

The Plymouth Church in Framingham

# Advent

## Home by Another Way

Sunday, December 12, 2021

10:00 AM In-person and on YouTube

*"And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, the Magi left for their own country by another road."*

*(Matthew 2:12)*

# DEACONS, USHERS, & GREETERS

Jessica Cloutier and Sue Tonkiss

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## 2022 PLEDGE ENVELOPES

2022 pledge envelopes are available for pickup in the Parish Hall foyer.

### HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE...ENDS TODAY!

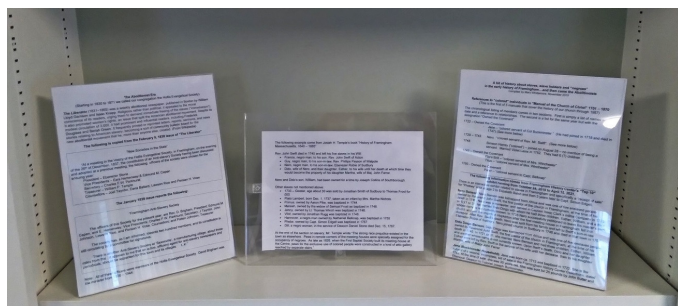
We will offer these unwrapped gifts to *Timothy's Toy Box*, a local organization that has made a serious commitment to making the holidays special for children and for youth in less fortunate situations.

### SAVE YOUR GLASS JARS

On **December 21**, for *The Longest Night* service we will place tea lights in glass jars to illuminate the Sanctuary. Please wash your jars thoroughly and remove all labels. We do not need any lids. Drop your jars off in the Sanctuary Vestibule, between December 12 and 19.

### RACIAL JUSTICE RESOURCES IN THE LIBRARY

The Racial Justice bookshelf in the Library has been updated recently. Thank you to those who donated new titles. We invite everyone to spend a few minutes browsing the shelves when you are in the building. If you choose to take out a book, please use the sign-out clipboard, so we have a record of borrowed books. Also now on display in the Library are three framed articles (*see photo below*) that provide information about Framingham's history with slavery, with specific references to individual slaves in our early church years, and, a century later, to the abolitionist period.



### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGNUP!

**TODAY** is the last day to sign up to participate in this year's Living Nativity Christmas Pageant! Sign-ups are on line and are due by 5pm tonight. There are still plenty of good parts and scenes to go around!

### MAMA JUNIOR'S HOPE TREE

The Youth Group is raising funds to help Aisha's family recover from the fire that destroyed their home. You can sponsor an item on their wish list by choosing an ornament from Mama Junior's Hope Tree! Fill out your ornament, place it and your donation in the provided envelope, and add it to the offering plate any Sunday during Advent. *Please do NOT bring physical items to donate as shipping to Tanzania is cost prohibitive.*

### CHRIS THAYER HOSPITALIZED

As many of you know, Chris Thayer was recently admitted to MetroWest Hospital, in Framingham, for a serious illness. Chris and her husband Barry could use our love and support. Please send cards to 229 Edmands Road, Framingham, MA 01701, and Barry will bring them to Chris. If you would like to visit, please call the Hall Nurse Coordinator first to see if it's a good time for a brief visit. Thank you.

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## ADVENT PREVIEW

**December 12: Online Home Cooking Sale Pickup**

**December 19:** Living Pageant, with Petting Zoo!

**December 21:** The Longest Night, 7:00 p.m.

**December 24:** Christmas Eve, 5:00 p.m.

**December 26:** Online only, *Facebook & YouTube*

**January 2:** Online only, *Facebook & YouTube*

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# The Third Sunday of Advent

*The Magi Meet with Herod*

Prelude *Once In Royal David's City* arr. Farlee

Welcome

Responsive Prayer of Invocation

One: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Holy One is my strength and my might; the Most High has become my salvation.

**All: With joy we draw water from the wells of salvation. And proclaim today: Give thanks to the Holy One, call on the name of the Lord. Make known God's deeds among the nations and God's work among the people. Sing praises to the Lord, who has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (Isaiah 12:2-6)**

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 2:1-12*

Movement Meditation

Lighting of the Advent Candle for Joy

One: May this candle blaze brightly for all who journey in JOY

**All: May this candle light the way home.**

Message for All Ages

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

*Children may transition to Faith Workshop at this time.*

Sermon

Hymn *Watcher, Tell Us of the Night*

Benediction

Postlude *Noel* *Charpentier*

Announcements

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*Isa. 21:11-12**John Bowring, 1825; alt.*

1 Watch-er, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom-ise are.  
 2 Watch-er, tell us of the night, high-er yet that star as-cends.  
 3 Watch-er, tell us of the night, for the morn-ing seems to dawn.

Trav - eler, O a won-drous sight! See that glo-ry - beam-ing star!  
 Trav - eler, bless-ed - ness and light, peace and truth its course por - tends.  
 Trav - eler, shad-ows take their flight, doubt and ter-ror are with-drawn.

Watch-er, does its beau - teous ray news of joy or hope fore - tell?  
 Watch-er, will its beams a - lone gild the spot that gave them birth?  
 Watch-er, you may go your way; has - ten to your qui - et home.

Trav-eler, yes; it brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el!  
 Trav-eler, a - ges are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth!  
 Trav-eler, I re - joi-ce to-day, for Em - man - u - el has come!

*This hymn, a dialogue between watcher and traveler, was suggested by the dialogue in Isaiah 21:11-12. John Bowring was a gifted linguist, worker for political and social reform, member of Parliament, and governor of Hong Kong.*

Tune: ABERYSTWYTH 7.7.7.7.D.

*Joseph Parry, 1879*

Alternate tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR