



**Worship Notes.**

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**CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

United Church of Christ  
5 Summer St. Lynnfield MA 01940  
781-334-3050 [www.Centre-Church.org](http://www.Centre-Church.org)  
We Welcome Everyone: An Open and Affirming Church

Rev Thomas Bentley, Pastor  
Douglas W. Hodgkins, Organist/Choir Director  
Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School  
Alison O'Connor, Church Administrator



*Rev. Thomas Bentley*

**CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

United Church of Christ  
5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

**November 26, 2023**

**10:00 am**

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship (Psalm 100)

Linda Ladd

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord.

**People: Worship God with gladness.**

Leader: Come into God's presence with singing.

**People: We are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord; bless God's holy name,

**Leader & People: for God's steadfast love is present now and endures forever**

### Opening Prayer (in unison)

Linda Ladd

**Lord of light and life, we come to you this day in celebration of the witness of your Son Jesus Christ. Open our hearts, our spirits, and our lives to listen to his words for us. Help us to be faithful disciples for you; for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

### \*Opening Hymn

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

#43

### New Testament Reading

Linda Ladd

### Ephesians 1:11-12 *The Message*

**It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.**

The graphic features a background of a Christmas tree with warm, glowing lights. At the top, the Centre Church logo is displayed, consisting of a stylized church steeple icon above the text 'CENTRE CHURCH'. Below the logo, the title 'Advent and Christmas at Centre Church' is written in a white, elegant cursive font. The graphic is divided into three main sections by semi-transparent grey boxes with rounded corners. The top-left box is titled 'Sundays' and lists worship times and specific Advent services. The top-right box is titled 'Wednesdays' and lists the dates and time for the Advent Journey session. The bottom box is titled 'Christmas Eve' and details the schedule for the evening, including a 5:00 pm service and an 11:00 pm chapel service, followed by a note about no worship on Monday, December 25th.

CENTRE CHURCH

*Advent and Christmas at  
Centre Church*

### Sundays

WORSHIP AT 10 AM  
IN PERSON AND LIVESTREAM

12/3 First Advent~Cleaned up for Jesus  
Decorate Our Angel Tree after worship

12/10 Second Advent~Looking Towards  
the End

12/17 Third Advent~The Thunder of Joy

12/24 Fourth Advent~ Love and the  
Birth of Jesus

### Wednesdays

11/29, 12/6, 12/13 & 12/20  
7 -8 PM

Advent Journey session with  
Pastor Tom in the Pastor's  
lounge.  
All are welcome!!

### Christmas Eve

Sunday, 12/24

NO MORNING WORSHIP  
5:00 pm, Worship for all ages  
Candles, Lessons, and Carols  
Sanctuary and Livestream

11:00 pm, Worship  
Candles, Lessons and Carols  
Chapel

Monday, 12/25  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
\*\*\* NO WORSHIP \*\*\*

# Welcome to an Advent Journey

**in Spirit and Love**

hosted at Centre Church, 5 Summer St.  
Lynnfield MA - Phone: (781) 334-3050

**First Session: Wednesday November 29 at  
7:00 PM in the lounge adjacent to the Pastor's  
Office.**



  
Shopping cards can be  
purchased through the  
church for donating  
and giving as gifts.  
Please see Linda Ladd  
for more information.  


**Call to Offering**

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology**

**Tune: Old 100th**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Living God, whom we adore

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Joys and Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)**

**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.**

**Anthem**

**Gospel Reading**

**Linda Ladd**

**Matthew 25:31-46 *The Message***

**"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand ~**

“Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

**Message**

“In the End the Secret Revealed”

**Rev. Tom Bentley**

**\*Closing Hymn**

*“Be Now My Vision”*

#451

**Benediction**

**Rev. Tom Bentley**

**Postlude**



**Angel Tree - We'll be gathering gifts for The Christmas Shop and Coat Boston. Please see [centre-church.org](http://centre-church.org) for Angel Tree gift suggestions.**



Our ushers this morning are David Bjorkman & Phil Fisher

The flowers on the altar are given by Gerald and Betsy Brown in loving memory of their parents, Jane and Bill Thompson and Walter and Priscilla Brown, as well as Aunt and Uncle, Stott and Dorothy Morse.

Our coffee fellowship hosts this morning are  
Nina Emery & Roy Sorli