

# Epiphany Sunday

+ + + + + + + + + + +

PRELUDE- "The Coventry Carol" arr. Helman

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP- "A Greeting of Peace" Smale

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

The old year is but a memory and the new year has dawned. We give thanks for past blessings and say "yes" to all that is yet to be. God has been our help in all days and ages past. God is our hope for all the days and years to come. Let us worship the one whose love is from everlasting to everlasting.

\*HYMN- "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" #1

\*INVOCATION (In Unison)

**We are grateful, Lord God of the ages, that we can begin yet another year in your house. Through our presence here we are expressing our thankfulness, our confidence, and our hope- all rooted in your person and your promises. Receive our worship, strengthen our faith, and enable us to end this year as we have begun it- in the security of your grace. AMEN.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

SCRIPTURE LESSON- Matthew 2:1-12

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him." King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?" "In Bethlehem in Judea," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote: 'And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are not least among the ruling cities of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.'" Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!" After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.

Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM- "See The Glowing Star" Kemp  
Trio- Balthasar, Melchior, Gaspar

SILENT PRAYER

**Prayer List-** Geryl Anderson, Mary Andrews, Darcy Cassidy, Anna Fijol, Penny Gustafson, Pauline Guyette, Lola Harper, Charles Hill Sr., Billy Hindes, Kristen Kent, Barb Knight, Ken & Lois Macomber, Kristine Thompson, Ren Yeo, Hany.

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases/Trespas)

OFFERTORY - Selected

\*DOXOLOGY

\*PRAYER

**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- "We Three Kings of Orient Are" #143

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM- "Do You Hear What I Hear" arr. Ingram

MESSAGE

CONFESSION OF SIN (In Unison)

**I confess, O Lord that I have not loved you as I ought in the year past. My head has been filled with too many other things to think of you. Forgive me and help me to see you now. Receive me as you have received so many others and bless my life forever. AMEN.**

Minister: The gift of God is repentance and forgiveness.

**People: God will forgive the heart that is truly contrite.**

Minister: God's mercy is everlasting, and God's goodness is forever.

**People: Surely, God accepts our prayers and pardons our sins. The Divine mercy is forever! AMEN.**

THE COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS  
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*BENEDICTION

\*HYMN- "Angels, From the Realms of Glory"

#117

POSTLUDE- "Isn't He"

Wimber

Soloist- Judy Paille

+ + + + + + + + + + + + +

**\*All who are able please stand**

**Announcements**

The Chancel Flowers this morning are given in loving memory of Alice and Edward Nuttal by their daughters Aileen Porter, Marilyn Stewart and grandson Alan Taylor.

Thanks to Kristin and Peter Reeves-Hall for hosting coffee hour this morning.

Confirmation will begin next week. If you have a child of confirmation age and you did not receive materials, please speak to Robert at the close of worship service today.

Join us January 24<sup>th</sup>, after church, for a book discussion on The Shack by William P. Young. A light lunch will be provided for the discussion participants. Location will be determined as the date gets closer. Questions? Ask JoAnne Guyette during coffee hour.

**This Week In Our Church**

Diaconate – Monday 6pm

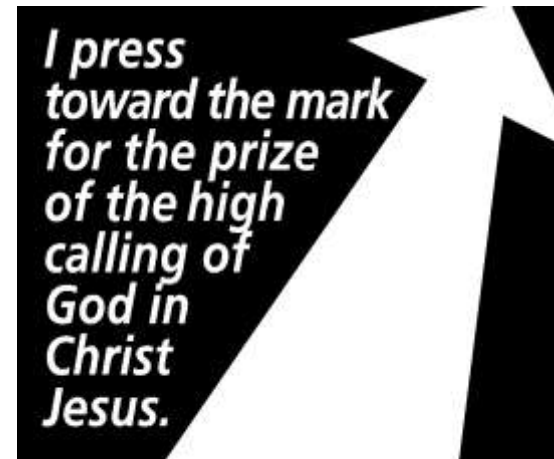
A Cappella – Monday 7pm

Village Bells – Tuesday 6:45pm

Chancel Choir – Wednesday 7pm

# The Village Congregational Church

United Church of Christ  
Whitinsville, MA 01588



Philippians 3:14

January 3, 2010

10:00 AM Service

Phone: 508-234-7901

Fax: 508-234-2247

Email: [office@vccucc.org](mailto:office@vccucc.org)

Web: [www.vccucc.org](http://www.vccucc.org)

Rev. Robert G. Sherwood, Pastor