



# Elijah Kellogg Church, Congregational

917 Harpswell Neck Rd., Harpswell ME 04079 • 207-833-6026 • [www.elijahkelloggchurch.org](http://www.elijahkelloggchurch.org)

Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly, Interim Pastor

## ELIJAH KELLOGG CHURCH WORSHIP

December 3, 2023 - First Sunday of Advent,  
The Sunday on Which We Commemorate Hope  
Communion Sunday

Thoughts for Meditation — “Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in a lifetime; therefore we must be saved by hope.” — Reinhold Niebuhr

“Hope does not need to silence the rumblings of crisis to still be hope.” — Walter Brueggemann

“You do not need to know precisely what is happening, or exactly where it is all going. What you need is to recognize the possibilities and challenges offered by the present moment, and to embrace them with courage, faith and hope.” — Thomas Merton

“Hope has an astonishing resilience and strength. Its very persistence in our hearts indicates that it is not a tonic for wishful thinkers but the ground on which realists stand.” — Kathleen Norris, *Acedia & Me*

### **Prelude**

Welcome and Announcements

### **Passing of the Peace...**

Call to Worship — The Lighting of the Advent Candle

A Canticle to the tune of HESPERUS

O God of Hope, to You we pray;  
In You we place our trust this day.  
Be now our guide, show us Your light.  
And lead us through the deepest night.

**ONE:** Today is the First Sunday in Advent. Advent marks a time of waiting and preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus, a time we are reminded the birth we celebrate represents the hope God sees, a time for us to walk in the light of God.

**ALL:** Today, as we light the first candle, let us allow the flickering flame to remind us that our hope is lived out in prayer and in action, in worship and in work.

(The First Candle is lit.)

**\* Prayer of Invocation**

**\* HYMN** — *We Hail You God's Anointed*    INSERT

**An Order for the Sacrament of Communion**

*{Note: in the Protestant Tradition we celebrate two sacraments. Baptism is one. The sharing of bread and cup is known by several names: Eucharist, Communion and the Lord's Supper. All are welcome at the table, including children who may partake of the Sacrament at the discretion of parents, care-givers or guardians. }*

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

**\*OFFERING RESPONSE (DOXOLOGY)**

***Old One-hundredth***

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Owning Our Church Covenant**

**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 our community, the nation and all the world, while worshiping God and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did our forebears, 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.**

**CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**RESPONSIVE COMMUNION PRAYERS**

**ONE:**     God be with you.

**MANY:**   **And also with you.**

**ONE:**     Be free with your hearts.

**MANY:**   **We give them freely to God.**

**ONE:**     Let us give thanks to God.

**MANY:**   **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## CONSECRATION

Holy God, we praise You for Your creation, remember Your covenant, made with Your people, shown in fullness with the birth of Jesus and completed in the resurrection of the Christ. We remember too, that on the night of betrayal, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to the disciples saying: “This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, Jesus took the cup, saying: “This is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.”

Consecrate, therefore, by Your Holy Spirit, O God, these gifts, and bless us that, as we receive them, we may be united with Christ and one another, and continue to be faithful in all things. Amen.

Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. And through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.

## THE LORD’S PRAYER

Let us now pray, as the saints who have witnessed to us and preceded us throughout the ages have prayed by reciting *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 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.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*(Note: when the elements are distributed it is suggested you partake of the bread when it is received. This is a symbol of our freedom. It is suggested we partake the cup together as a symbol of our unity.)*

These are the gifts of God for the people of God; take them in remembrance that Christ died and was raised for you.

## THANKSGIVING

**We thank you God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ’s gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth Your presence in our lives. We pray these things in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen.**

## INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE EPISTLES — 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 [ILV]

[3] Grace to you and peace from our loving God and from our Savior, Jesus, the Christ.

[4] I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, [5] for in every way you have been richly endowed in Christ, in speech and in knowledge of every kind. [6] In the same way, the testimony about Christ has been strengthened and so confirmed among you [7] that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Savior Jesus, the Christ. [8] God will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Savior Jesus, the Christ. [9] God is faithful; by God you were called into the fellowship of the Child of God, Jesus, Who is the Christ, into intimacy with Jesus, the Christ, Who is our Savior.

