

**We are here to: Love God, Love our Neighbor and Serve the World.**

*December 22, 2019 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM*

**Gathering in God's Presence**

*All are welcome to this time of worship, and in this faith community. If you are visiting today, please visit the Welcome table at the entrance*

**Gathering Music** Karlinda Caldicott, Harp; Norman Thibodeau, Flute

**Announcements and Welcome**

**Greeting One Another**

**Prelude** *Sicilienne* Maria-Theresia v. Paradis  
Harp and Flute

**Introit** *Christ Be Our Light* Farrell  
**Bringing in the Advent light/Congregation join in on refrain:**

**Christ, Be Our Light!**  
*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Words and Music by  
BERNADETTE FARRELL

Congregation:

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gath-ered to-day.

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Christ, be our light!  
**Brighten our shadowed world.**  
Christ, be our light!  
**May the light of your Love, shine in our lives. Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* UM Hymnal #211  
vs. 1, 2, 4

**Proclaiming the Word**

**Special Music** *Adobe* Marc Sumerlin  
Harp & Flute

**Gospel Reading** Matthew 1:18-25

**Young Disciples' Time (10:30)** Please join in singing vs. 1 of *Jesus Loves Me*

**Anthem** *The First Noel/Pachelbel's Canon*  
Chancel Choir with Harp and Flute  
Traditional English Carol and Canon in D by Johann Pachelbel,  
arranged by Michael Clawson

**\*Proclaiming Hymn** *Like a Child* TFWS # 2092

**Message** *Sacred Sound, Sacred Silence, Sacred Knowing* **The Rev. Holly Nye**  
There will be a sung response near the end of the message: UMH #238, refrain

**Responding to God's Word**

**Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory** *Variations on Greensleeves* edition Fleury

**\*Singing Our Praises** *Doxology* UM Hymnal #94

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Our Church Family in Prayer**

**Prayer Song** *Emmanuel, Emmanuel* UM Hymnal #204

**Pastoral Prayer**

**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.

**Going Forth To Serve**

**\*Hymn of Going Forth** *Star-Child vs. 1, 2, 3, 5* TFWS #2095

**Benediction**

**Postlude** *The Holly and the Ivy* arr. by Ernie & Becky Brock

Thank you to our guest musicians today:  
Karlinda Caldicott, Harp; Norman Thibodeau, Flute

**Our Ministry Today**

Lead Pastor: *Holly Nye*  
Associate Pastor: *Doug Mackey*  
Communication Coordinator: *Cindy Peterson*  
Music Ministers: *Pete Van Keuren & Jill Zygo*  
Treasurer: *Kimberly Spath*  
Financial Secretary: *Peter Pranys*  
Custodian: *Mindy Kinney*  
Prayer Blankets: *Karen Lathrop*  
Nursery: *Mindy Kinney*  
Sunday School Superintendents: *Jodi Facticeau-St. Gelais & Jen Robbins*  
Preschool Teachers: *Stacy Herbage & Stephanie Tope*  
Sound & Video: *Melissa Furman*

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**Sunday, December 22**  
9 AM Confirmation Class  
9 AM Worship followed by Coffee Hour  
10:30 AM Worship/Sunday School/Coffee Hour  
11:30 AM Youth Choir/Voices of Hope Rehearsal  
12 PM Pageant Dress Rehearsal

**Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve Office Closed**  
7 PM Worship with Pageant & Carols  
9 PM Candlelight Lessons & Carols

**Wednesday, December 25 Christmas Day Office Closed**

**Saturday, December 28**  
11 AM Memorial Service-Mike Nyhan

**Sunday, December 29 One Service Only**  
10:30 AM Worship/Sunday School/Coffee Hour

\*You are invited to stand if you are able or comfortable

# Announcements

**TODAY** Coffee Hour is hosted by Church Council

**Christmas Offering** Our Christmas Offering helps people near and far. This year we will give \$1,000 to Schenectady Inner City Ministries (SICM). This is an organization of many faith groups that support programs to help the poor. \$1,000 will be given in support of our Conference Ministry Shares. \$500 will be given to Chacocente, a community in Managua, Nicaragua. The people who live there formerly lived in the city dump. They now have farms, a school, homes and a better life. \$500 will be given to RISSE, a family-based center in Albany that helps refugees and recent immigrants. They offer classes in English and help finding jobs and housing. Shelters of Saratoga (SOS) will receive \$500. This is an outreach program serving people who live on the street. Bethesda House, a day shelter for lonely and homeless people in Schenectady, will be given \$250. Any remaining money will be divided among our three local food pantries in Schenectady, Ballston Spa and Rock City Falls. Thank you for your generous care of people in need. Merry Christmas from the Outreach Commission.

**The Early Birds Study** is held every Monday at 9 AM, resuming January 6, 2020. Early Birds will not be meeting on December 23 or 30.

**Seekers-Sisters in Christ** is reading and watching AJ Levine's *Light of the World*, Thursdays at 9:00 AM. The last class for this study will be January 2. For questions, contact Libby Horn at 518-399-3856. Beginning Thursday, January 9th, we'll be studying the book of Esther in *God Behind the Scenes*, by Wayne K. Barkhuizen. Although the book of Esther contains no direct references to God, the author of *God Behind the Scenes* helps us trace the unseen hand of God throughout the Esther narrative while pointing out how the book is still relevant today. This study runs through February 6th. Pick up a book in the office and join us! (Seekers will not meet on December 26).

**Explorers Bible Study** is held every Wednesday at 9:30 AM. Each week, we watch a 30-minute video on some aspect of Christianity. This year's study is titled *The World of Biblical Israel*, by Professor Cynthia R. Chapman. The course traces the history of biblical Israel from its origins (1200 B.C.) to its emergence as a nation, and then, to a pair of kingdoms. It continues with its conquests by Assyria and Babylon, and finally, their return to Israel. Contact Pat or Mike Thomas for more information. We will resume our study on January 8.

**Dialogues on: Sexuality**, the new adult study that was to begin in January, has been postponed until a later date. Details will be announced as soon as we have the dates.

**Shelters of Saratoga** SOS's supplies are critically low. They are in need of: sugar, coffee, can openers, bottled water, hearty soups, fruit juice, protein or granola bars, fruit cups, men's boxers (new, M-XL), women's underwear (new, M-XL), insulated boots, gloves, socks (new), body wash, razors, small propane tanks, sleeping bags, tents, umbrellas, shelf-stable milk, hand wipes and D batteries. There will be a bin in the foyer as well as in the hallway under the mailboxes for you to drop off any donations, or you may take them to 14 Walworth St. in Saratoga, from 7 AM to 10 PM. Thank you for your generosity.

**Preschool** The BHUM Preschool is now accepting registrations for the fall of 2020. There will also be an Open House on Saturday, January 25, from 10 AM till 12 noon. Any questions, please call Stephanie Tope at 518-466-6566.

## Christmas Eve Services

**7 PM Christmas Eve Worship with  
Pageant and Carols**

**9 PM Candlelight Lessons and Carols**

**Note: There will be one worship service only  
on December 29, at 10:30 AM**

### **Pastors' Email Addresses**

Lead Pastor, Rev. Holly Nye: [hn@nycap.rr.com](mailto:hn@nycap.rr.com)

Associate Pastor, Rev. Doug Mackey: [pastdm@gmail.com](mailto:pastdm@gmail.com)



**December 22, 2019**



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