

Elijah Kellogg Church Communion Sunday Service January 2, 2022

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements / Sharing of the Peace

***Call to Worship** (Responsive) (from Hebrews 1-2)

Long ago, God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets.
But in these days, God has spoken by His Son.

He is the reflection of God's glory, and the imprint of God's very being.
Therefore we must pay attention, so we do not drift away.

***Prayer of Invocation and Lord's Prayer** (debts and debtors)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***Hymn 120** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Owning our Church Covenant (in unison)

We covenant with one another to seek and respond to the Word and the Will of God. We purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the Church to witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world, while worshipping God and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did our forbears, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.

Anthem "Beautiful Light" (arr. Larry Shackley)

Scripture Matthew 2: 1-12

Meditation "Paying attention... and following stars..."

Piano Response

Harpswell Community Radio – WHPW 97.3 FM

Harpswell Community Television – Channel 14

Vimeo – <https://vimeo.com/harpswelltv>

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Communion

Invitation

Words of Institution

The Giving of the Bread

The Giving of the Cup

Thanksgiving

***Hymn 119 “As With Gladness”**

Benediction / Choral Blessing

Postlude

Matthew 2: 1 – 12

Revised Standard Version

The Visit of the Wise Men

2 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, ²“Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ ‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.’”

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; ⁸and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; ¹¹and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

MENDELSSOHN 7.7.7.7.D. with Refrain

Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

Arr. by William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of right-eous-ness!

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time be - hold him come, Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, Risen with heal - ing in his wings,

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

As With Gladness Men of Old

119

William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.

DIX 7.7.7.7.7.

Adapted from a chorale by Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be - hold;
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped To that low - ly man - ger - bed,
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare, At the man - ger rude and bare,
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - ery day Keep us in the nar - row way;

As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;
 There to bend the knee be - fore Him whom heaven and earth a - dore;
 So may we with ho - ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al - loy,
 And, when earth - ly things are past, Bring our ran - somed souls at last

So, most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev - er - more be led to thee.
 So may we with will - ing feet Ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
 All our cost - liest treas - ures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav - en - ly King.
 Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds thy glo - ry hide. A - men.

Serving you this morning:

Minister	Rev. John Carson
Director of Education & Outreach	Denise Perry
Music Director	Sue Luce
Pianist	Elizabeth Cromwell
Reader	Ruth Smith
Ushers	Sheila Bohlin & Harry Arnold

Prayer Requests for January 2, 2022

At home...

Jane Collins
Jim Henry

Blee Horton
Ed Phinney

Connie Henry
Gary Anderson

In nursing homes...

Sam Wright
Ruth Stone

In assisted living...

Vangie Sparks
Ernestine Machesney

Joan Phillips

Away...

Ellie and George Patterson

George & Jane Perkins

Sick, in the hospital or rehabilitation...

Trina, a friend of Ruth Smith
Tom Jones
Betty McCausland

Jessica, a friend of Susan Ferris
Anne and Alan Barker, friends of Carmen Fortin
Gordon & Lorna Kaufman, friends of the Deinzer's

Recovering from injury, illness or surgery...

Harold Weeks
Cliff Bailey, friend of Nancy Simboli
Aaron, Nellie and Addie Hollingshead
Heidi Carlson

Jan Raslavsky
Ken and Ann Carter
John, friend of Herb Ferris

Grieving...

Flor family on the loss of Sue Flor, Nancy Simboli's sister in-law
Bennet Family on the loss of Arnold Bennett
Braley Family on the loss of Chris's grandfather, Cliff Braley

Special concerns...

Emergency responders / Health care workers / Essential workers...

Thanksgivings...

Joys...

Praise God for our partnership with WHPW / Channel 14!

Please keep those named above in your prayers. If you have any questions, or would like others to be prayed for, please contact Rev. Carson, or Susan Ferris, Chairperson of our Prayer Circle, at 666-3247, or sueherb@myfairpoint.net. Thank you.

Annual Reports

Annual reports of the officers, boards and committees are due in the Church office no later than Monday, January 17.

Pledge Envelopes

Pledge envelopes have been delayed, but should be arriving soon. Please continue to use what you have left from 2021 until the new ones arrive.

Board of Finance

Our stewardship campaign will soon come to an end and we will then work to finalize the Church budget for 2022. Your donations make it possible for the Church to energize its various boards and committees, to bring Christ's message to Harpswell, and to engage actively with the community. We thank God for the generosity that you have shown to date, and are pleased to report that we are more than 60% of the way toward our pledge goal of \$150,000. We pray that those of you who have not yet sent in your pledge cards will find a way to do so by the first week in January.

~ HAPPY ~
New Year
★ 2022 ★