

***Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC***

*Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!*

**December 3, 2016: First Sunday of Advent**

*Please silence all electronic devices. Thank you!*

*\* indicates times when you're invited to rise in body or spirit*

**Gathering Music & The Ringing of the Church Bell**

**Greetings and Announcements**

**Centering Prayer**

**Prelude and Lighting of the Altar Lights**

*Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine*

*Robert L Hughes*

**Call to Seek the Light: Lighting the Candle of Hope**

**Leader:** In the shadows of fear and pain, we seek the light.

In the deep forest of our despair, our prayers shine out.

The first candle of Advent is the candle of hope.

What opposes hope in our world?

**People responding**\_\_\_\_\_

**Leader:** With courage, we claim that one small flame can stand for hope, against all that would extinguish it.

Can this Advent light stand against these powers?

**People: Amen – light the candle.**

**Leader:** (*lighting the candle*) We light peace on this wreath in our church on Sunday morning. What will you do?

**People: Emmanuel, God being with us, we will live this hope.**

**\*Hymn:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Pilgrim Hymnal #110  
(Bell Choir Intro, then congregation)

**Prayer of Confession: The storms of the season have come, O God:**

The frenzied winds of consumerism, the avalanche of ads,  
The hailstorm of false cheer and too-bright lights. It teases  
& tempts, promising a haven from all that is wrong. Dear God,  
there is so much wrong around us. Come, Emmanuel!

Help us repent and refocus, naming the wrong, and our part  
in it, so we can seek a different way.

**Words of Assurance**

**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  
trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And  
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For  
thine is the kingdom, & the power, & the glory, forever. Amen

**Gloria Patri:** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the  
Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end! Amen, Amen!

**Hebrew Scripture Reading:** Isaiah 64:1-9 KJV555 /CEB573 /MSG1013

**Time for All God's Children**

**Vocal Choir:** *Come Follow That Star*

*Don Besig*

**Pastoral Prayer:** May the Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up unto the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord

**It is right to give God thanks and praise!**

**Offertory:** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* Edward Broughton

**\*Doxology:** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below!

Praise God, above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Gospel Reading:** Mark 13:24-37 KJV 744 /CEB 775 /MSG 1397

**Message:** Awakenings

Rev. Holly S. Morrison

**Sacrament of Communion**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

Light of the World, thank you. We have tasted your promises.

We have taken your gifts into our bodies. Now we bear your love!

**\*Hymn:** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Pilgrim Hymnal #103

**Benediction**

**Extinguishing the Altar Lights:** *Take the Light of Christ into the world!*

**Postlude:** *Ring the Joyous Christmas Bells*

*Lani Smith*

**Thanks to today's service participants:**

Organist: Sharon Bond      Lay Reader: Berenice Knight  
Head/Asst Deacons: Brad Hart/Berenice Knight & Ann Bradbury  
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**Welcome to the Phippsburg Congregational Church!** Please sign our guest book in the narthex and stay for refreshments and fellowship in the Linden Tree Meeting House following the service. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

**Need a Large-print bulletin, bible, or hearing-assist device? Please ask one of our deacons for these.**

**CALENDAR**

- Sun. Dec. 3      Worship 10 AM: First Sunday of Advent  
Christmas Sales and Fairs, LTMH*
- Mon. Dec. 4:      Lectionary Bible Study 1:30-3 PM, LTMH  
Restorative Yoga 6-7:30 PM, LTMH*
- Tues. Dec. 5:      Vocal Choir Practice 6 PM  
Church Council 7 PM*
- Wed. Dec. 6:      Tai Chi 10 AM, LTMH*
- Thurs. Dec. 7:      Bell Choir Practice, 9 AM*
- Sun. Dec. 10:      Worship 10 AM: Second Sunday of Advent  
Christmas Sales and Fairs, LTMH*
- Thurs. Dec. 13      Old West Bath Meeting House: Christmas  
Service & Carol Sing, 7:00 PM*
- Sat. Dec. 16      A Christmas Concert: 7:30 PM  
[www.phippsburgucc.org/concerts](http://www.phippsburgucc.org/concerts)*

**PASTOR'S SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 3 – DECEMBER 9:**

Monday: Noon- 4 PM In Office  
Tuesday: Local visitation and outreach  
Wednesday: Clergy Advent Planning Retreat 8 AM-5 PM  
Thursday: Day Off  
Fri & Sat: Visitation & working from home, reachable by phone/email  
Please contact Holly as needs arise: 207-504-0107/revcelt@gmail.com.

**POINSETTIAS FOR THE CHURCH:**

You're invited to bring your own poinsettias this year for display by Dec 17<sup>th</sup>. There's a signup in Narthex for Memorial and Honor notices.



**United Church of Christ**  
est. 1765

We honor and respect those who have gone before, lighting the candles of our faith and opening the doors of our beloved church in welcome to all who enter. We acknowledge and accept our responsibility to be good stewards of this church and faith community. We believe Jesus fully revealed our living God's unconditional love and calls us to share that love with all so that we may help transform the world and ourselves. We value community and celebrate those distinct gifts we each bring to our community. We strive to actively practice generosity, hospitality, and stewardship of all of God's creation. And in all things we seek the Righteousness, Justice, and Peace that is God's Shalom on earth as it is in heaven.

**Rev. Holly S. Morrison, pastor & teacher**  
**[www.phippsburgucc.org](http://www.phippsburgucc.org)**

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