

First Sunday of Christmas

December 31, 2017

Color: White

The Christmas season celebrates the birth of Christ and the events that soon followed. From the presentation of Jesus in the Temple and to the arrival of the Wiseman. The six Sunday Season of Epiphany will begin next week. How well do we understand the significance of this time of year?

PRELUDE: Come and enter the presence of God and prepare yourself for worship as Martha Dienst and our worship team leads us in songs of praise.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

✧ **OPENING SONG OF WORSHIP:** *Celebrate Jesus
The Processional and Illumination*

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsively)

Leader: Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

All: Darkness has been banished!

Leader: God's light of hope floods the earth

All: God's light comes to us all.

Leader: Lord, make us ready to journey to this Light.

All: Prepare our hearts to receive this Light. AMEN.

✧ **SONGS OF WORSHIP:** *Shout To The Lord;
How Deep The Father's Love For Us*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

Pastor Cal

OUR GIFTS TO GOD ARE CALLED FORTH

Invitation

Offerings to God

Offertory: Martha Dienst

✧ Doxology # 95

✧ Prayer of Dedication

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S PRAYER

SONG OF MEDITATION: *Emmanuel, Emmanuel Hymn # 204*

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (trespasses)

We share words of celebration and thanksgiving.

We share our prayer needs and petitions.

Pastor: The Lord is with you.

Congregation: And also with you

Pastor: Lord have mercy.

Congregation: Christ have mercy.

Pastor: Let us pray

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament lesson: **Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3** **PEW BIBLE 641**

New Testament lesson: **Galatians 4:4-7** **PEW BIBLE 1014**

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

✧ **GLORIA PATRI:**

Hymn # 71

MEDITATION: *In the Family of Faith*

Pastor Cal

✧ **CLOSING HYMN:** *Blessed Assurance*

Hymn # 369

The Recessional

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

✧ *All who are able, you are invited to stand.*

Thank you for not bringing food or beverage, except water, into the Sanctuary as well as turning off your cell phones during service ☺

Join us for Wednesday night Hour Of Prayer with Pastor Cal, 6-7pm!

Thank You to this weeks Volunteer Worship Leaders!

December 31, 2017

Greeters: BETH BERNSTIEN &
ELMINIA LAWRENCE
Ushers: CINDY CARVILL & SKIP
WOOD
Co-leader: MARTHA DIENST

January 7, 2017

Greeters: DOLLY & WES
BOUTELLE
Ushers: SCOTT & HEATHER
NASIATKA
Co-leader: MARTHA DIENST
Communion: Bernstein (A)
Stone (B)
Nursing Homes: Dienst (C)
Bussiere (D)

Visit our website at
www.unitedparish.com
Office Phone: 978.297.0616
Office Hours:
Monday 8am – 1pm
Tuesday 8am – 1pm
Wednesday Closed
Thursday 8am – 1pm
Friday 8am – 1pm
Saturday Closed
Sunday Service 10AM
Pastor Cal's cell phone: 978.828.4706
Email: unitedparish@comcast.net
39 Front Street Winchendon

Pastor: F. Calvin Miller

Senior Deacon: Marvin Bernstein

Fellow Deacons: Merrily Stone, Cindy Carvill, Jerry McKean, Katrina Fleming, Robert Duval, Martha Dienst, Ian Bussiere & Dakota Wood

Director of Music: Jayne Thompson

Children's Ministry: Brandy Wood

Youth Director: Jennie LeBlanc

Office Administrator: Cheri Comer

Church Sexton: James Lemmer

Nursery Attendant: Kayte Richtarcsik

Offering for the week of December 17, 2017

General \$1,517.00 Missions \$75.00 Loose Offering \$651.10
Christmas Offering \$20.00 Poinsettia \$24.00

Total \$2,287.10 Thank you for giving & God Bless!

Offering for the week of December 24, 2017

General \$,.00 Missions \$.00 Loose Offering \$.00

Total \$,.00 Thank you for giving & God Bless!