

November 29, 2007

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PRELUDE- "Selected"

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP- "Messiah is King!"

Avison

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: It is the time of the star and the shepherds.

People: It is the season of the Savior's birth.

Minister: Let us surround him now with prayer and caroling.

People: Let us praise his blessed name.

*HYMN- "Come Christians, Join to Sing"

#70

LITANY FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Leader: "The days are coming says the Lord, "when I will fulfill the gracious promise that I made to my people."

People: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O Lord, in you I trust.

Leader: "In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land."

People: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O Lord, in you I trust.

Leader: "In those days my people will be saved and my city will live in safety."

People: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O Lord, in you I trust.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE- The Karns
Family

*HYMN OF PRAISE- "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Vs. 1

#186

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON- Isaiah 49:8-11

This is what the LORD says: "At just the right time, I will respond to you. On the day of salvation I will help you. I will protect you and give you to the people as my covenant with them. Through you I will reestablish the land of Israel and assign it to its own people again. I will say to the prisoners, 'Come out in freedom,' and to those in darkness, 'Come into the light.' They will be my sheep, grazing in green pastures and on hills that were previously bare. They will neither hunger nor thirst. The searing sun will not reach them anymore. For the LORD in his mercy will lead them; he will lead them beside cool waters. And I will make my mountains into level paths for them. The highways will be raised above the valleys.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON - Mark 1:1-8

This begins the Good News about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God. In the book of the prophet Isaiah, God said, "Look, I am sending my messenger before you, and he will prepare your way. He is a voice shouting in the wilderness, Prepare a pathway for the Lords' coming! Make a straight road for him!" This messenger was John the Baptist. He lived in the wilderness and was preaching that people should be baptized to show that they had turned from their sins and turned to God to be forgiven. People from Jerusalem and from all over Judea, traveled out into the wilderness to see and hear John. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. His clothes were woven from camel hair, and he wore a leather belt; his food was locusts and wild honey. He announced: "Someone is coming who is greater than I am—so much greater that I am not even worthy to be his slave. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit!"

SILENT PRAYER

Prayer List – Geryl Anderson, Mary Andrews, Sue Burns, Darcy Cassidy, Fred Chapman, John Ciampi, Anna Fijol, Pauline Guyette, Lola Harper, Charles Hill Sr., Billy Hindes, Kristen Kent, Ken & Lois Macomber, Jacob Patrick, Amy Pupka, Ren Yeo, Hany.

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases/Trespas)

CHOIR ANTHEM- "Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion"

Kosche

OFFERTORY - "Selected"

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER (In Unison)

Accept the offerings that we bring, O Lord, in response to the peace, blessings and love that we have known from you. We offer our thanks through these gifts and ask that others may know of your blessings and grace in this community and beyond. In Jesus name we pray. AMEN.

*HYMN- "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

#187

MESSAGE

CONFESSION OF SIN (In Unison)

O God, I offer you my confession in union with the merits and sufferings of Jesus Christ, my Savior; asking you to pardon all that is wrong and supply all that is wanting. Grant that what is spoken on earth will be confirmed in Heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

THE COMMUNION
DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*BENEDICTION

*HYMN- "As With Gladness Men of Old" #219

POSTLUDE- "Selected"

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***All who are able please stand**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel flowers are given by Albert and Carol Brodeur and family in loving memory of granddaughter Ariel, Albert's parents Joseph and Alice Brodeur, brothers Henry and Ronald, sister Theresa, Carol's parents Thomas and Irene Grenier and her brother Fred.

You were greeted this morning by the Karns Family, who will also be lighting the Advent Candle.

The scriptures for this morning's worship service are being read by Mark Morawiec.

Coffee hour is being hosted by Margie and Jessica Schnurpfeil and Laura and Bill Newhall.

The Village Congregational Church will be purchasing Christmas Sunday plants again this year. The cost will be \$16 a plant and we will be accepting \$3 donations so plants can be purchased for shut-ins. Look for order forms in this bulletin. For more information, please contact Marion Bosma at 508-234-5090.

If you would like to reserve a spot to buy Chancel flowers for a Sunday in 2010, please contact Marion Bosma at 508-234-5090.

On Thursday, 12/3, Uno's Restaurant in Millbury will be sponsoring a "Dough Raiser" event on behalf of the NAC Food Pantry. Uno's will be donating up to 20% of your total purchase to the NAC Food Pantry with a coupon or "Dough Ticket" that can be found in inside this bulletin.

A reminder that Christmas is a good time to purchase a space on the Naming Wall as a Christmas gift for someone or as a means to remember a loved one. Order forms can be found outside of the church office.

Volunteers needed to help cook and serve a home style meal for the Peace of Bread Community Kitchen on 12/9. Donations for food will also be accepted. Please see Charlie Hill or Mike Tatarek in Mason Hall after worship service for more information.

This Week:

A Capella Choir rehearses Monday at 7:00 PM
The Village Bell Ringers rehearse Tuesday at 6:45 PM
Chancel Choir rehearses Wednesday at 7:00 PM

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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