

The Word was given, the journey begun:  
 Each step guided by Patience, Faith, and Hope.  
 Be it Mary, Joseph, prophets or shepherds,  
 Along the way the shelter sought and provided  
 Replenishes both body and soul to start anew.  
 The Word is given, the journey continues...



## We Gather to Praise God

\* indicates those who are able may stand



WELCOME AND SHARING NEWS

ORGAN PRELUDE

*"In dulci Jubilo"*

J. S. Bach



INTROIT #134 *sung by everyone, seated*

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.  
 God is with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.**



ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Dean Hopps, Serena & Salina Chadbourne

*Reader:* "In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David" (Luke 2:1,3-4).

*Reader:* Today we remember Joseph, worn-out traveler and worried husband, doing what was necessary for the sake of his family, the burden of poverty stifling his hope in the promise of God. There was no room for him, yet he knows to whom he belongs.

**People: Today we give thanks for the Josephs among us, migrating far from home when there is no choice, fiercely devoted to the ones they love, unwavering in their belief that there is room for all in the kingdom of God.**

*Reader:* On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Joseph, who knocks at the door, ready to take his place among royalty.

LIGHTING THE JOSEPH, MARY, SHEPHERDS & PROPHETS CANDLES



SONG *sung by everyone, seated* (see insert) *He is Coming*



SPECIAL MUSIC

*All the Way to Bethlehem*

Ken Meder

**Please see the insert, as this piece is for congregation and choir**

\* GREETING ONE ANOTHER *please stand and greet those around you!*

\* OPENING HYMN #129 *Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates*



At the last verse children through 12<sup>th</sup> grade adjourn to classes

PRAYER OF RENEWAL *seated, spoken in unison*

Judy Pearsc

**Almighty Father, as we remember Joseph this week, we confess that there are times we do not understand where the road has taken us. Joseph must have wondered, "why me?" But we know that our ways are not your ways and we are not always meant to understand. Like Joseph, we need to trust in the tasks you lay before us. Help us to have faith in the journey you lead us on, that we will be where you need us to be, and that we will follow where you lead us to do your work for your people. We strive to live our faith on every step of this journey, and ask for your strength and guidance along the way.**

**In Jesus' name. Amen.**



PRAYER OF JESUS (using "sins")



## We Listen for God's Word



ORGAN MEDITATION

SERVICE OF PRAYER

SHARING PRAYER JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER — PASTORAL PRAYER — RESPONSE

PROPHETIC READING

Isaiah 7:10-16

p. 4

EPISTLE READING

Romans 1:1-7

p. 7

\* HYMN #153

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 1:18-25

p. 6

SERMON

"Son of David, Son of God, Emmanuel"

## We Respond to God's Word

THE OFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

\* DOXOLOGY #46 (*altered rhythm*)

Thomas Ken (1674)

**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.**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION *in unison*

\* HYMN #150 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

\* BENEDICTION *by the pastor*

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #121 J. Berthier & Taize Community  
*sung together standing while holding hands*

**Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,  
And all people will see the salvation of our God.**

POSTLUDE

**We Depart to Serve God**

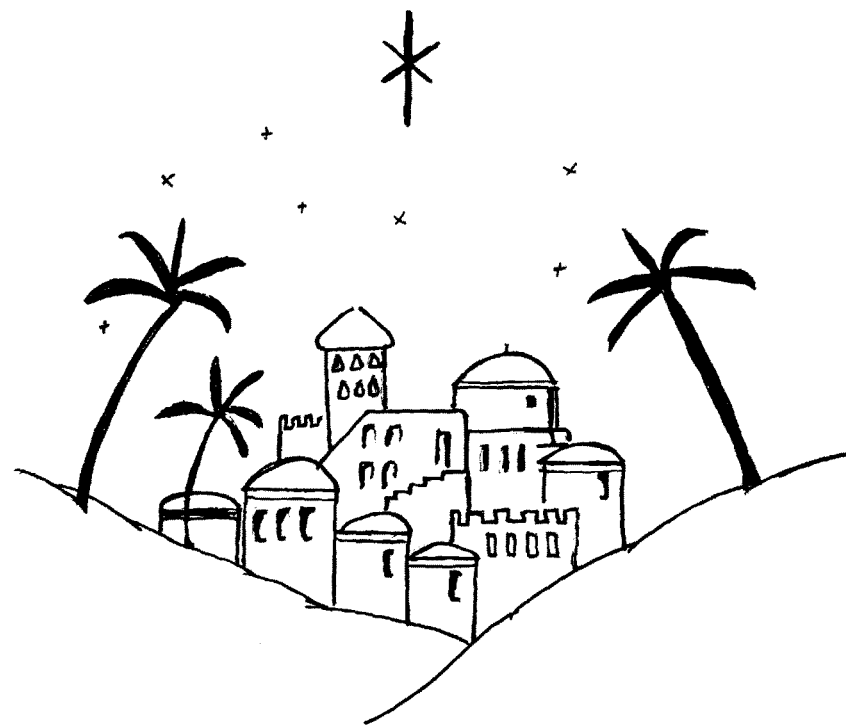
*Please join us in the Parish Hall for fellowship and refreshments  
hosted by the Membership Committee and Church Council*

