

ADVENT ^{4TH} SUNDAY

Come, Lord Jesus



WHITE ROSE

is the symbol for purity and can represent Mary

*“Perhaps it was absurd: the stable set apart,
the sleepy cattle lowing;
And the incarnate Word resting against my heart.
My joy was overflowing. The shepherds came,
adored the folly of the Lord,
Wiser than all men’s knowing.”*

—MADELEINE L’ENGLE

Rainstick & Welcome

Gathering Music - *Our Worship of God begins with the playing of the Prelude.
We invite you to use this time in silent prayer and preparation.*

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Call to Worship *Lynne Frith, Aotearoa/New Zealand [adapted]*

In all times and all places, your name, O God, is echoed far.

Holy is your name.

In many sounds and in many languages, your name, O God, is echoed far.

Holy is your name.

In sorrow and delight, in despair and in hope, your name, O God, is echoed far.

Holy is your name.

As the holy night draws near and we prepare for your coming, your name, O God, is echoed far.

Holy is your name.

In silence and in song, we bring ourselves into your presence, Holy One. Your name, O God, is echoed far.

Holy is your name. May our thoughts, our words, and our whole lives be open to your arrival, O God, whose name is echoed far.

Gifts in Open Hands, Tirabassi & Eddy

Lighting the Advent Candle of Love

Jeff, Hollie, Amelia, & Olivia Friot

Advent Credo *Daniel Berrigan (from Testimony: the Word Made Flesh)*

It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss—

This is true: For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life;

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction—

This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever—

This is true: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, his name shall be called wonderful councilor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world—

This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am with you, even until the end of the world.

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers—

This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall have dreams.

It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of human dignity of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history—

This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.

So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope.

Let us see visions of love and peace and justice.

Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage: Jesus Christ— the life of the world.

Sung Response*

Glory to God

CH#34

***Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest,
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia.***

Anthem

Somebody Build A Manger

Chancel Choir

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Young Disciples Times

Scripture

Micah 5:2–5a

Luke 1:46–55

Book of Mercy #18 (Leonard Cohen)

“... Take heart, you who were born in the captivity of a fixed predicament; and tremble, you kings of certainty: your iron has become like glass, and the word has been uttered that will shatter it.”

Meditation on the Word

Rev. Bert Marshall

Hymn*

My Sould Gives Glory to My God

CH#130

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Offering of our Gifts

Sung Response*

Doxology

(sung to the tune: What Star Is This with Beams so Bright)

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

Prayer of Dedication*

The Church at Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*traditional*)

Our Father, 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 the glory, forever. Amen.

WE DEPART TO SERVE AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Closing Hymn* *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* **CH#153**

Benediction*

Benediction Response* *O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs 4)* **CH#119**

***O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

Postlude

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Greeters: *Cary Friberg & Nancy Pope*

Ushers: *Karen Gordon, Pamela Murphy, Marjorie and Ernie Wheeler*

Readers: *Linda Comstock, Amanda Pugliese*

Coffee Hour: *Marjorie and Ernie Wheeler*

OPERATING BUDGET YEAR TO DATE

Pledges received	\$117,635.11
Pledges budgeted	\$139,410.00
Total income (including money from investments)	\$187,076.07
Total expenses	\$195,255.35
Budget deficit	\$8,179.28
Total pledges in hand for 2019	\$90,319.00

THANK YOU to everyone who has pledged thus far for 2019! If you have not yet done so, please prayerfully consider your giving to our church and make a pledge for next year.

Christmas Poinsettias 2018

In Memory of:

Given By:

Wiley Rev. Bert

Gordon, Gillander, Bernier & Elwell Families Karen Gordon & Family

*Al & Joyce Noyes, Joe Livendale, Rose Conklin, Rick & Rossie Conklin
Eleanor Kelly*

*Merilyn and Melvin Friberg. Nancy Pope & Cary Friberg
Lorraine & Kio Granai*

*Christopher Joseph St Pierre, Kerrick & Mary Ann Johnson
Larry Johnson, Thomas Prudente*

Robert "Duff" Duffy & Avery Scheib. Kate Duffy

*Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Paterson The Rose & Valkosky Families
Stanley Valkosky*

*Doris Hooker The Rose & Valkosky Families
Family Pamela Murphy*

*Scott Allen Martel. Howard Martel & Family
Vivian & Merle ByLow
Laurence & Marie ByLow
Joe & Rose Copping*

My husband, Richard Thomas. Beverly Thomas

Carol Richards The Cole Family

The Portalupi & West Families Linda Portalupi West & James West

Our parents & grandparents. Nancy & John O'Leary

Charles (Chip) Zanleoni The Zanleoni Family

Christmas Poinsettias 2018

In Memory of:

Given By:

Arthur Hill, Jr Christine Litchfield

Arthur R. Hill, Sr. & Doris Hill

Harry & Gretta Litchfield

Helen & Sheldon Allen Donald Allen

All our loved ones Ralph & Jean Brown

Herbert & Helen Friot Ed, Anita & Kaitlyn Friot

Leslie & Ruth Frazier

*All those church members & Your Church Family
friends we have lost this year*

*And In Honor of the Grande Dames of the Barre Congregational Church
We Love you.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Christmas Dinner

We will be serving Christmas Dinner at Hedding, Tilden House, North Barre Manor, and Washington Apts. If you still would like to help the times of volunteering are below. Monetary donations are also welcome to purchase some items not collected by the churches.

Christmas Eve 9:00 am -12:00pm

Peeling Potatoes and cooking turkeys. Bring your own peeler!

Christmas Day- 9:00-3:00

Any amount of time is appreciated. Talk to Nancy Fowler if you would like to help.

Laundry Love Giving Tree- There are angels with quarter rolls on them on the tree in the narthex. We are once again supporting our Laundry Love ministry by filling a roll of quarters.

CALENDAR

Today (12/23)	9:30 am	<i>Sabbath Worship</i>
Monday (12/24)	8:00 am	<i>Strong Living</i>
	9:00 am	<i>Potato Peeling (bring a peeler)</i>
	6:00 pm	<i>AA</i>
	6:00 pm	<i>Family Christmas Eve Service</i>
	8:00 pm	<i>Christmas Eve with Communion</i>
Tuesday (12/25)	Merry Christmas!	
	9:00-3:00	<i>Volunteer at the Community Christmas Dinner</i>
Wednesday (12/26)	8:00 am	<i>Strong Living</i>
Thursday (12/27)		
Friday (12/28)		
Saturday (12/29)	7:00 am	<i>Community Breakfast</i>
	8:00 am	<i>Strong Living</i>
	8:00 pm	<i>AA</i>
Sunday (12/30)	9:30 am	<i>Worship at Berlin Congregational</i>

Welcome to the Barre Congregational Church, UCC!

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online: barrecongregational.org

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facebook: Barre Congregational Church, United Church of Christ



Rev. Bert Marshall, *Interim Pastor*
Nancy Fowler, *Assistant to the Pastor*
Eric Tuper-Giles, *Music Director & Organist*
Hollie Friot, *Church School Director*
Mary Ann Johnson, *Parish Nurse*
Kathy Adams, *Bookkeeper*
Neil Upham, *Custodian*

We are an Open & Affirming and a Just Peace Church