



*Sudbury United Methodist Church*

**First Sunday of Advent**  
**November 27, 2016**

Before worship, please feel free to greet those around you. Concerns or celebrations to be included in today's prayers may be recorded on cards in the pew pockets and passed to the ushers during the second hymn. During the prelude, let us prepare silently to worship God.

*\*indicates worshipers may stand, as they are able*

**Welcome**

**Hymn Sing**

**\*Advent Call to Worship:** (*Isaiah 11:1-3, alt.*)

Liturgist: A shoot shall come forth from the stump of Jesse.

**People: A branch shall grow from David's roots.**

Liturgist: The Spirit of the Lord shall rest on him:

**People: The Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding.**

Liturgist: The Spirit of Counsel and Might.

**People: The Spirit of Knowledge and the Fear of the Lord.**

*(Here the first candle of Advent is lighted.)*

Liturgist: Light and peace in Jesus Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Opening Hymn:** FWS # 2135 – “When Cain Killed Abel” (*verses 1 and 2*)

**\*First Reading from Scripture:** Genesis 4:1-16

*This reading is found on pages 3-4 in the Old Testament.*

**\*Opening Hymn:** FWS # 2135 – “When Cain Killed Abel” (*verses 3 and 4*)

**\*Invocation:** (*Based on the Seventh O Antiphon, 8<sup>th</sup> cent.*)

**O Ruler of the Gentiles and their Desired One,**

**Cornerstone who makes all peoples and nations one:**

**Come and deliver us**

**whom you have formed from the dust of the earth. Amen.**

**Children's Time:** “The Jesse Tree – The First Family”

**Special Music:** “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Koepeke

**Second Reading from Scripture:** Colossians 3:12-17

*This reading is found on page 201 in the New Testament.*

**Sermon:** “Living in a Christmas State of Mind”

The Rev. Rick McKinley

**\*Hymn of Response:** FWS # 2095 – “Star-Child”

### **A Time of Fellowship**

**Greeting Our Guests**

**Concerns and Celebrations**

**The Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**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.**

### **Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Stewardship Moment:** Advent Conspiracy

**The Offertory**

**\*Doxology:** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” (*Tannenbaum*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, in every generation.**

**Praise God, all creatures here below, who gives to us salvation.**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host:**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Let all creation praise the Lord with love and adoration.**

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**\*Hymn of Commitment:** UMH # 202 – “People, Look East”

**\*Dismissal with Blessing**

**Postlude:** “Noël Suisse”

Louis-Claude Daquin

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**Reconciling & Welcoming Statement:** The United Methodist Church is a community of believers and seekers, with differences in age, class, nationality, race, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, abilities, and limitations. We at SUMC recognize that there are attitudes, concerning these diverse characteristics, which violate the integrity of individuals and deny the richness of God's creation. Therefore we affirm our welcome to all people into our community of faith. We are committed to be a fellowship in which all persons feel a part of our family, enabling them to grow in their faith, to be fed by our fellowship, and to contribute their talents to the life of the church in its worship, programs, and outreach. We call the church and society to be sensitive to all persons and to advocate programs which attempt to ensure justice for all.

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### Church Staff

**Lead Pastor:** *The Rev. Joel Guillemette*  
**Business Manager:** *Michael Greb*  
**Christian Education Director:** *Jackie Roder*  
**Communications Coordinator:** *Alexandra Plotkin*  
**Interim Youth Director:** *Anthony Harrison*  
**Music Director/Organist:** *Kevin Murphy, AAGO*  
**Sanctuary Choir Director:** *Rob Hammerton*  
**Office Administrator:** *Shetal Kaye*  
**Sextons:** *Joe Picorelli*  
*Phil Lenentine*

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We are a Stephen Ministry  
Congregation



We are a Reconciling and Welcoming  
Congregation



## **Sudbury United Methodist Church**

**November 27, 2016**

### **Welcome, Guests!**

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, we welcome you. Please help us get to know you by signing the attendance pad, remembering to include the name of each person attending from your household. Also, if you feel comfortable, please introduce yourself midway through worship when our pastor greets our guests. And, if you have the time, join us after worship for fellowship and a tour of our evolving building. Grab a cup of coffee and make a new friend!

### **Today We Welcome the Rev. Rick McKinley as Our Guest Preacher**

The Rev. Rick McKinley, Director of Congregational Development for the New England Conference of The United Methodist Church, is this morning's guest preacher. A graduate of Duke Divinity School, Rick was appointed to Harbor UMC in Scituate, MA, and the Marshfield UMC in Marshfield, MA, before being named to his present role. He is married to Lori Salisbury.

