

# The Congregational Church of Boothbay Harbor

125 Townsend Ave.

P.O. Box 468

Boothbay Harbor, Maine 04538

207- 633-4757

[www.congochurchbbh.org](http://www.congochurchbbh.org)

[admin@congochurchbbh.org](mailto:admin@congochurchbbh.org)

**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Bookkeeper Hours:** Monday &

Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



**Pastor for December**

Rev. Ken Bradsell

**Minister of Music**

Genie O'Connell

**Children's Education**

**Director:** Magen Chryplewicz

**Church Administrator**

Heather Lorrain

**Bookkeeper**

Kathleen Humphrey

December 8, 2019

10:00 AM

## The Second Sunday of Advent

*Hanging of the Greens*



*"No one escapes the wilderness on the way to the promised land." - Annie Dillard*

We extend a cordial welcome to each person who comes to worship today. We greet you as a friend, in the presence of God. We are especially pleased to welcome visitors to our church and community. Please join us for Coffee Hour, downstairs in the Fellowship Hall, after worship. If you are visiting with us today or are interested in membership, have comments, or wish to be placed on our mailing list, please speak to the pastor or any one of the deacons. (blue nametags) Hearing devices are available in the basket just outside the sound room. Childcare is available downstairs in the nursery.

Head Ushers today are Laura Blake and Ida Lancaster. The Lay Leader is Ida Lancaster. Coffee Hour is hosted by Sandra Leonard.

**Did you know?** *Our television and internet Sunday morning viewers really enjoy seeing and recognizing their friends in the pews each Sunday. It makes them feel even more connected to the service. However, for them to see you, it really helps if you sit toward the front of the sanctuary. If you are comfortable, please sit toward the front and enrich the service for our viewers at home. Thank you!*

## **WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Ken Bradsell

*Please turn off cell phones. Make every effort to have your announcement printed in the bulletin. If you have an additional announcement, please use the microphone so that those using our audio aid system will be able to hear you.*

## **Signing of the Friendship Folders**

*Those sitting near the aisle end of the pew, take the friendship folder, sign in, and pass it to your pew neighbor. When everyone has signed, please pass it back to center aisle, making note of the names of your pew neighbors so that you may greet one another following worship. If you are willing to share your email address with other church folks, please write it in the friendship folder. Thank you.*

PRELUDE    “People Look East” *arr. Michael Helman*

Bell Choir  
Jamie Knobloch, Director

INTROIT    “There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying”

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Ida Lancaster

Leader:        How shall we prepare this place for the coming of the Prince of Peace?

**People:        With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.**

Leader:        How shall we prepare this place for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**People:        With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, evergreen.**

Leader:        How shall we prepare this place for the one who follows the path of God to the cross?

**People:        With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death and resurrection.**

Leader:        How shall we prepare our minds and hearts for the coming of the Christ child?

**People:** With song and prayer and hearing again the words of the prophets who foretold the saving work of the holy God.  
**Leader:** Glory to God in the highest!  
**People:** Amen.

## INVOCATION

\*CAROL “Deck the Halls”

**Deck the church with boughs of holly, fa la la la la la la la.**

**‘Tis the season to be jolly, fa la la la la la la la.**

**Hang the greens and swag the pews, fa la la la la la la la.**

**Feel the birth of God’s good news, fa la la la la la la la.**

**Deck the windows red and green, fa la la la la la la la.**

**Place the candles to be seen, fa la la la la la la la.**

**Fill the church with holy light, fa la la la la la la la.**

**Fill your soul with music bright, fa la la la la la la la.**

**Wreathe the doors and place the bows, fa la la la la la la la.**

**Feel the love that gives yet grows, fa la la la la la la la.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see, fa la la la la la la la.**

**One who heals and sets us free, fa la la la la la la la.**

## LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE, THE CANDLE OF PEACE

Marty and Frank Helman

**Reader 1:** May the Lord give strength to the people! May the Lord bless the people with peace! I will say, “Peace be within you.” For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good. (Ps. 29, Ps 122)