SPECIAL MUSIC —

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS — Mark 13:24-37 [ILV]

[24] {Jesus said;} “But in those days,  
after that time of distress,  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
[25] and the stars  
will fall from sky,  
and the powers in the heavens  
will be shaken.

[26] Then they will see ‘the Promised One coming in clouds’ with great power and glory.  
[27] Angels will be sent and gather the chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.”

[28] “Take the fig tree as a parable; learn its lesson: as soon as its branch grows supple and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. [29] So in the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that the Promised One is near, at the very gates. [30] Truly I tell you, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. [31] Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.”

[32] “But as for the day or hour nobody knows it— neither the angels of heaven, nor the Only Begotten One— no one but *Abba*, God knows it. [33] So, be constantly on the watch! Beware! Keep alert! Stay awake! You do not know when the appointed time will come.

[34] It is like people going on a journey, traveling abroad. When they leave their home and put their workers in charge, each has a certain task. And those with orders to watch at the front gate, the doorkeepers, need to stay on alert. [35] Therefore, keep awake! You do not know when the owner of the house will come— whether dusk or at midnight or when the cock crows or at early dawn. [36] Do not let the owner suddenly come and catch you asleep. [37] What I say to you I say to all: stay alert! Keep awake!”

\* HYMN — *Wake Awake, for Night Is Flying* INSERT

MEDITATION — *The Call of God*

## Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

SILENCE

\* **HYMN** — *Wake, My Soul* INSERT, v. 1, 2, 3

**BENEDICTION**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** — *Wake, My Soul* INSERT, v. 4

**Postlude**

Harpswell Community Radio – WHPW 97.3 FM

Harpswell Community Television – Channel 14

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/7960701>

Serving you this morning:	
Interim Minister	Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly
Pianist	Elizabeth Cromwell
Reader	Eric Wohltjen
Ushers	Wendy Van Damme & Ned Pierce
Coffee Hour	Hospitality
Advent Liturgy	Rick & Signe Daniel

## Pastor's Office Hours

**Office hours for the week of December 4<sup>th</sup>**

Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 - 11:00.

**The Bible Study passage for Monday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. is:**

Mark 1:1-8

# We Hail You God's Anointed

James Montgomery, 1821; alt.



1 We hail you God's a - noint - ed, the long - a - wait - ed One!  
2 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
3 The wise shall bow be - fore you and gold and in - cense bring;  
4 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, you on your throne shall rest;



Hail in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!  
and joy and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.  
all na - tions shall a - dore you, and praise all peo - ples sing;  
from age to age more glo - rious, all - bless - ing and all - blessed:



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;  
Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go,  
To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows be said,  
The tide of time shall nev - er your cov - e - nant re - move;



to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.  
and righ - teous - ness, in foun - tains, from hill to val - ley flow.  
your realm is still in - creas - ing, with you, O Christ, as head.  
your name shall stand for - ev - er, your change - less name of Love.





# Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608  
Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

WACHET AUF 8.9.8.8.9.8.6.6.4.8.8.  
Melody by Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608  
Harm. by J.S. Bach, 1685-1750

1 Wake, a-wake, for night is fly - ing; The watch-men on the  
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing; Her heart with deep de -

heights are cry - ing, A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!  
light is spring - ing, She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom,

Mid-night's sol - emn hour is toll - ing; His char-iot wheels are  
For her Lord comes down all glo - rious, In grace ar - rayed, by

near - er roll - ing; He comes! O Church, lift up thine eyes!  
truth vic - to - rious; Her star is risen, her light is come!

Rise up, with will - ing feet Go forth, the Bride - groom meet:  
Ah, come thou bless - ed One, God's own be - lov - ed Son,

Hal - le - lu - jah! Lo, great and small, We an - swer all;  
Hal - le - lu - jah! We haste a - long, An ea - ger throng,

We fol - low where thy voice shall call.  
And glad - some join the ad - vent song. A - men.



