

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ
Wednesday Advent Worship Series: Hope
December 9, 2020 at 7:30 PM ***Blue Service***

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Quote for Contemplation

Lexi Behrndt

It's okay. It's okay to miss them. It's okay to say their name. It's okay to cry.
It's okay to laugh. It's okay to breathe deeply. It's okay to smile when you think
of them. It's okay to function. It's okay to have days when you can't function.

Prelude

Flute Duet in C Minor

Silence

Words of Welcome

**Response from all: Love remains in the face of fear, and fear does
not overcome it.**

Hymn

The Day You Gave Us, God, Is Ended

NCH (black) #95
Verses 3, 4 and 5

Hymn is printed at the end of the order of service.

Silence

Litany to Open

adapted from Psalm 22

Leader: My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Why are You so
far from helping me, so far from the words of my groaning?

**All: O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer, and by
night, but I find no rest.**

Leader: In You, our ancestors trusted. They trusted and You delivered
them.

**All: It was You who brought me to creation. You who kept
me safe. Since coming to creation, You have been my
God.**

Leader: Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to
help.

All: God does not despise the affliction of the afflicted. God does not hide from me. When I cry to God, God hears me. Thanks be to God.

Interlude The Black Harp Matthew C. Heumann

Prayer with candle lighting

Scripture Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

Silence

Reflections Rev. Sara M. Holland

Silence

Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem PH (red) #134

Benediction

Postlude Solstice Carol Matthew C. Heumann

Special thanks to:

Peggy Martin for offering special music this evening
Eileen Torrey for providing worship leadership
Ashley Paine for offering musical leadership alongside David Williams *and* to David Williams for his excellent attention to technology details

What is Advent?

Advent is the beginning of our church year. We ready ourselves for the birth of Jesus and remember the hope, joy, peace, love and faith provided by our religious tradition. Many of our practices in the Christian Church and the United States come from a variety of customs and cultures. We pray that the hope of the Christ child is revealed throughout this season.

Verses 3, 4 and 5

EVENING

95

The Day You Gave Us, God, Is Ended

John Ellerton, 1870; alt.



1 The day you gave us, God, is end - ed, the light now
2 We thank you that your Church, un - sleep - ing while earth rolls
3 As o'er each con - ti - nent and is - land the dawn leads
4 The sun that bids us rest is wak - ing our fam - ily
5 So be it, God. Your reign shall nev - er, like earth's proud



fades at your re - quest; To you our morn - ing hymns as -
on - ward in - to light, Through all the world its watch is
on an - oth - er day, The voice of prayer is nev - er
mem - bers far a - way, Who, while we sleep, are glad - ly
em - pires, fade and fall. Your reign en - dures, and grows for -



end - ed, your praise shall sanc - ti - fy our rest.
keep - ing, and rests not now by day or night.
si - lent, nor dies the strain of praise a - way.
tak - ing their turn to wor - ship you and pray.
ev - er till all your crea - tures heed your call.



John Ellerton, a priest of the Church of England, wrote many hymns and edited numerous hymnals. This text and music have been together since they appeared in an important book edited by Arthur Sullivan.

Tune: ST. CLEMENT 9.8.9.8.
Clement E. Scholefield, 1874

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

ST. LOUIS 8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6.
Lewis H. Redner, 1837-1908

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And gath - ered all a - bove,
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, The won - drous gift is given!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem! De - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - dering love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of his heaven.
Cast out our sin and en - ter in; Be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing Light;
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
No ear may hear his com - ing, But in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad ti - dings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth.
Where meek souls will re - ceive him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el! A - men.

Poinsettia Order Form

is due Tuesday, December 15th



Poinsettias Order Form

Poinsettias will again grace our sanctuary for Christmas. This is also the time that we replenish the Hope Fund. The Hope Fund is used by our pastor to help those in need. The Hope Fund is a separate account from the Flower Fund, so please check if you want to donate to that fund. Thank you for contributing to this effort!

CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE

Single Stem \$15.00

Double Stem \$25

HOPE Fund \$15 minimum

If you would like to support the HOPE Fund, please write a separate check to the Plymouth Congregational UCC with HOPE Fund in memo line.

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Thanksgiving for: _____

In Celebration of: _____

Submitted by: _____

Please print all names.

Make check payable to Plymouth Congregational UCC and return with form to church office at P.O. Box 86, Plymouth, NH 03264. In order for dedication to appear in the bulletin, please **place your order before December 15th.**
