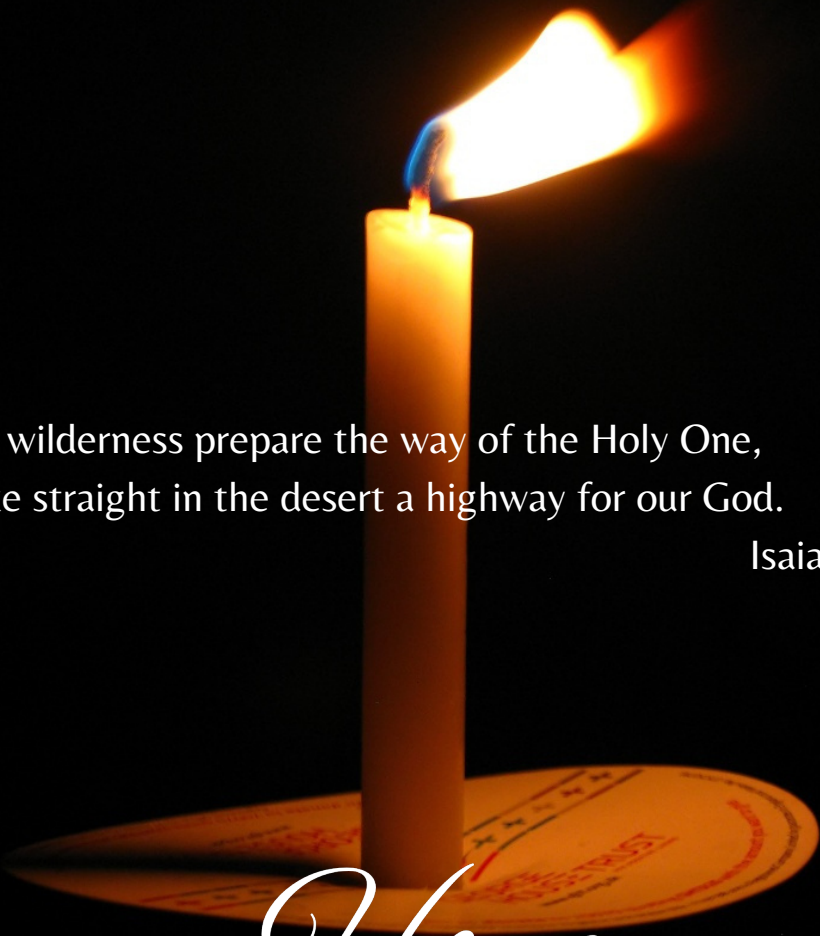


# *The First Sunday of Advent*

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November 27, 2022

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In the wilderness prepare the way of the Holy One,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Isaiah 40:3

*Hope*

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**Sunday, November 27, 2022**

First Sunday of Advent

The Candle of Hope



Tolling of the Bell

Prelude

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

*Brahms*

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Candle Lighting

**God of Hope, send forth your instruction. Come among us again to judge between the nations. Draw us up into the hope that one day soon, we may finally beat our swords into plowshares, and our spears into pruning-hooks.**

*-Psalm 122, Isaiah 2*

Sung Response

*Softly Tenderly, Jesus is Calling (verse 1, chorus)*

The Peace of Christ

Mark 1:1-8

Blessing

Children's Time

Sermon

Choir Anthem

*Canticle for Advent*

*Larson*

Prayers of the People

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.*

*Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, Amen.*

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Transformation Moment

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Who Would Think That What Was Needed* *Bell*

Doxology *Each week, we sing and sign an inclusive Doxology (ASL).*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise God all creatures here below.*

*Praise God for all that love has done.*

*Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.*

Closing Hymn *Now Bless the God of Israel*

Benediction

Postlude *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come* *Zachau*

*Following the Benediction, the congregation is encouraged to enjoy the entire Postlude.*



Today's Chancel Flowers are given by Nancy Miskowiec,  
in celebration of Nancy's Dad's 90th birthday, which would have been her parents' 67th wedding  
anniversary as well. Mom passed away just one month ago. We'd like to ask for a blessing for Dad's  
continued health and wellbeing as he moves forward without my Mom.

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Luke 1:68-79; Ps. 18:1-3; Isa. 9:2-7

Ruth Duck, 1985

1 Now bless the God of Is - ra - el, who comes in love and power,  
 2 Re - mem-ber-ing the cov - e - nant, God res - cues us from fear,  
 3 In ten - der mer-cy, God will send the day - spring from on high,

who rais - es from the roy - al house de - liv - erance in this hour.  
 that we might serve in hol - i - ness and peace from year to year;  
 our ris - ing sun, the light of life for those who sit and sigh.

