, Susan Moffitt, Alexis Stevens

**Stewardship** - David Nuss, chair

**Worship** - Stephanie Shore, chair