

Congregational Church  
Of Easton



Wednesday, December 24, 2025

Christmas Eve

5:30 p.m.

**Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2025  
Fellow Elyon Wells**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*\* (SUNG) CALL TO WORSHIP #132 PH**                      verses 1 & 4

**O 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!**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;  
O come let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

**\*\* CAROL #134 PH**                      *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*                      all 4 verses

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES AND CHRIST CANDLE**

Isaiah 9:2-7

Jim Waterbury

**\*\* UNISON PRAYER OF ADVENT**

**Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces His glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**\*\* UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Most Loving God, who teaches us to give thanks for all things, and to place all our cares upon You, keep us from faithless fear and needless anxieties, and grant that no clouds of this mortal life hide us from the light of your love which is immortal and made alive to us in Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*\*Those who are able may stand.**

PH-Red Pilgrim Hymnal NCH-Black New Century Hymnal BH-Little Blue Hymnal

**\*\* (SUNG) WORDS OF ASSURANCE: PH# 125 (Good Christian Men, Rejoice)**  
**Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;**  
**Now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!**  
**Calls you one and calls you all. To gain his everlasting hall.**  
**Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

## **CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY**

### **PRAYERS**

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

**The Lord's Prayer (In Unison)**

**Choral Response: #769 NCH— Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer O God;  
Incline your ear to us and grant us your peace. Amen**

**CAROL #146 PH**      *"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" all verses*

### **THE CHRISTMAS STORY**

#### **Luke 2: 1-7**

*It came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.*

**CAROL #137 PH**      *"Away in a Manger" all 2 verses*

#### **Luke 2: 8-16**

*And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them: and they were afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, glory to God in the highest, and on earth, goodwill and peace to all. And it came to pass, as the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us".*

**CAROL #116 PH**      “Angels We Have Heard on High”      all 3 verses

**Matthew 2: 1-11**

*Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he that is born King of the Jews?” for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, “And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.” ‘ Then Herod, when he had privately called the wise men, enquired of them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, ‘Go and search diligently for the young child; and when you have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.’ When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.*

**CAROL #143 PH**      “We Three Kings of Orient Are”      verses 1 & 5

**Matthew 2: 12, Luke 2: 17-20**

*The wisemen, being warned by God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, departed into their own country another way. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.*

**THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES**

God asks us for an accounting of what we have done with the wealth entrusted to us. All that we have and all that we are belongs to God. May we give with thankfulness.

Gathering of the gifts with Offertory

**\*\*Doxology #515 PH**

***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***

Presentation of the gifts with praise

**\*\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Holy one, we thank you for the ways in which you have enfolded us in your love and called us by name to follow your son, Jesus. May these gifts and our lives be used to enfold others in your love. Amen.**

**\*\*CIRCLE OF LIGHT**

You are invited to bring your candles and form a circle around the sanctuary. For safety, each small child holding a candle should have an adult without a candle supervising. We will pass the light from the Christ Candle around the circle as we sing *Silent Night* (words on back of bulletin)

**\*\*BENEDICTION**

Please extinguish candles

**Thanks so much to our beautifully talented pianist, Jerold Goldstein!**

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**Confirming Deacon**– Leon March  
**Offering** - Claudia Nielsen and Jon Stock  
**Collector** - Debbie Szegedi  
**Advent Candle Lighting**– Jim Waterbury

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A blessed Advent to you! Today as we worship, we begin the season of anticipation, hope, and preparation for the coming Messiah. If you are visiting, “Welcome!”, and we invite you to sign our guest book.

Prayer List Please keep our members and friends in your prayers and especially at this time: Prayers for healing for June’s brother, Claude; healing for 13 year old, Mikey, in intensive care from a bad car accident; Prayers for Debbie Olson and her family with the loss of her mother, Annabelle Lee; and the family and friends of Nathalie Taranto with her sudden passing.

Please pray for all who mourn or need special prayers of intention, for our congregation, and for friends of our community. You may fill out a Prayer Request Card, or call or email the church office to add or remove a name from the list. Thank you for your prayers.

**PLANNING AHEAD:**

\*December 28th, Pastor John Remember will preside over our Sunday morning service.

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**Organist - Suzanne Lovejoy**  
Council Chair, Phillip Doremus      Deacon Chair, Elizabeth Boyce  
Sexton, Sara Scoran      Church Secretary, Genevieve Waterbury  
Church Office (203) 261-2527      Website: [www.eastonchurch.org](http://www.eastonchurch.org)      Email: [info@eastonchurch.org](mailto:info@eastonchurch.org)

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# Merry Christmas!

Welcome to worship this holy night.  
We are delighted to have you with us. If you  
are visiting, we invite you to sign our guest  
book.

May the Christmas message of hope  
Permeate your heart and home  
And be the reason you celebrate  
With precious family and friends—  
And may a fresh expectation  
For the New Year and all it holds,  
Cause you to rejoice in God's goodness  
And fill you with Love, Joy and Peace.

By: M.S. Lowndes



*Come, let us  
adore him!*



We thank all who have helped decorate the Sanctuary with Poinsettias and those who have contributed "virtual poinsettias" in celebration of Christmas and in Thanksgiving to God.

*The Deacons*

*In memory of our beloved Nathalie Taranto*

*Barbara Trup*

*In memory of my Mom and Dad*

*Tom Linley*

*In memory of my parents*

*Debbie Szegedi*

*In memory of Patricia Szegedi, George Szegedi, John Celon Sr., John Celon Jr, Anthony Celon, Harry Celon, Lena Celon, Rose Celon, Mary Gaeta, Josephine Macy and Genevieve Zultowski.*

*Suzanne and Frederick Lovejoy*

*In memory of Sarah.*

*In honor of Hannah.*

*The Boyce Family*

*In memory of Joseph LaRocco, Sharon Boyce and Marvin Boyce*

*Daisy Colonnese*

*In memory of Tony Colonnese*

*Peter Nielsen and Claudia Breslav Nielsen*

*In memory of Walter Breslav Jr; Borge and Lisa Nielsen*

*In honor of Rich McLaughlin for his guidance with Marc Breslav's "Birds of Barlow" project*

*Kathleen Miranti*

*In memory of Jennie Fitzpatrick*



*Silent Night,*  
*Holy Night*

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.

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!

Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light;  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night  
Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!