**Reader 2:** Reading Isaiah 40:3-5

**Reader 1:** Reading Isaiah 9:6

**People:** Saving God, we pray for peacemakers, the tireless ones among us and among the nations, those in communities and in our own families who seek common ground for understanding and healing, those who dare take us from tolerance to positive peace. Measure us O God, according to your ways, but take not your mercy from us. Be gentle

**with us a little longer and grant that on our way to  
Christmas dawn we may be the peacemakers Jesus  
blessed.**

*Light the second Advent candle.*

\*HYMN NO. 116 “People Look East”

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 11:1-10; Matthew 3:1-12

ANTHEM “E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Home” *Paul Manz*

HOMILY “Through the Wilderness”

\*HYMN NO. 121 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (DEBTS/DEBTORS)

INVITATION TO GIVE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “O Come, O Come, Immanuel” Natalie Sleeth,  
arr. Jane Marshall

\*ADVENT DOXOLOGY NO. 47

**All Praise, eternal Christ to thee,  
Whose advent set thy people free;  
Once more upon thy people shine,  
And fill the world with love divine. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

**Holy God, we are witnesses of your boundless generosity. You give  
your word to call the worlds into being. You give your commanding  
fidelity to form your people. You give your life for the life of the world.  
You give broken bread that feeds and poured wine that binds and  
heals. You give, we receive, and are thankful. In thankfulness, we give.  
We will tell your story. We will live your gifts in us and strive to be  
your gracious ones for the world. Amen.**

## INTRODUCTION TO THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

Carole Cochran

Leader: O come, o come, Emmanuel!

Advent is finally here!

**People: Advent is a season of waiting;**

Leader: But it is also a season of hope, peace, joy and love.

**People: During Advent, we wait:**

**We wait for God to come into our midst, to burst forth into the world and transform our lives.**

Leader: But today, we also transform our sanctuary so, as we wait this Advent season, we can find:

**People: Hope in candles and lights that flicker in the darkness, peace in wreaths placed on our doors, that symbolize to all people that they are welcome here, joy in evergreens that remind us of God's everlasting presence in our lives and love in ornaments that teach us about Christ.**

Leader: As we wait this Advent season,

**People: The Christmas story will come alive!**

Leader: Emmanuel means, *God with us!*

**People: Come, Emmanuel, come!**

\*CAROL NO. 154 "In the Bleak Midwinter"

## THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Marty and Frank Helman

\*CAROL NO. 153 "What Child is This, Who, Laid to Rest"

## THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Tom Dewey

\*CAROL "O Christmas Tree"

**Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!**

**Thy leaves are so unchanging;**

**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!**

**Thy leaves are so unchanging;**

**Not only green when summer's here,**

**But also when 'tis cold and drear.**

**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!**

**Thy leaves are so unchanging!**

**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!  
Much pleasure thou can'st give me;  
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!  
Much pleasure thou can'st give me;  
How often has the Christmas tree  
Afforded me the greatest glee!  
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!  
Much pleasure thou can'st give me.**

**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!  
How richly God has decked thee!  
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!  
How richly God has decked thee!  
Thou bidst us true and faithful be,  
And trust in God unchangingly.  
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!  
How richly God has decked thee!**

## BENEDICTION

## DECORATING OF THE TREE

*Special thanks to Jackie Mundy and her late husband Pete, and to Wayne Closson for procuring, delivering, and setting up this year's tree.*

## WELCOME!

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During the month of December our beloved Ken Bradsell will cover the pulpit. Rev. Ken Bradsell and his wife, Marcia, are members of our congregation. The Bradsells relocated their US residence to Boothbay Harbor from Ridgewood, NJ in 2015. Ken had just retired from the executive staff of the Reformed Church in America where he served as director of operations and chief of staff for the General Synod of the church and chief operating officer for the church's insurance and retirement corporation. The Bradsells locked up their home on Linekin Bay as soon as the movers were done in January 2015, stayed a few days with Marianne Reynolds (an old friend from NJ), then departed for two years of post-retirement work in the Sultanate of Oman (with summers at home in Boothbay Harbor). Ken served the congregations of the Protestant Church in Oman as its lead pastor and served as liaison for all Protestant and Orthodox ministries in Oman with that country's Ministry of Religious Affairs.

Prior to his service on the executive staff of the Reformed Church, Ken served pastorates in Douglaston, Long Island, Montgomery Township, NJ and Albany, NY. Ken and Marcia are the parents of three grown children: Adam, Mark, and Rachel, and the grandparents of Sam and Beau Bradsell, Deanna Rudrud.

**TODAY**

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Following worship, the youth groups will make gingerbread houses and watch Christmas classics.

**3 PM | SHEEPSCOT VALLEY CHORUS CONCERT**

**Church Sanctuary**

**Adults-\$15, Students-Free**

Sheepscot Valley Chorus presents its annual ever-popular Christmas concert. The featured piece will be Felix Mendelssohn’s Magnificat in D, written when he was 13 yrs. old. The concert will also include a varied selection of holiday pieces, with the renowned soprano soloist Mary Sullivan as a special guest.

**THIS WEEK**

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<b>Monday 12/9</b>	8 AM	Men’s Breakfast at Mama D’s
	11 AM	Joyce Duncan’s Memorial Service and Reception
	4:30 PM	Food Pantry-Fellowship Hall
<b>Tuesday 12/10</b>	6:45 AM	Book & Meditation-Library
	8:30 AM	Women’s Breakfast at Mama D’s
	12 PM	Food Pantry Meeting-Fellowship Hall
	4 PM	Executive Committee Meeting-Library
	5 PM	Trustee Meeting-Library
	5:30 PM	Committee Night
	7:15 PM	Bells Rehearsal-Sanctuary
<b>Wednesday 12/11</b>	11:30 AM	Gregory Wing Service
<b>Thursday 12/12</b>	12 PM	AA Meeting-Fellowship Hall
	7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary
<b>Friday 12/13</b>	11:30 AM	Food Pantry-Fellowship Hall
<b>Sunday 12/15</b>	10 AM	WORSHIP-Advent III: Joy
		Sunday School

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

**Tuesday, Dec. 10th | 8:30 AM at Mama D's**

If you plan to attend, please sign up. If you find that you are unable to attend, remove your name from the list by Sunday, December 8th or call Arlene Smith 633-2383.

**The Peer and Wellness Center Drum Circles held at the end of each month in Fellowship will be cancelled until further notice.**

**Wednesday, December 18: Christmas Caroling at St. Andrew's Village. Meet at the Gregory Wing at 3 PM.**

## Holiday Poinsettias Order Form

Help us decorate our sanctuary for Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia. We'll be placing them on December 14<sup>th</sup>, and you are welcome to take them home after the service on Christmas Eve.

You can purchase your plants on your own or order them through the church.

Please fill out the dedication form below and return it with your check (if you wish us to purchase it) for \$15.00 marked "Poinsettia" in the memo section. Checks should be made out to the "Congregational Church of Boothbay Harbor" and received in the office by Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Please print your information below.

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\_\_\_\_ I'll bring my own by December 14<sup>th</sup>

\_\_\_\_ Please purchase, check enclosed

### Dedication:

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

In memory / honor / celebration (circle one) of:

