

# First Sunday of Advent

## Service of Holy Communion

December 3, 2023



About that day, or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

Keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come; in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, lest he may find you asleep when he comes.

So, what I say to you, I say to all: "Keep awake."

Mark 13

---

## Sunday, December 3, 2023

Tolling of the Bells

Prelude

*Let All Mortal Flesh*

Young

Call to Worship

*Isaiah 64:1*

\*Opening Hymn

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

*(Pilgrim Hymnal, 110)*

Welcome and Announcements

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You call us to one table, yet we pursue our own course. You promise us the abundance of all creation, but in greed and envy, too many families go without. You promise us the bread of life, but in our pride and arrogance, the world goes hungry. You promise us the waters of peace with justice, but in our violence and discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Jesus. Have compassion on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, in this house, and at your table, by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Passing of the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

Isaiah 58:6-8, 60:1-3

Blessing

Sermon

*"Glory, Glory, Hallelujah"*

Choir Anthem

*Behold A Star from Jacob Shining*

*Mendelssohn*

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.*

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

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

**- Children enter the Sanctuary -**

---

\* As the Spirit guides you, we encourage you to rise in body or spirit.

---

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

*Of The Father's Love Begotten*

*Held*

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, & Spirit one. Amen.*

Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope

Unison Prayer

**God, light the way. We scramble and hurry things along. Remind us to be still and inhale deeply. *\*pause\** Restrain our frenzied spirits. Slow us down to linger longer here at the threshold of your arrival. In the fullness of time, may the light of your hope shine clearly before us.**

Holy Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion Hymn

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

Remembering the Story

Consecration

*A Deacon will signal your pew when to come forward to receive the bread and cup. If you would prefer not to come forward, they can serve you directly in your pews. This morning, the bread is allergen free and the cup contains grape juice. Bring both back to the pew with you, and wait until all have been served, so that we may eat together.*

Sharing the Elements

Post-Communion Prayer

\*Closing Hymn

*All Earth Is Waiting*

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

*Sing We a Glad Noel*

*Wood*

---

\* As the Spirit guides you, we encourage you to rise in body or spirit.

---

Following the Closing Hymn, we encourage the congregation to remain risen, in body or spirit, to receive the Benediction, which is both blessing and commission. You may sit for the Choral Response and Postlude in quiet contemplation.

All are invited to the Parish Hall for coffee, tea, and snacks. We understand it can be difficult to step into a room of strangers. We hope, with every cup and cookie, we can deepen our connections and learn a little more about each other each week.



## He Came Down 137

He came down that we may have love; he

came down that we may have love; he came down that we may

have love; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.

*Leader:* Why did he come?

---

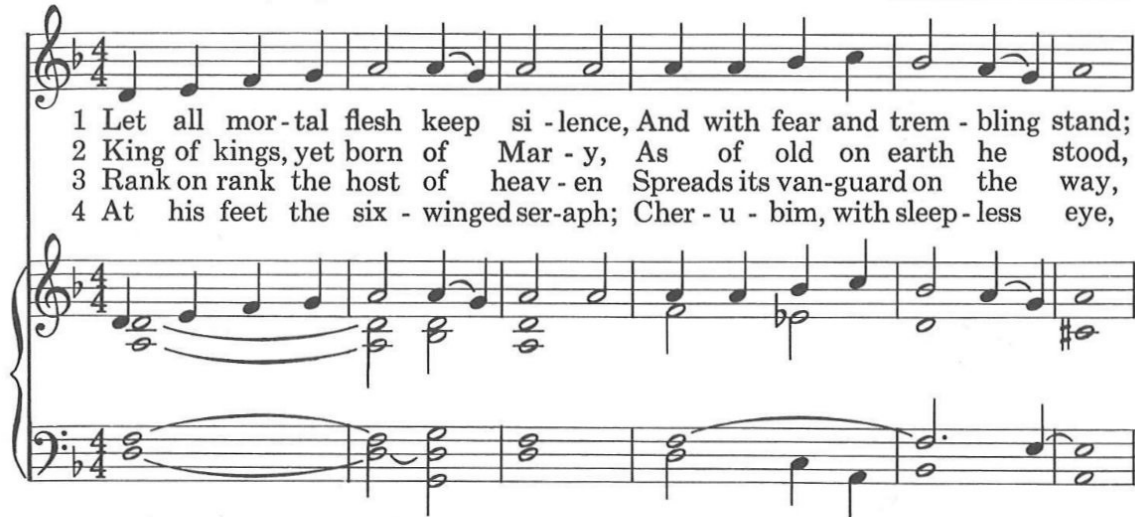
\* As the Spirit guides you, we encourage you to rise in body or spirit.

# Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

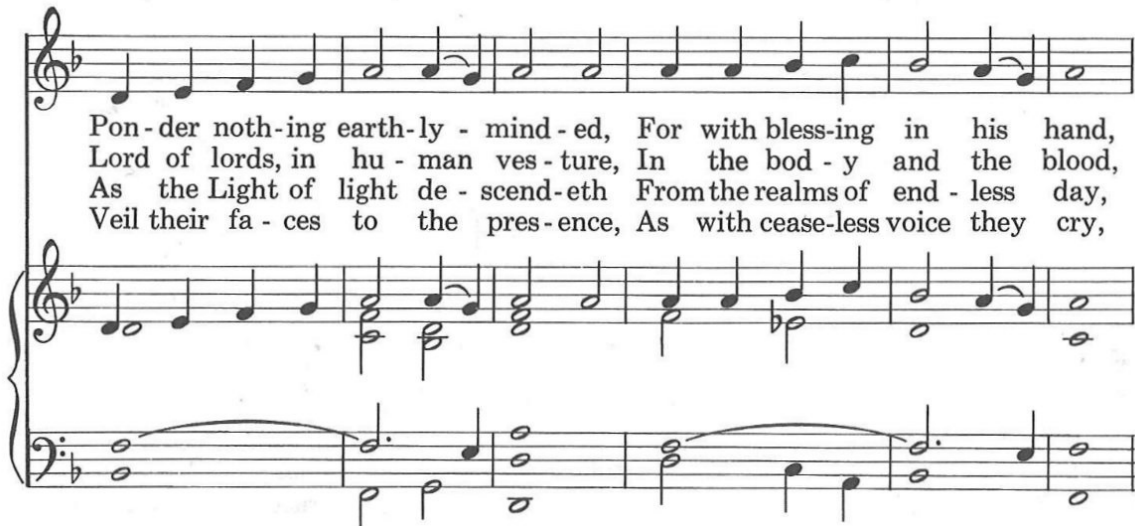
107

Liturgy of St. James  
Tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1820-1885

PICARDY 8.7.8.7.8.7.  
Traditional French Carol



1 Let all mor-tal flesh keep si-lence, And with fear and trem-bling stand;  
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar-y, As of old on earth he stood,  
3 Rank on rank the host of heav-en Spreads its van-guard on the way,  
4 At his feet the six-winged ser-aph; Cher-u-bim, with sleep-less eye,



Pon-der noth-ing earth-ly - mind-ed, For with bless-ing in his hand,  
Lord of lords, in hu-man ves-ture, In the bod-y and the blood,  
As the Light of light de-scend-eth From the realms of end-less day,  
Veil their fa-ces to the pres-ence, As with cease-less voice they cry,



Christ our God to earth de-scend-eth, Our full hom-age to de-mand.  
He will give to all the faith-ful His own self for heaven-ly food.  
That the powers of hell may van-ish As the dark-ness clears a-way.  
Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Lord Most High! A-men.

