

**First Parish Church, Congregational**  
**On the Village Green**

**Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts**

Rev. John G. Hughes, II, Senior Pastor

Donald R. Dunn, Director of Music-Organist

Judy Haley, Pastoral Assistant

Priscilla Duda, Christian Education Director

Jared Hamilton, Youth Director

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# MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

December 16, 2012 – 10:00am

Third Sunday of Advent -Sunday School Christmas Pageant

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** “*The Holy Boy*” (*A Carol of the Nativity*)  
*John Ireland (1879-1962)*

## OPENING SENTENCE

May the grace of our God, the love of Jesus Christ and the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**And also with you.**

\*[Please stand for the lighting of the candles]

## CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship God.

**We worship our Creator, who formed us in God’s very image.**

We gather to be surprised by God.

**We worship God, the Wind that blows where it will.**

We gather to celebrate God with us.

**We worship Emmanuel.**

We gather to hear about the Messiah

**We worship and move toward a humble manger.**

Christ Jesus! Born to set all people free!

**Praise be to God.**

**\*HYMN:** “*The First Nowell*” *NCH #139*

## LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

*The Duda Family*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*LITANY FOR ADVENT – O ANTIPHONS

O wisdom,

coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,

pervading and permeating all creation,

you order all things with strength and gentleness:  
Come now and teach us the way to salvation.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Lord,  
Ruler of the house of Israel,  
you appeared in the burning bush to Moses  
and gave him the law on Sinai:  
Come with outstretched arm to save us.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Root of Jesse,  
rising as a sign for all the peoples,  
before you earthly rulers will keep silent,  
and nations give you honor:  
Come quickly to deliver us.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Key of David,  
Scepter over the house of Israel,  
you open and no one can close,  
you close and no one can open:  
Come to set free the prisoners  
who live in darkness and the shadow of death.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Radiant Dawn,  
splendor of eternal light,  
Sun of justice:  
Come, shine on those who live in darkness  
and in the shadow of death.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Ruler of nations,  
Monarch from whom the people long,  
you are the Cornerstone uniting all humanity:  
Come, save us all,  
whom you formed out of clay.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Immanuel,

our Sovereign and Lawgiver,  
desire of the nations and Savior of all:  
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

**Come Lord Jesus.**

God of Grace,  
ever faithful to your promises,  
the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming  
and looks forward with longing  
to his return at the end of time.  
Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes,  
for he is Lord forever and ever.

**Amen.**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*trespasses*)

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 and 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

**\*HYMN:** *“Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old” NCH 108*

**SCRIPTURE READING:** *Isaiah 12:2-6*

**YOUTH CHOIR ANTHEM:** *“Joy to the World”*

George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)

Arranged by Mark Patterson

**SCRIPTURE READING:** *Luke 3:7-18*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT:**

*“The First Christmas”*

Featuring the children and youth of First Parish Church  
Music led by Annie Greenleaf and Chip Price

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *“In the Bleak Midwinter”* *Harold Davke (1888-1976)*

In the bleak mid-winter  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter  
Long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold him  
Nor can earth sustain;  
Heav'n and earth shall flee away  
When he comes to reign:  
In the bleak mid-winter  
A stable place sufficed,  
The Lord God Almighty,  
Jesus Christ.

Enough for him whom Cherubim  
Worship night and day,  
A breastful of milk  
And a mangerful of hay  
Enough for him, whom angels,  
Fall down before,  
The ox and ass and camel  
Which adore.

What can I give him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd  
I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a Wise Man  
I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give him,  
Give my heart.

Rebecca Shrimpton, soprano and Paul Knox, baritone

### \*DOXOLOGY:

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

\*HYMN: *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* NCH #116

\*[The “Removal of the Flame”]

## BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

ORGAN POSTLUDE: *Fanfare on “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*  
*Arranged by Robert A. Hobby (b. 1962)*

\* \* \* \* \*

Lighting the Advent candles are the Duda Family; Brian, Priscilla, Tyler, Nathan and Connor.

The lay readers, greeters, acolyte and bell ringer are members of the SS and Youth Group.

The Deacons are Paul Gudonis and Jason Smith.

The Sexton is Rachael Gallagher.

The beautiful Poinsettia at the front of the Church, through the Christmas season, is given by Doris Milne.