### **Card Decorating Today After Worship in Hawes Hall**

The Christian Education and Outreach Commissions invites children, families, and congregation members of all ages to write and decorate holiday cards for inmates at Concord MCI and residents of Sudbury's Musketaquid Village. Join them in Hawes Hall at Coffee Hour. Look for an empty chair at the table and give it your best shot!

### **Church Conference to Convene November 29**

At 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, members of Sudbury UMC are called to our Fall Church Conference. The Rev. Gary Shaw, the pastor of Carter Memorial UMC in Needham, has been asked by our District Superintendent, the Rev. Rene Perez, to preside. Our annual meeting will include a discussion of this question: "How can our church become good soil in which God can plant seeds of trust?" Also on the agenda will be reports from the Endowment and the Building Committees as well as a motion from the Staff-Parish Committee regarding the pastor's salary.

### **Close the Gap – Support “Pave the Way +”**

During worship last Sunday, Sudbury UMC's financial leaders launched “Pave the Way +” to close a \$100,000 gap between the \$2.5 million pledged for this year's renovations and a 4% overage that emerged when unanticipated but necessary improvements were discovered. Can you help by making a first-time pledge to PTW+ or by making a supplemental pledge? Please use one of the cards in the pew racks to indicate your level of support by December 11.

### **Is There Child Care During Worship?**

Infants and toddlers are welcome in worship. Parents with young children may also visit our Family Room with visual and aural access to the sanctuary. Each Sunday, a pair of CORI-ed volunteers cares for children two years old and younger. Look for the stairs in the northwest corner of the narthex leading up to a cozy room furnished with sofas and toys and books.

### **Hearing Assistance Available**

Individual hearing assistance units are available. An usher will help you to borrow one.

### **Large Print Worship Books**

Do you prefer large print materials? Special copies of *The United Methodist Hymnal* and *The Faith We Sing* are available in the narthex. Please speak to an usher for assistance.

### **Where Is the Rest Room?**

A unisex rest room is located in the southeast corner of the narthex, behind the back row of pews on the pulpit side of the sanctuary. Another rest room can be found just past the side door of the sanctuary closest to the pulpit and three steps up.

### **Help Refill the Food Cart**

The contents of the shopping cart near the O'Reilly Room entrance are delivered to food banks in Sudbury, Stow, Marlborough, Maynard, Wayland, and Hudson. The Outreach Commission is grateful for your donations. Canned vegetables and soups, canned tuna and meat, crackers, jams, jellies, canned pastas and tomato sauces, noodles, rice, cereals, and baby foods are always needed. Donations past the expiration date stamped on the package must be discarded.

### **Please Recycle This Bulletin**

The Worship and Music Commission has placed blue recycle bins near the sanctuary's entrances. Please recycle the materials distributed on Sundays either here at the church or at home.

### **Read for Spiritual Growth**

Want to read for spiritual growth? Ten minutes each day with *The Upper Room* can lead to a growth spurt! Free booklets are available in the narthex. Help yourself! Or check out <http://devotional.upperroom.org> to visit *The Upper Room* each day online.

### **Thursday Bible Study Welcomes Newcomers**

Please join Sudbury UMC's Thursday Bible study group. Each week's focus text is next Sunday's preaching passage. Thursday meetings take place at 10:00 a.m. at Panera Bread, 21 Andrew Avenue in Wayland's Town Center. Bring your Bible and a few bucks for something warm to sip.

## **Let's Decorate Cookies and Cards at Home Suites Inn**

The Outreach Commission invites Sudbury UMC's members and friends to participate in two hours of Christmas fun at Waltham's Home Suites Inn on Saturday, December 3, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Decorating cookies and making holiday cards with homeless neighbors and their wonderful children is amazingly fulfilling. The shelter is located at 455 Totten Pond Road.

## **Women's Fellowship "Not So Silent" Auction, December 5**

The women of Sudbury UMC will hold their annual "Not So Silent Auction" at the Hosmer House, on Monday, December 5, at 7:00 p.m. For a night full of fun, bring a gaily-wrapped gift to be auctioned to support the Schiller Scholarship Fund at Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School.

## **Christmas Pageant Rehearsals Happen Every Saturday**

Children who plan to participate in Sudbury UMC's annual Christmas Eve pageant at 4:00 p.m. on December 24 are now rehearsing their speaking or non-speaking parts. If you have questions about participating, please come to a rehearsal on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. or email the pageant's director Kristin Murphy at [kbando@earthlink.net](mailto:kbando@earthlink.net).