CREDITS:

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ON THE WAY TO BETHLEHEM...

...AND BEYOND

ADVENT 2010

*Where Neighbors Meet*

The First Congregational Church of Pembroke  
United Church of Christ

DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>

All are Welcome!

# He is Coming

Elliott Hancarik

Elliott Hancarik, arr. George Bozeman

He is com-ing. He will be here. He is com-ing. Prom-ise ful-filled.

10

He is com-ing. He will be here. He is com-ing. Prom-ise ful-filled.

19

He is com-ing. He will be here. He is com-ing. Prom-ise ful-filled, ful-filled.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sunday, Dec. 19 9am Choir Rehearsal  
10am Worship  
10:20am Sunday School & High School  
11:45am Cookies & A Christmas Movie
- Monday, Dec. 20 6pm Girl Scouts – PH  
6:30pm Christian Ed Comm.
- Tuesday, Dec. 21 AM – Wonderland Christmas Program - PH  
6pm Cub Scouts – DN  
6pm Girl Scouts – PH  
7pm Trustees
- Wed., Dec. 22 AM- Wonderland Christmas Program – PH  
7pm BSA – PH
- Thurs., Dec. 23 6pm Cub Scouts – PH  
6pm Girl Scouts – DN  
6pm “AA” Group – MR
- Fri., Dec. 24 Church office closed  
**7pm Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Service**
- Sunday, Dec. 26 9am Choir Rehearsal  
10am Worship  
10:20am Sunday School & High School
- Monday, Dec. 27 6pm Girl Scouts – PH
- Tuesday, Dec. 28 6pm Girl Scouts - PH  
6pm Cub Scouts – DN
- Wed., Dec. 29 7pm BSA – PH
- Thurs. Dec. 30 6pm Cub Scouts – PH  
6pm Girl Scouts – DN  
6pm “AA” Group – MR
- Friday, Dec. 31 **New Year’s Eve**

**WE EXTEND A WARM WELCOME** to all who worship with us this morning. Visitors are encouraged to sign the guest book outside the center-aisle entrance at the back of the Sanctuary. Nursery care is provided for infants and young children, and there are rocking chairs at the rear of the Sanctuary for those with a child who needs comforting. Please see an usher if you need assistance. Older children are excused for classroom work as indicated. Thank you to those assisting in our worship this morning. James Clements read the scripture. Don & Laurie Hill and Dave & Nancy Bibbins served as ushers.

**ATTENTION: KNITTERS, CROCHETERS AND SEWERS** - Help fill up the *HAT & MITTEN TREE* in the Parish Hall. Items will be delivered to the Hill School before or after Christmas.

**TOYS FOR TOTS** collection will be next Sunday, **Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>**. Please consider donating new, unwrapped toys. Please provide enough wrapping materials (tape, paper, ribbon) AND batteries if the toy needs batteries, (as well as extra batteries). Toys to be delivered to the local CAP office.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD ...**

On **January 22<sup>nd</sup>** there will be a **potluck & game night**. Bring a covered dish to share and a game to play. Supper begins at 5:30pm, the games to follow. Invite your friends to join in the fun!

#### **CHRISTMAS MOVIES & COOKIES ...**

Rev. Jim is hosting this special time. Today at **11:45am**, *Mickey's Christmas Carol* will be shown.

**PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US** for our **Christmas Eve Family Service of Candles** at **7pm** on Friday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### **THE FLOWER COMMITTEE ...**

During Advent are grateful for donations of poinsettias for the altar. They may be given in memory of or in honor of loved ones or given just because you would like to contribute to the beauty of the sanctuary during this holy, festive season. All contributions will be acknowledged in the bulletin. Thanks to all who have contributed flowers in memory or for special occasions during the past year. You have made our task easier by your generosity. Please contact Robbe MacKenzie 485-7295, Lynn Matava, 485-8352, or Doris Rowden 485-3664.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The church office will be closed on Friday, Dec. 24.

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

**Paul Grandmason - a growth in his kidney found cancer!**  
**Treatments start on Jan.17th for 6 weeks.**

Please pray for God's love and blessings to shower upon Vince (a local man working to get his life back on track).

Prayers for Steve & Erica Peaslee and family – their son Jacob has been diagnosed with Autism

Mary Louise Grandmason's brother-in-law Bob - fighting his 3rd bout with cancer and on chemo.

Paul Stauffacher – medical concerns

Abby Duffy – diagnosed with LHON (6 years old)

Jamie (friend of Brianna Hamel) – undergoing testing for heart issues

Harold Matava – at home

Carolyn Kruczynski's Dad – prostate cancer

Carolyn Kruczynski – medical concerns

Raymond Sr. - bone cancer - Jessica Hamel's father-in-law

Steve and Carol Borghese - family and medical concerns

Stacy Driscoll's dear friend Joanne Kerstetter and her 16-year old granddaughter were severely injured in a bomb blast in South Africa on July 11<sup>th</sup> while on a mission trip. Please keep them and the other six who were also injured in your prayers.

Ruth Chase – at Harris Hill Nursing Home

Zoe, a 6 ½ yr. old girl with a brain tumor

Laurie O'Neil (Jessica Hamel's co-worker's niece) - Stage 4 cancer

Military personnel overseas & their families

#### **POINSETTIA'S ARE GIVEN in Loving Memory of:**

Lowell & Violet Hochsprung and Milton & Jean Ackermann  
By Rick & Jayne Hochsprung

Howard Berry  
by Barbara Berry

Nicole and Bernice Hardy  
Love, Tom, Allison, Rachel & Josh

Her Grandparents  
by Lynn Matava

Neil McCully  
by John & Doris Saturley and brother, Paul

Sons, Bruce and Jeffrey  
by Harold & Barbara Matava

Elcena and Hanford Phair, Gladys Brown and Ralph & Marion Rowden  
by Doug & Doris Rowden



## ALL THE WAY TO BETHLEHEM

Choir, Congregation and Piano

Ken Medema

*All the way to Bethlehem, Come and see the infant Holy.  
All the way to Bethlehem, Princes high and paupers lowly.  
Shepherds and wise men, queens with silv'ry crowns,  
Tinkers and tailors, governors and circus clowns.  
Ride the camel, ride the tram, All the way to Bethlehem.  
Come as quickly as you can, All the way to Bethlehem.*

**Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

*All the way to Bethlehem. Come you are no longer strangers,  
All the way to Bethlehem. See him lying in a manger.  
Seekers and searchers come from all around.  
Soldiers and warriors come lay your weapons down.  
Join the mighty caravan, All the way to Bethlehem.  
Come as quickly as you can, All the way to Bethlehem.*

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

**The cattle are lowing the baby awakes.  
The 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.**

*All the way to Bethlehem. Come and hear the angels' song.  
All the way to Bethlehem, Leave your sheep and come along.*

**The first Noel, the angels did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.**

*All the way to Bethlehem. Come as quickly as you can.  
Clap your hands, stomp your feet.  
Beat on the drums, dance in the street.  
Sing out a song, don't be afraid. This is the wonder God has made.*

**Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

*All the way to Bethlehem.  
Ride the camel, ride the tram. Come as quickly as you can,  
All the way to Bethlehem.*

### **The First Congregational Church of Pembroke, N.H. United Church of Christ**

Ministers: All the People!

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Organist: George Bozeman

Secretary: Nancy Jackson

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