# Wake, My Soul

Heb. 12:28; Ps. 30:4-5, 11-12

Friedrich R. L. von Canitz (1654-1699)

Transl. Madeleine Forell Marshall, 1993

1 Wake, my soul, with all things liv - ing, thanks be giv - ing to the  
2 All your hope - ful plans con - fess - ing, ask for bless - ing on that  
3 Cry for help, when griefs as - sail you, good friends fail you, life is  
4 Af - ter one last night of weep - ing, one last sleep - ing, you shall

Source of life and day. Sun - light comes and gone con -  
good which you would do; But if you should need cor -  
hope - less, death ap - pears. One whose child knew deep af -  
wake to pure de - light. You at last shall know per -

fu - sion, night's il - lu - sion, like the star - light, fades a - way.  
rec - tion, ask di - rec - tion, pray for pur - pose, clear and new.  
flic - tion, cru - ci - fix - ion, ev - er waits to dry your tears.  
fec - tion, pure af - fec - tion, bathed in God's own morn - ing light.

## Prayer Requests for December 3, 2023

### At home...

Bill Menz

Mark Wilson

Connie Henry

### In nursing homes...

Sam Wright  
David Ferris

### In assisted living...

Gary Anderson  
Ernestine Machesney

Tom Jones  
Joan Phillips

### Away...

Richard Haley

C V Noyes

George Patterson

### Sick, in the hospital or rehabilitation...

### Recovering from illness or surgery...

Dana Porter Carson

Nancy Simboli

George Perkins

### Grieving...

Family of Ellie Patterson

### Thanksgivings...

The Pastoral Search Committee

### Special concerns...

The School House 1913 fire victims Joseph Arena & Caroline Daniel

For the people in the paths of storms and fires

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

Praise God for our partnership with WHPW and 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 Susan Ferris, Chairperson of our Prayer Circle.

Susan can be reached at 666-3247 or sueherb@myfairpoint.net.

Thank You

# Moment for Missions

**Angel Tree** – Today is the day all gifts must be returned.

**Please remember that they are to be unwrapped and your Angel tag needs to be included within your bag of gifts.**

If you have any questions on procedures, please contact Carrie Bubier.

The Board of Missions is pleased to announce that we raised \$555.00 for Blanket Sunday. This will go a long way in supporting this mission. Thank you all for your contributions.

Thank you,  
Board of Missions

## Wanted \*\* Advertising Team

After a couple of years of doing the advertising for church events, activities and suppers, I am ready to pass the baton to someone else or a team of people. This is a great opportunity for several folks to work together. I have completed the ad for our upcoming Christmas Services with the Anchor, and will be ready to work with folks to start off the New Year! Please contact me if you are interested, and I have good notes to pass along to our new person or team.

Thank you,  
Carrie Bubier

## Name Tags

If you do not have a name tag and would like one, please sign up for one. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board where the name tags are kept.

There are also spare magnets on the board, should you need one for your name tag.

## Women's Fellowship December 5, 2023

The next meeting of the Women's Fellowship will be on December 5, 2023 at 11:00 in Fellowship Hall. This is our annual Christmas party and meeting. All women are invited to attend. Please bring an appetizer to share and a gift for the grab bag. The theme for the grab bag gift is a cookbook you no longer use or want. Just wrap it up and someone else will find new joy or ideas for cooking! Dessert and drinks will be provided.

# *Poinsettia*

## *Order 2023*



Our Church will be decorated with a grand array of poinsettias for Christmas.

If you wish to donate a plant to decorate the church, please complete this form and either place it in the Flower Committee mailbox or give it to a Flower Committee member.

The cost of each poinsettia plant will be \$13.00. Checks should be made payable to: Elijah Kellogg Church, and should be received by noon, Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Please note, no orders will be accepted after this date.**

You can pick up your poinsettia in the sanctuary after the Christmas services.

If you are not able to do so, please have someone pick it up for you.

**I would like to have \_\_\_\_\_ plant(s) to beautify the sanctuary.**

Poinsettia color choice: Red \_\_\_\_\_

White \_\_\_\_\_

Pink \_\_\_\_\_

**Wreath Donation \$\_\_\_\_\_**

Please list in the bulletin as follows:

In Loving memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

As in the past, you may choose to contribute to the cost of the wreaths hanging on the church doors. Fill out the above and send along with your donation of \$10.00.

For information, please contact a Flower Committee member: Susan Anderson, Linda Clement, Elizabeth Dyer, Becky Gallery, or Judith Stanton

Thank you!