**ATTENDANCE:** Week ending December 9: Church 90, Gingerbread Mission Event 28, SS 44, MSYG 13, HSYG 8, and Faith Formation 14.

*Please join us in the front of the church following the service for coffee, tea and hospitality.*

Welcome to all who worship here this morning. If you are new to our church, a guest or visitor please fill out the "Welcome Card" in the pew, place it in the collection plate and sign the guest book located in the narthex. Please contact the Church office if you would like to be on our mailing list [office.fpchurch@verizon.net](mailto:office.fpchurch@verizon.net) or 978-526-7661 ext 1.

### **CAROLING \*Please note the time update\***

Join us for Caroling to friends around Manchester on Friday, December 21, 4:30 PM from the Chapel. After we will return to the Chapel for a gathering.



Saturday December 22, 4:15 pm, meet at First Parish Church to carol and walk in a candlelit procession to Sacred Heart for this "Hands-On Holy Land Experience." 4:30-6pm Outdoor Live Nativity, 4:30-6pm Indoor Market with traditional food & crafts.

An Interfaith event sponsored by Emmanuel Church, First Baptist Church, First Parish Church, Congregational, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Essex.

### **CARE TEAM, Have you shared the experience?**

Our Care Team provides meals, rides, & visits to sustain families in our Church Community through times of illness and loss. If you would like to become involved with this wonderful support system

please contact; Sheila Kafer 978-525-3253, [smkafer@comcast.net](mailto:smkafer@comcast.net)

or: Janet Groth at 978-526-8408, [janbythesea244@gmail.com](mailto:janbythesea244@gmail.com)

## **FAITH FORMATION**

Friday Bible Study will join the Intergenerational Christmas Caroling Dec 21 at 4:30 bringing the good news of Christmas to friends and neighbors through song.

**NEW Bibles and Bagels** January 6, 13, and 20 Sundays at 9:15-9:40 a.m. Three weeks of coffee, bagels, and conversation about the Bible. Get hints on what to listen for in the sermon or bring your questions. In the chapel. For everyone!

Growing Together—see you January 10

Friday Bible Study—see you January 11

**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR** Please call [Penny Lapham](#) at 978-526-7128, by Monday to be included in the following Sunday's bulletin.

### **This week...**

#### **Monday**

8:00 AM Exercise

7:30 PM Manchester Singers Chapel

#### **Tuesday**

9:00 AM FPC Playgroup

7:30 PM Church Council

#### **Wednesday**

8:00 AM Exercise

10:30 AM COA Yoga

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

#### **Thursday**

10:00 AM Health Clinic

7:30 PM Growing Together

#### **Friday**

8:00 AM Yoga

4:30 PM Caroling

#### **Saturday**

4:15 PM Meet at Church to walk to *One Night in Bethlehem*



**5 pm Family Service led by Mr. Jared Hamilton**

**7pm Candlelight Service led by Rev. John Hughes**

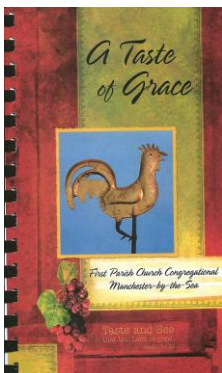
**THE ANNUAL OPEN DOOR CHRISTMAS DINNER** is scheduled for Sunday, December 23, at 4:00 pm.

Volunteers are needed to prepare food and to cook, serve, and clean. Please send email to [alice@shoreview.com](mailto:alice@shoreview.com) or leave a message for Alice Eastland at (978) 282-1858 if you want to sign on or contribute in any way. All the activity will take place at the Open Door in Gloucester beginning at noon until final clean-up around 6:30.

We need **one dozen pumpkin pies** for the meal. Ideally, they will be home-made by one of our great FPC bakers. Please sign up with a Missions member in the narthex after today's service or leave a voice or email message. At the Open Door's request, **only** pumpkin pie will be served.

This year we are fortunate to have Jared Hamilton and the High School Youth Group volunteering their services.

In addition to the pies, non-perishable food donations such as 1-pound cans of ground coffee, salad dressings, and canned and bottled items to supplement the fresh produce in the salad bar are welcome.



**Sale! The Perfect Holiday Gift!**

'A Taste of Grace' Cookbook available for purchase every Sunday after service from now until Christmas.

Now only \$10 per copy.