## **A Preview of Advent's Highlights**

Sudbury UMC's Advent traditions are the highlight of the Christmas season:

- Magic Years will share a holiday dinner in Hawes Hall at 12:00 p.m. December 8.
- A Christmas cantata will be presented on Sunday, December 11, during worship.
- The Barn Sing will be held in the newly renovated Hawes Hall at 4:00 p.m. December 18.
- Third annual Christmas Flash Mob at Sudbury Farms on December 18 at 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
- Feeling Blue this Christmas? How about attending the Blue Christmas Service at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 21?

## **Looking for a Preschool?**

If you have a preschool child and you are planning for next year, please take a look at Sudbury UMC's Sunny Hill Preschool. Tours are now being offered for families interested in 2017-2018 enrollment. Sunny Hill offers preferential placement for our church's members. To ask questions or schedule a tour, please contact Sunny Hill's director, Debbie Rollins, at 978-443-2627.

## **Lovefeast Candle Decorating - November 28**

Beeswax candles lit during the Christmas Eve Lovefeast will be decorated with red crepe paper frills on Monday, November 28, at 10:00 a.m. Volunteers will enjoy fellowship, fun, and holiday treats while trimming 150 candles in the choir room. All are welcome! And remember to mark your calendar: Sudbury UMC's Fifth Annual Lovefeast will begin at 6:00 p.m. on December 24.

## **Advent Worship and Wednesday Programs**

Sudbury UMC's members and friends can look forward to a deep and rich Advent season. Our focus will be tracing Jesus' genealogy by using a Jesse Tree in Sunday services and during weekly worship and formation sessions on Wednesday evenings. At 6:00 p.m., the Membership and Community Life Commission will serve a simple meal of soup and bread, dairy-free, with gluten-free and vegetarian options available. Later, at 6:30 p.m., programming is available as follows:

- Heather Cranson, Kevin Murphy, and Rob Hammerton will offer Taize-style worship in the chancel. For some quiet time with God, try "Prepare the Way of the Lord."
- Pastor Joel will teach an adult class in the Choir Room called "Finding Jesus' Roots in Matthew's Genealogy." Are you interested in genealogies? Jesus' lineage is surprising.
- Jackie Roder will offer learning centers for kids under 12 during a class designed to explore "Family Trees." Look for Jackie in the classrooms under the church.
- Anthony Harrison will meet with teens in grades 6 -12 in the church's undercroft.

## **Join the Advent Suppers Support Team!**

The Membership and Community Life Commission invites you to share your talents and gifts by volunteering for one or more of this year's Advent Soup Suppers. Homemade soup, bread, fruit, vegetables, juice, coffee and tea are needed. Setup and clean-up, too. Sign up after worship today in Hawes Hall. Questions? Contact Oscar Harrell at 978-443-3821 or [owhtwo@msn.com](mailto:owhtwo@msn.com).

## **It's Time to Spread the Christmas Spirit!**

Please spread the Christmas spirit by visiting the Peanut Butter Giving Tree after worship today in Hawes Hall. Peanut Butter benefactors purchase toys, clothing, gift certificates, and other items for children and teens in partnership with Wayside Youth and Family Support Network and Justice Resource Institute. Many of our "adopted" kids have no family, making the holidays particularly difficult. If you are unable to select a tag in person, please visit our virtual tree at <http://signup.com/go/N2prEr>. If you selected a Peanut Butter Tree tag after the November 20 church service and did not sign it out, please contact Karen Monteiro ([karmon23@yahoo.com](mailto:karmon23@yahoo.com)) with your name and the tag number you have. The Peanut Butter Tree is a fulfilling family outreach program. Your participation will make another successful year possible!

## **A Note from the Staff Parish Relations Committee**

With Christmas approaching, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee invites you to contribute to a special gift for Sudbury UMC's staff. This is a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to recognize this special group. Kindly make your check payable to SUMC and write Staff Christmas Gift on the memo line. Then place your gift in the offering. Thanks for your generosity.

# Christmas Flowers



*Help us create a festive sanctuary by ordering a holiday plant today!*

Poinsettia - \$11.00	Cyclamen - \$11.00	Mums -\$11.00	Potted Evergreen - \$15.00	Total # Plants	Amount

Name (as you'd like it in the bulletin)

Phone/E-mail

**Dedication** Please circle one

In Memory of

In Honor of

I would like to: Please circle one

Bring my plant home

Deliver to shut -in

*Bring your order to the Flower Committee in Hawes Hall after the service. **Deadline for ordering is December 6<sup>th</sup>***

Questions? Wanda Doughty @ 774-219-9065 or [mwandadoughty@gmail.com](mailto:mwandadoughty@gmail.com)