139

All Earth Is Waiting

Unison

D F#m Em A7

1. All earth is wait-ing to see the Prom-ised One,  
 2. Thus says the proph-et to those of Is - ra - el,  
 3. Moun-tains and val-leys will have to be made plain;  
 4. In low - ly sta - ble the Prom-ised One ap - peared,

D F#m G A

and o - pen fur - rows, the sow - ing of our God. All the  
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em-man - u - el": one whose  
 o - pen new high-ways, new high-ways for our God, who is  
 yet feel that pres-ence through-out the earth to - day, for Christ

Bm F#m G D

world, bound and strug-gling, seeks true lib - er - ty; it  
 name is "God with us," our Sav - ior shall be, through  
 now com - ing clos - er, so come all and see, and  
 lives in all Chris-tians and is with us now; a -

Bm F#m 1-3 Em A7 4 Em F#7/A D

cries out for jus - tice and search-es for the truth.  
 whom hope will blos-som once more with-in our hearts.  
 o - pen the door-ways as wide as wide can be.  
 gain, on ar - riv - ing Christ brings us lib-er-ty.

WORDS: Alberto Taulé, 1972; tr. Gertrude C. Suppe, 1987, alt.  
 MUSIC: Alberto Taulé, 1972; harm. Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1988

TAULÉ  
 11 11.12 12

Words and music © 1972 The Pastoral Musicians; tr. © 1989 The United  
 Methodist Publishing House; harm. used by permission of Juan Francisco  
 Chávey

♩=70-76



# Bulletin Reminders

*After worship, Rev. Morisse is available for conversation in the Parish Hall.*

## **BEHOLD A STAR FROM JACOB SHINING**

*Mendelssohn-Bartholdy*

Behold a star from Jacob shining,  
And a scepter from Israel rising,  
To reign in glory over the nations.

Like some bright morning star is he,  
The promise of the coming day  
Beyond the night of sorrow.

Break forth, O Light!  
We, our joyful hearts uplifting with thanksgiving,  
Hail the brightness of Thy rising.

*Copyright 1936 E.C. Schirmer Music Co.  
OneLicense.net License # A-718121*



## **PRAYER DISCUSSION GROUP**

Today, we'll start exploring the ins and outs of *The Lord's Prayer*. We'll meet in the Parlor, about 20 minutes after the service. All are welcome!

## **CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR**

**December 9, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Keefe Tech, 750 Winter Street, Framingham  
Sponsored by the *Framingham Rotary Club*, the Keefe Tech Christmas Craft Fair boast 117 crafters, offering everything from Christmas fudge to fancy shawls, plus a Christmas raffle. Free to the public.

## **ADVENT SPIRAL**

Join us next Sunday, **December 10**, at 5:00 p.m., for a holiday experience of quiet reverence. Participants carry a candle into the center of a spiral of greens, symbolizing the journey of Advent.

## **LUNCH AFTER CHURCH**

**Hosted by Tea and Greg**

We wish to offer our deepest gratitude and appreciation for all the love and generosity shown to us by the church! We plan to host a lunch of Cambodian food after the Christmas Pageant, on Sunday, **December 17**, in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

## **THE MITTEN TREE**

*Coming soon!* The Mitten Tree will be going up soon. This annual drive supports students in the Framingham Public Schools. Take a wish slip hanging from the boughs, purchase the item on the list, and place it underneath the tree. Items will be delivered to school nurses in January.

## **DECEMBER COFFEE KLATCH**

The December Klatch leaders are Leona Dalton and Al Rapoza. See your Wednesday Email for the December roster.

\$19.99 per  
plant

# Christmas Poinsettias

Deadline  
12/10

## THE PLYMOUTH CHURCH IN FRAMINGHAM CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Orders for poinsettia plants given in memory, or in honor, of a special person (or persons) to decorate the Sanctuary for the Christmas Eve services may be called in to the church office or dropped by/sent with this form no later than Sunday, December 10. This year the price is \$19.99/plant. Please make checks payable to: Plymouth Church.

Given by \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No. \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Plants \_\_\_\_\_ x \$19.99 \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

I will take my poinsettia(s) home with me.

I would like the Sunshine Committee to deliver my poinsettia(s) to someone in need of holiday cheer.

*Please print legibly. Thank you!*