Through ho - ly proph-ets God has sworn to free us from a - larm,  
 And you, my child, shall go be - fore to preach, to proph-e - sy,  
 God comes to guide our way to peace, that death shall reign no more.

to save us from the heav-y hand of all who wish us harm.  
 that all may know the ten - der love, the grace of God most high.  
 Sing prais-es to the Ho - ly One! O wor - ship and a - dore!

*This text by United Church of Christ clergywoman Ruth Duck is a paraphrase of the "Benedictus," which is often sung at morning prayer. She came to appreciate daily prayer while studying at the University of Notre Dame.*

Tune: FOREST GREEN C.M.D.  
 Traditional English melody  
 Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

110

Latin: c.9th century

Tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, Sts. 1,2, alt.

Tr. Henry S. Coffin, 1877-1954, Sts. 3,4

VENI EMMANUEL 8.8.8.8.8.8.

Adapted from Plainsong

Thomas Helmore, 1811-1890

*In unison*

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by thine  
3 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, And or - der all things,  
4 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, Un -  
ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, And  
far and nigh; To us the path of knowl - edge show, And  
heart and mind; Bid en - vy, strife and quar - rels cease; Fill

REFRAIN

til the Son of God ap - pear.  
death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -  
cause us in her ways to go.  
the whole world with heav - en's peace.

man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el! A - men.

# 418 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
 3 O for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*

watch - ing for you and for me.  
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!  
 par - don for you and for me. "Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

This 19th-century gospel hymn has often been used as a hymn of invitation at evangelistic services. Its imagery is primarily based on Jesus' parable in Luke 15:11-32, commonly called "The Prodigal Son." Each singer thus becomes a wandering child who is urged to return home.

# Bulletin Reminders for November 27, 2022



## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 2022

This year's Christmas Pageant will be an intergenerational play, presented in worship on Sunday, **December 18**, followed by Coffee Hour with cookies and snacks.

## TIME TO DECK THE HALLS

On Saturday, **December 3**, I will need help raising, decorating, and testing the lights on the big tree. Contact Carole Blackman, [blackmancarole@gmail.com](mailto:blackmancarole@gmail.com).

## ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

Our annual toy drive will take place on one Sunday only this year, on **December 4**. The collection bin will be set up by November 28. If you are not going to be in church on December 4, you can drop off your donations during the week. All toys will be donated to Timothy's Toy Box, in Framingham. Please do NOT wrap your toys.

## TROOP 12 HOLIDAY WREATH SALE

Troop 12 scouts will be in the circular driveway in front of the church selling wreaths, *TODAY*, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Members are welcome to pick these up on their way out of the parking lot. Wreaths are \$20 for undecorated, or \$25 for a wreath decorated with a red bow, pinecones, and berries.

## PLYMOUTH CHURCH ONLINE AUCTION 2022

### December 4 - December 10

The auction begins Sunday, December 4, at noon, and will be online through Saturday, December 10, at noon. A few of the items to be auctioned off will be available for viewing in the Parish Hall on Sunday, **December 4** during the potluck. And members of the auction committee will be available with laptops to help you get registered for the auction if you would like some guidance. You still have an opportunity to donate, although the deadline is rapidly approaching. Please submit your donation information by *TODAY*, Sunday, **November 27**! Contact Sue Tonkiss, at [suedton@aol.com](mailto:suedton@aol.com).

## MARY LINDSEY

Remember when Dot King turned 100? It's not a competition, but Mary Lindsey is turning 108 on **December 5**! Help us again send her all our love! We are asking everyone in the congregation to send Mary cards. And we'll donate the flowers on Sunday, December 4. (*See your Wednesday Email for details.*)



## MORE ADVENT 2022 EVENTS

### Potluck & Toy Drive

**Sunday, December 4**

Bring a toy and a dish to share and join us for lunch after worship.

### The Longest Night

**Wednesday, December 21, 7:00 p.m.**

We gather on the longest night of the year in anticipation of the hope to come.

### Christmas Eve

**Saturday, December 24**

At 4:45 p.m., a string quartet plays carols.  
At 5:00 p.m., we worship and adore in song and candlelight.

# ADVENT 2022

## THE PLYMOUTH CHURCH IN FRAMINGHAM

87 Edgell Road | Framingham, MA | [plymouthchurchframingham.org](http://plymouthchurchframingham.org)

### POTLUCK & TOY DRIVE

December 4

Bring a toy and a dish to share!

### ONLINE AUCTION

December 4-10

Gifts for everyone in every price range.

### PAGEANT

December 18, 10am

Taking center stage Sunday morning, step into the story of Jesus' birth.

### LONGEST NIGHT

December 21, 7pm

We gather on the longest night of the year in anticipation of the hope to come.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 5pm

At 4:45pm, a string quartet plays carols. At 5pm, we worship and adore in song and in candlelight.

ON CHRISTMAS DAY 12/25 & NEW YEAR'S DAY 1/1,  
WORSHIP WILL BE VIRTUAL-ONLY, ON YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK.