

Kids on Sunday: Our nursery is always open for infants and toddlers. Ask an usher to show you where they hang out. PreK - 6th start in worship and go to classes after the Children's Message. (Communion Sundays they start in their classrooms.) Ask any usher for help in finding the right resource for your child.

Visiting? Thanks for joining us for worship today. We hope you enjoy the service and that it hits a chord deep in your soul. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex by the front door and join us following the service for refreshments and fellowship. If you would like more information about the church or to hear from our pastor please let a deacon or usher know. They will be glad to help answer any and all questions.

Chancel Altar Flowers:

In loving memory of Pearl Fish by her son Al Eaton, Barbara Prindle – Eaton and family.

(The Altar/Flower Chair for December is Beverly Nightingale)

Lighting the Steeple – A Beacon of Faith

December 13: In memory of Shirley and Clarence Norcross and their son Howard.

December 13: Happy birthday to our son, Andrew Wellnitz love, Mom and Dad

December 13: For the joy of seeing the light of the steeple every night. Patricia Robbins.

December 15, 16, 17: In remembrance of the victims of the Sandy Hook massacre in Newtown, CT. Stan and Sandie Pastuszak

(To light the steeple please see Carolee Wentworth at coffee hour.)



Large print bulletins, and a hearing assistance system (see an usher) are available. Handicap parking is in the rear parking lot and off of Route 28 and Pilgrim Rd. Access ramps from all parking areas are available. An accessible unisex restroom is off the hallway at the right front of the sanctuary.

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Like us on: [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

The Third Sunday in Advent: The Season of Hope!

Chimes *(The chimes begin our service. Please turn off/silence cell phones.)*

Welcome & Announcements

Introit *Christ Child's Lullaby* arr. Wilson
(Hand Bell Choir, Thom Dutton, Director)

+**Hymn** *Of the Father's Love Begotten* Pilgrim #111

Unison Prayer

~~On Come to us on~~ this Advent day, dear God, ~~we pray to be filled with the gifts of the season: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. In this way restore.~~ ~~Restore~~ our lives to the meaning of joy for which you created us. ~~Help us through~~ ~~Renew~~ our Advent ~~devotions, to hope so that, in your Son's spirit of selfless love, may we~~ refocus our lives on the compassion, forgiveness, and justice on which your kingdom is built. ~~May this be our Advent goal.~~ In the name of him who we await we pray. Amen.

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 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.

Advent Wreath Lighting ~ ~~The~~ *Candles of Peace, & Hope & Joy*

Prayer: As we draw ever nearer to the celebration of the birth of your son and our Savior, grant us the grace O God, to stay focused on our journey. And give us the

strength to live our faith in ways that others may come to know you through us, O God, our rock and our salvation. Amen.

Invitation

Offertory *Travelers From Nazareth* Kathy Wissinger

+**Response** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.*

Pastoral Prayer

Response *Threefold Amen*

Scripture Reading Matthew 1:18-25 (N.T., pg. 1)

Sermon *Hope Revised* Rev. O'Connor

+**Hymn** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* Pilgrim #114

Benediction

+**Benediction Response** *Let There Be Peace on Earth
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be
With God our creator, children all are we
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now,
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally,
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*

Postlude *Tidings of Comfort and Joy* Lloyd Larson

Head Usher: Beverly Nightingale

Lay Reader: Dona Webber **Greeter:** Jeanie Kahus

Interim Minister: Rev. Peggy O'Connor

Music Director/Organist: Fred Drifmeyer

Team Izzy needs: Men's and women's boots all sizes. Men's jeans 31x30.

Pilgrim Congregational Church Poinsettia Sale: Buy a poinsettia in memory of a loved one or as a remembrance for a person or event this holiday season. Price is \$12.00. All money must be received by **December 16th**. Forms are available on tables throughout the church.

Pilgrim Progress articles are due December 16th by 10:00 a.m. due to the holidays.

The reproduction of the Milton Welt mural which adorned the wall of the administration building at Harwich High School for 50 years will be unveiled on Saturday, January 2, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Harwich Community Center. ~~There will be a~~ reception to follow.

The Christmas Pageant will be during the Worship Service **Sunday December 20th**.

Please plan to join us for Christmas Eve Services on Thursday December 24.

Christmas Eve service for family's 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve service candle light ~~service~~ 8:00 p.m.

We would like to remind you that the end of the year is approaching. It is time to make sure that your donations to the church are up to date so that you will fulfill your pledge for 2015. Donations need to be received before December 31 to be included in your Contribution Statement for tax purposes. We appreciate and need your support.

Prayer cards – Call the church office or drop off your prayer requests by noon Friday to get them in the Sunday Bulletin.

Please remember in your prayers: Jesse Nash, Joyce Dutton, Marion and Pam Marsh, Caleb Green, Joe Langway, Joyce Brooks, Ed Jaworski.

Pilgrim Progress articles are due December 16th by 10:00 a.m. due to the holidays.

Sunday: 11:00 AM Coffee Hour
11:30 PM Pageant Rehearsal

Monday: Church office closed

Tuesday: 9:00 AM Team Izzy
10:00 AM Nurse
10:00 AM Thrift Shop
5:30 PM CE Meeting
7:00 PM Council Meeting

Wednesday: Poinsettia Deadline/Pilgrim Progress Articles Due

9:30 AM Dance
10:00 AM Thrift Shop
12:00 PM Advent Discussion
12:00 PM Evensong Cooking
6:30 PM Epiphany Rehearsal
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 10:00 AM Thrift Shop
3:30 PM Joyful Prayer
5:00 PM Music Committee
6:30 PM Pageant Rehearsal
7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal

Friday: 10:00 AM Thrift Shop
12:00 PM Pilgrim Cook

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5:00 PM Private Party

Saturday: 10:00 AM Thrift Shop

~~[Prayer cards](#) Call the church office or drop off your prayer requests by noon Friday to get them in the Sunday Bulletin.~~

We never get to sing Christmas Carols enough! This is your chance to sing your favorite one more time or to get it in if we missed it. It is also a chance to sing any other hymn you love. Fill out this form and put it in the offering plate or leave it in the office. We will try to incorporate them all. If there are too many we will try to include them in other services...especially the non-Christmas ones.

Hymns:

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