

At Home Worship with the Oldtown Church

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
North Attleborough, MA | November 29, 2020



WORDS OF WELCOME

OPENING HYMN - "Come, O Long-expected Jesus"

*Come, O Long-expected Jesus, born to set your people free.
From our fears and sins release us; Christ in whom our rest shall be.
You, our strength and consolation, come salvation to impart;
Dear desire of many a nation, joy of many a longing heart.*

*Born your people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, born your gracious realm to bring.
By your own eternal Spirit rule on all our hearts alone;
by your all sufficient merit raise us to your glorious throne.*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH - HOPE

OPENING PRAYER



PREPARING TO LISTEN "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

SCRIPTURE – Lamentations 3:21-24

OT p933



REFLECT

SERMON – “Glimpses of Hope”

PREPARING FOR PRAYER – “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

O Little Town of Bethlehem, descend on us we pray;

Cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and the LORDS 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

CHORAL RESPONSE



THANK

TIME OF OFFERING

GIFT OF SONG – “All My Hope”

BENEDICTION

Our worship has ended, let our service begin!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER–11/29/2020

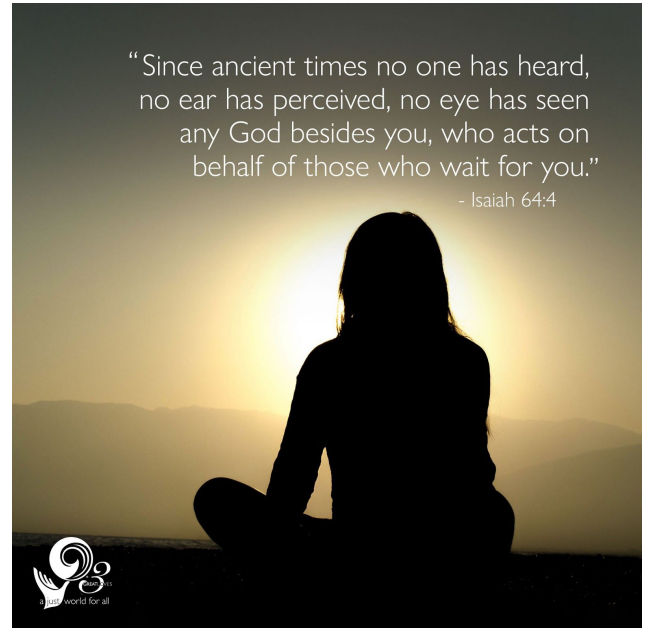
OFFERING LAST WEEK: **\$979.23 – \$388.08 less** than budget

OFFERING 2020 TO DATE: **\$900 less** than budget

END OF OCTOBER (83% of the year):

- ✚ FUNDRAISING INCOME: **17%** of annual budget
- ✚ TOTAL BUDGETED INCOME: **60%** of annual budget
- ✚ TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES: **61%** of annual budget

This Sunday begins the season of advent, which is traditionally a season of anticipation, waiting for the birth of the savior. This year has also been one of waiting - waiting for a cure, waiting for a vaccine, waiting for things to “get back to normal.” Spend some time in prayerful consideration of what you truly want things to “get back to.” While returning to the way things used to be has a certain nostalgic attraction, this is also an opportunity to create new things, new ways of doing and being, an opportunity to break old habits and create new ones. Ask God to help you determine what you truly want to get back to and how to make it so.



“Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for you.”
- Isaiah 64:4

On this first Sunday of Advent, we are holding hope in our hearts for the birth of the Christ Child. Let us do whatever we can to spread hope throughout the world.

“And again Isaiah says, ‘The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.’ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope, by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

~ **Romans 15:12-13 (NRSV)**