



Sudbury United Methodist Church

Second Sunday of Advent
December 4, 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

Prelude: "From Heaven Above To Earth I Come"

Georg Böhm

***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 and second candles of Advent are lighted.)

Liturgist: Light and peace in Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

***Opening Hymn:** UMH # 508 – "Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom" (*verses 1, 2 and 3*)

***First Reading from Scripture:** Genesis 6:11-22

This reading is found on pages 5-6 in the Old Testament.

***Opening Hymn:** UMH # 508 – "Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom" (*verses 4 and 5*)

***Invocation:** (*Based on the Sixth O Antiphon, 8th cent.*)

O Dayspring,

Brightness of the Light Eternal and Sun of Justice:

Come and enlighten those who drift in darkness.

Come and rescue all who languish in the shadow of death. Amen.

Children's Time: "The Jesse Tree – The Family of Noah"

Special Music: "Go Down, Moses" Sunday School Singers

African American Spiritual

Second Reading from Scripture: Romans 15:4-13

This reading is found on pages 163-164 in the New Testament.

Sermon: “A Done Deal”

Pastor Joel Guillemette

***Hymn of Response:** UMH # 196 – “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

A Time of Fellowship

Greeting Our Guests

Concerns and Celebrations

The Pastoral Prayer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Stewardship Moment: Advent Conspiracy

The Offertory: “Rock Steady”

Gordon Sumner

***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.

Holy Communion

***The Great Thanksgiving:** UMH pages 20-22 – “Musical Setting C”

***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.

The Giving of the Bread and Cup

(“Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another” [UMH page 12]. At the ushers’ invitation, worshipers may join the line to receive a morsel of the gluten and lactose-free bread in their hands, dip the bread in the cup of grape juice, and partake of both at the same time. After communing, worshipers return to their seats by the side aisles.)

Prayer after Communion

***Hymn of Commitment:** UMH # 247 – “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

***Dismissal with Blessing**

Postlude: “From Heaven Above To Earth I Come”

Johann Pachelbel

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*
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We are a Stephen Ministry
Congregation



We are a Reconciling and Welcoming
Congregation

Sudbury United Methodist Church

December 4, 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!

Why Are Those Branches Circling the Cross?

Listen to the words of Isaiah 11 during today's Call to Worship. When King David's dynasty was cut down at the end of Judah's war with Babylonia in 587 BCE, its citizens assumed they would never see another son of David ruling on his throne. Isaiah begged to differ. From Jesse, David's father, a branch would sprout. Nowadays, Jesse Trees sometimes take the place of Christmas trees during Advent to tell the stories of Jesus' lineage. Each time we add a new symbol to our church's Jesse Tree, we learn something about Jesus' ancestors and why we need a Savior.

Pave the Way Is 4% Over Budget - Let's Close the Gap

Sudbury UMC's financial leaders have 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.

Here We Go A-Caroling

After worship today, singers from Sudbury UMC will travel to the Deaconess Abundant Life Center in Concord to share the Christmas spirit with a folks who have a tough time getting to church. Even if you can't sing, you can hum, whistle or smile for someone who would love to see you! Children are welcome and always a big hit with the residents! We guarantee you will receive as much as you give. We will eat lunch after church in the choir room, with pizza on hand if you left your lunch home, and then carpool. Questions? Please see Rob Hammerton.

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

Don't miss the Women's Fellowship's 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.

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.

Pageant Rehearsals Now Taking Place 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.

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.

Consumerism Is Co-opting Advent!

The fastest growing religion in the world is not Islam or Christianity; the symbol of this rising faith is not the star and crescent, or the cross, but the dollar sign! The second tenet of the Advent Conspiracy is "Spend Less." Remember that God's only Son is the gift we are offered each Christmas. God's answer for the world's problems has never been material things. God did not give us more stuff – God gave us Emmanuel – God with us! This year, try drawing names and giving one less gift than last year - maybe two. Then think about using the money you saved to reach out to someone in real need. If you can't think of that someone, consider making a gift to the Advent Conspiracy. Just write a check to Sudbury UMC with Advent Conspiracy on the memo line. The Outreach Commission will send our gift to Charity: Water, a non-profit working to provide clean water in the developing world. Focus less on what you spend and more on worshipping the Christ child. Isn't that what Advent is all about?

Advent Conspiracy Opportunities to "Give Presence"

- Christmas party at Musketahquid Village, 55 Hudson Rd., December 10, 3:30- 5:30 p.m.
- Caroling at Sudbury Pines, 642 Boston Post Road, at 12:30 p.m. on December 11.
- Christmas party at Pathways Family Shelter at 4:00 p.m., December 17, Framingham.

Magic Years December Luncheon, December 8, at Noon

Retirees, let's meet for a Christmas lunch on Thursday, December 8, from noon till 2:00 p.m. We will finally be home in Hawes Hall. After food and fellowship, we will create Christmas cards and sing Christmas carols with leadership from Brenda Manning, Sherry Stonebraker, and Pastor Joel. Magic Years is for all retired members or friends of the Sudbury UMC community. For this event, we need an accurate head count for food and table set-up. Please RSVP to Shetal in the church office – 978-443-4351 or sumc@sudbury-umc.org by Tuesday, November 6. Thank you!

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 offer Taize-style worship in the chancel. For some healing quiet time with God, try "Prepare the Way of the Lord."
- Pastor Joel is teaching 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 is offering 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 looks at Jesus' family tree with teens in grades 6 to 12 in the church's undercroft, focusing on "Who Came before Jesus?" and the promises Jesus fulfilled.

Join the Advent Suppers Support Team!

Many hands make light work! The Membership and Community Life Commission invites you to help out at an Advent Soup Supper. Can you make some soup or provide some bread, fruit, vegetables or juice? We need clean-up, too. Sign up after worship today in Hawes Hall. Questions? Contact Oscar Harrell at 978-443-3821 or 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) 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!

Are You Having a Blue Christmas?

For a quieter celebration of Christmas' long promised peace and hope, come to worship at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 21. On the longest night of the year, pray with and for others who are grieving the loss of loved ones, jobs, better health, and relationships once held dear.

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 6th***

Questions? Wanda Doughty @ 774-219-9065 or mwandadoughty@gmail.com