

# Pilgrim Congregational Church

United Church of Christ  
Harwich Port, Massachusetts



**Sunday, December 1, 2024**

*We come together to grow in faith  
and joyfully share God's love with all.*

## Welcome to our Worship Service

An asterisk (\*) indicates an invitation to stand if you are able.

### Time of Gathering

**Prelude**            “Come, O Come, Emmanuel”            arr.: David Lewis

### Welcome and Announcements

### Chimes

#### \*Call to Worship

One:     Can one be homesick for something you’ve never known?

**All:     We are homesick for a just world,  
          for peace like rivers,  
          for the end of suffering.**

One:     Yes, we are homesick -

**All:     for joy that is contagious  
          for nations that feel like neighbors  
          and for hospitals that run empty.**

One:     We are homesick for the world God promises.

**All:     We are homesick, but we are on our way.**

One:     God is here. God is still creating.

**All:     Let us worship our Holy God.**

### Lighting the Christ and Peace Candles

\*Hymn            “Come, O Long-Expected Jesus”

#122

## **Advent Candle Lighting: The candle of HOPE**

### **Call to Prayer**

**One:** When you're a kid and you get homesick at a sleepover or summer camp, you call home and your parents come and get you. Sometimes, that's what love looks like. Love bails us out. In the same way, when we all upon God to confess that we've messed up, or forgotten something, or overlooked the truth, God answers with grace. God answers with love. So let us confess today, knowing that nothing could keep God from loving us.

### **Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

**All:** Gracious God, we find ourselves with two options every day - to stay homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win.

**Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel?  
Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?**

**Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins.**

**Kindle in us a hope that won't let go.**

**Gratefully, we pray.**

### **Time for Silent Prayer**

### **Assurance of God's Grace**

**One:** Family of faith, even when we throw in the towel, even when we give up on hope, God does not give up on us.

We are loved. We are claimed. We are invited closer to God's home. So hear and trust this good news:

**All: There is room for us in God's house, and nothing can separate us from that love. We are claimed. We are forgiven. We are welcomed home. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **A Message for All God's Children**

**Choir Anthem** "Angels Watching Over Me" arr.: Joel Raney

**Scripture Lesson** Luke 21:25-36 (New Testament Page 85)

**Sermon** "Homesick" Rev. Amie Stuart Giguere

**\*Hymn** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #116

## **Call to Offering**

**Offertory** "Wexford Carol" arr.: Simon Katz

## **\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **\*Prayer of Dedication**

**All: Holy God, we are homesick. We long for the day that you spoke of when swords will be beaten into plowshares, the lion will lie down with the lamb, and**

**justice will roll like waters. Until that holy day comes,  
take these gifts and use them to build that world here.  
We are hopeful. Amen.**

## **Sacrament of The Lord's Supper**

*We celebrate an open table and welcome all to taste and see  
God's goodness here. The cup is grape juice and the bread is  
gluten-free.*

## **The Invitation**

### **Communion Prayer with the Lord's Prayer**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you**

One: We lift up our hearts.

**All: We lift them to God.**

One: Let us give thanks.

**All: It's so right to do.**

One: We open our hearts

**All: to let all gifts flow through.**

**Our 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 trespasses, as we  
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into  
temptation but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and glory forever. Amen.**

## **Sanctus**

**Words of Institution**  
**Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**All: Holy One, we have met you at this table. Nourished by your holy food, send us out as one people, full of vision and courage, to prepare the way for your kin-dom. Filled with your grace, show us how to live so well that all may know your hope, your peace, your joy and your love. We pray in the sacred name of Jesus Christ, child of promise, divine Messiah, and Prince of Peace. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**                      “Take Time to Be Holy”                      (see insert)

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**                      “Recessional in F”                      arr.: Lloyd Larson

Today’s written prayers are by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed/A Sanctified Art LLC/ sanctified art.org. Our Communion liturgy was written by Rev. Carol Holbrook Prickett.

# Pilgrim Congregational Church

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(508) 432-1668 • [office@pcchp.org](mailto:office@pcchp.org) • [www.pcchp.org](http://www.pcchp.org)

For an appointment, please email Rev. Amie at [revamie@pcchp.org](mailto:revamie@pcchp.org).  
To receive our weekly church email, please contact the church office.

## Today's Worship Leaders:

**Minister:** Rev. Amie Stuart Giguere

**Music Director:** Dr. Matt Scinto

**Lay Worship Leader:** Carol Wiley

**Fellowship Hour Host:** Barbara Prindle-Eaton

**The flowers** that adorn the altar are given by Tom and Doris Berard in celebration of their grandchildren Henry, Hudson, and Caroline.

**The steeple** will be lit on December 1 by Roy Terwilliger in loving memory of Roxana; and it will be lit December 7-15 by Dick and Sally Smith "in memory of our beloved son, Michael, who was loved by all who knew him."

## This Week at Pilgrim Church:

Tuesday, December 3

10am Izzy's Team

10am Copier Salesman

10:30am Organ Tuning

2pm Afterschool gym

5pm Choir

Wednesday, December 4

12noon Harwich clergy

3pm Joyful Prayer

Thursday, December 5

9am Study Group

11am Coffee and Conversation

6pm Bell Choir

Friday, December 6

11am Knitting group

5:30pm Harwich Stroll

Deacons' Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 10am

Trustees' Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 3:30pm

Church Council Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 3:00pm

Missions and Outreach Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 8:30am

Vision Team Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. at 5pm and 4<sup>th</sup> Sun. at 11:30am



Pilgrim Congregational Church Harwich Port

# Holiday Event

A special fundraiser to benefit our Mission and Outreach programs

--- Featuring ---

## The Sound Dunes

### *Big Band*

Sunday December 8th

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

\$25/Adult

\$5/under 12



**MUSIC - DANCING - RAFFLES - SING-ALONG**

**For reservations - [www.pcchp.org](http://www.pcchp.org)**

See John Geurtsen, Ann Brown, Tom Berard, Phyllis Cushlanis,  
or Linda Kidd for reservations and information.

# Make Pilgrim Congregational Church a stop on the Harwich Christmas Stroll

on Friday, December 6 from 5:30pm-8:30pm!

We will feature a **Nativity Display** in our sanctuary  
with **live piano music** - free of charge.



**Please be sure to also check out the following activities in our hall:**

Have a meal at our **Café** serving burgers, hotdogs, french fries and drinks.

Enjoy delicious **Homemade Cookies!** They will be for sale by the bag or some individually wrapped to take home or eat while you're strolling.

Shop at the Craft Fair! **Handmade Crafts** will be for sale, including knitted mittens and snowmen.

Take advantage of our **Children's Christmas Shoppe** where children will be able to shop and wrap small Christmas gifts for 50 cents each.

Visit the **Children's Cookie Decorating Table** to frost a cookie and decorate it with sprinkles to eat or to take home!

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Invites you to join us for

## Christmas Season Services

### **Advent Services:**

10am Sundays, December 8 and 15

### **Service of Comfort and Peace:**

6pm Wednesday, December 18

### **Christmas Pageant:**

10am Sunday, December 22

### **Christmas Eve Service:**

Tuesday, December 24

7pm Candlelight Family Service



All services are live-streamed on our website.