

CALENDAR	
MONDAY, December 5	
Church Office	9:30-2:30
AA (Bruce Hall)	6:30 —7:30
TUESDAY, December 6	
Church Office	9:30-2:30
WEDNESDAY, December 7	
Church Office Open	9:30-2:30
Prayer Circle	9 a.m.
AA Women's Group	6:30—8 p.m.
THURSDAY, December 8	
Church Office Open	9:30-2:30
BET Meeting	8:30 a.m.
Miracle Kitchen	10:00 a.m.
FRIDAY, December 9	
Church Office	9:30-2:30
AA	7:00 p.m.
SATURDAY, December 10	
SUNDAY, December 11	
3rd Sunday of Advent	
Worship	10 a.m.
Sunday School	10:15 a.m.

REMINDER: If you holding a meeting at Cotuit Federated Church, please let the office know so we can avoid scheduling conflicts. Thank you in advance for your help!



Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 4 | 10 o'clock in the morning

40 School Street | Post Office Box 436 | Cotuit, MA 02635

www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org | 508-428-6163

The Prayer Book of John the Baptist

Is written on
locusts' wings.

Is stained with
wild honey.

Is buckled by
baptismal waters.

Is mostly
pages of wilderness
where prayers are formed
not from what is present
but from what has been
worn away.

Is inscribed
with an ancient path.
Is waiting.

Is falling open
toward the light.

—Jan Richardson

GUEST INFORMATION: Thank you for worshipping with us today! Pick up a welcome brochure to learn more about our church. Join us for coffee hour following today's worship — just follow the crowd to our community room (Bruce Hall). Both our sanctuary and community room are handicapped-accessible at the High Street entrance. Handicapped parking is available on High Street and in the driveway to Bruce Hall. Please ask a Greeter or Deacon to answer any questions.

FELLOWSHIP PADS: Whenever you have questions or comments, feel free to note them in the red fellowship pads available at each pew. Everyone — guests and regular attenders alike — are asked to sign the fellowship pads when passed during the Offering. If you are a first time visitor, please include your email or physical mailing address.

PRAYER CARDS: You will find prayer request cards at the Welcome Center and in the pew racks. You are invited to fill out a card and place it in the offering basket. If you want your request included in next Sunday's bulletin, please check the appropriate box.

OUR E-LIST: The "Weekly Word" is an e-mail newsletter for our members and friends. If you do not receive it and would like to, please complete the New Comer form available in the Welcome Packet, or call the Church Office at (508) 428-6163 or e-mail cfc436@gmail.com to sign up.

ALTAR FLOWERS: If you would like to donate flowers on any given Sunday, please sign up on the Sign-Up Sheet or contact Shannon in the office—(508) 428-6163— with your dedication.

***Please join us today for coffee and refreshments
following the service.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIRACLE KITCHEN & FAITH FAMILY KITCHEN:

Thursday, December 8th, Wednesday, December 21st, & Tuesday, December 27th

The Salvation Army (100 North Street, Hyannis) is back up and running. Miracle Kitchen food will be prepared there on the 2nd Thursday and 4th Tuesday of each month. The Faith Family Kitchen is also back and is the 3rd Wednesday of the month 4:30 –7 p.m. For more information about volunteering for either of these wonderful programs, contact Ken Molloy at kmacape@comcast.net.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SNACK SERVICES

Tuesday, December 27th

Moving forward on the **4th Tuesday** of each month CFC will provide the snack break to Habitat for Humanity volunteer crews at the build site on Willet Way in East Falmouth. Donations of **MUFFINS and COOKIES** can be dropped off at the church by the Monday before the Tuesday service.

If you can donate please contact Jack and Susan Gardner at gardnersj54@gmail.com or 508-420-0173 .

TODAY'S SERVERS

Ministers: *The People of Cotuit Federated Church*
Pastor: *Rev. Angela Menke Ballou* | Director of Music: *Megan Anthony*
Deacon: *Jen Nash* | Worship Steward: *Micheal O' Toole*
Lay Reader: *Beth Crouch* | Greeters: *Kate Christian & Scott Berkey*
Director of Christian Education: *Lynne Belfiore*
Admin. Assistant for Ministry: *Shannon Boon* | Sexton: *Mark Eames*

Thank you to all who served today!

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

- Sunday school
- Coffee hour following service

See back page for this week's Calendar.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

PRELUDE

WELCOME

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Passing of the Peace is the oldest part of the Christian liturgy and is a special way we welcome each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. At this time due to COVID, you are invited to participate by crossing your hands over your heart, waving or giving the sign of the peace.

*CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION

Beth Crouch

One: We have lost our way.

Many: We feel distant from peace.

One: We can't see our way to justice.

Many: We join together in community for this journey.

One: Holy God, help us find our way to your peace. Amen.

All: Holy God, as find our way forward on this unexpected journey, help us to hear the clear voice of the one crying in the wilderness. May we be surprised by the message in your Word today. May we be challenged to reach out in peace to our others in our path.

Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

Please join in singing.

Prepare The Way Of The Lord

Prepare Ye The Way of The Lord (repeats)

Invitation
Prayer of Consecration
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Bread and the Cup
Prayer of Thanksgiving

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer in Song

*O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright
westward leading, still proceeding
guide us to thy perfect light*

***CLOSING HYMN**

Hymnal #211

Please join in singing.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

V. 1, 6-7

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Gathering of the Prayer

Prayer in Song

OFFERTORY

Invitation to Offering

*Doxology:

*Praise God from whom all blessing flow,
Praise God all creature here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**All: Help us to listen again for the cry of those who would lead us to Christ.
Tune our ears to your heralds,
So that we might also testify to your Peace. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: God is constantly calling to us when we are lost in the wilderness of our lives. Let go of your worries, fears and doubts, and embrace the love of the One who is calling you. On each step of our journey, we are forgiven and loved. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Shepherds, Come A-Running

By Henry Gerike

(CHILDREN TO BE DISMISSED)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn of Preparation

The Lord's Prayer TFWS#2278

*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 and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.*

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON

Rev. Angela Menke Ballou

Habakkuk 1:1-7, 2:1-4, 17-19

GOSPEL LESSON

Beth Crouch

Matthew 3:1-12

SERMON

Rev. Angela Menke Ballou

The Path Of Peace

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Diane Delauter
& Ann Burlingame*

Ann: Every journey requires us to move towards a destination.

Diane: Sometimes we get lost along the way, so we look for a map that can help us plot a way forward.

Ann: Even if we aren't sure of our final destination, we can begin to look for the route that moves us closer to where we want to be.

Diane: As we light this candle of peace we pray that beginning to map out the journey ahead of us calms our souls and helps us to move closer to God.

Light the Candle of Hope and the Candle of Peace, while the congregation sings:

*They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond
them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it contin-
ued both day and night.*

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Ann: May this candle Peace light our way.

All: God of Hope, light our way, make straight our paths, give us a vision and point us onward. Help us to travel together to wards the manger. Amen.

Reader 2: God of Peace, light our way, make straight our paths, put us on the trail towards a more just and loving world. Amen.

INVITATION TO RECONCILIATION

One: The journey to peace and justice feels like a crooked and elusive one. We say we want all the good gifts of God's covenant, and yet we constantly stumble and lose our way. Today, we join with our fellow travelers to say we need God's help to find our way.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Beth Crouch

All: God of Peace, we are stressed and scrambling around. A path to peace feels anything but straight. We try to gain control ourselves, forcing your path to fit in to our conveniences. We point fingers at others saying peace is possible if only they would change. We ignore prophets who call us into discomfort, so that all may find greater wholeness.

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