\_\_\_\_ Deacons please give the plant to a shut-in

\_\_\_\_ After the service on December 24<sup>th</sup>, I'll take the plant



# CHRISTMAS SEASON EVENTS

## **Sunday, December 1** **Advent I**

10 AM Holy Communion

## **Saturday, December 7**

8-10 AM Waffle Supreme Breakfast

9 AM-1 PM Christmas Fair

11 AM-1 PM Soup Luncheon

7 PM Carols in the Round, Mt. View

Chamber Singers

*Free, Donations Welcome*

## **Sunday, December 8** **Advent II**

10 AM Hanging of the Greens

3 PM Sheepscot Valley Chorus

Concert, Christmas Pops

*Adults \$15, Students Free*

## **Sunday, December 15** **Advent III**

10 AM Worship

## **Tuesday, December 17**

6:30 PM BRES Chorus Christmas

Concert

*Free*

## **Wednesday, December 18**

5 PM Y-Arts Choir Christmas Concert

## **Sunday, December 22** **Advent IV**

10 AM Christmas Pageant

## **Tuesday, December 24** **Christmas Eve**

4:30 PM Family Service with Brian  
Donovan

8 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Service with Ken Bradsell

## **Sunday, December 29**

10 AM Song & Prayer for the New  
Year

# ★ THE CHRISTMAS FUND

for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund



*The Light Shines in the  
Darkness*

On **Sunday, December 22** our church will collect a special offering for the UCC Christmas Fund. There will be special offering envelopes available in the pews for your donations. Please make checks payable to Congo Church BBH with "Christmas Fund" in the memo line.

In 2018, gifts to the Christmas Fund enabled

- Small pension supplementation for 379 retired clergy and lay employees (\$1,453,050)
- Health benefits supplementation for 174 retired clergy and lay employees (\$429,903)
- Emergency grants for 49 individuals and families (\$60,526)
- Christmas "Thank you" gift checks to 401 retired clergy and lay employees (\$214,100)

## PRAYER LIST

We lift the following people in our prayers today. Please include them in your prayers and thoughts throughout the week.

Ken Chances	Carl Syp	Faye Dewey	John King
Madison Grant	John Druce	Judy	Jay
Emily Hester Harbe	Ellen Memory	Pat Seaward	Don
Janet	Faith Meyer	De Amplo	Steven
Peter Kunkel	Kathleen Billis	Joshua Robinson	Mark Stephenson
Todd Beeson	Kurt Donovan	Megan	Brenda Amato
Arthur Carter	Jan	Priscilla	Marna Brown
Cass Schofield	Mark Hormell	Lida Whittier Rozowski	Patti Dille & Family
Emerson	Joey Evans	Brad and Kathy	Lorna
David Cone	Christopher James	Steve Austin	Ken Dinnar
Noah Jones	Jameson Brooks	Jason Shepard	Josh Dinnar
Mark Abrahams	Greg Laderer	David & Carolyn	Jed Patrick
Georgia Chambers	Samantha	Katherine Connors	Grace Rose
Erik Milinowski	Edie Jordon	Christine Blake	Trish
Laura (Briggs) Kraft	Stanley Barter	Doreen Dun	James Jankowski
Michael Murray	Judy Dent	Sandra Thibault	Nancy Court Summers
Mike	Marybeth Dubois	Kathy Barter	Peggy
Donald Duncan & Family	Matthew	Ellen	

- Those who have lost loved ones
- Our military personnel serving around the world and here at home
- Those struggling with fertility issues and illness
- Victims of domestic violence
- Others whose needs are known only to God

**If you wish a name to be added or removed, please contact the church office at 633-4757 during the week or email [congochurchbbh@outlook.com](mailto:congochurchbbh@outlook.com)**

## People, Look East

1. Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
 3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
 4. An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.  
 that in course the flower may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.  
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

east and sing to - day - Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 Love, the Star, is on the way.  
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, *The Oxford Book of Carols*, 1928  
 MUSIC: French carol; harm. Barry Rose, 1980

BESANÇON  
 87.98.87

English Catholic Eleanor Farjeon's words are set to the  
 tune of an energy-filled carol from the Besançon area of  
 France (near Switzerland).

Words © 1957 Harold Ober Associates, Inc.  
 (in conjunction with David Higham Associates, Ltd.)  
 Harm. © 1980 Barry Rose

# Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

121

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
3. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,  
4. By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1744, alt.

MUSIC: Melody attr. Christian F. Witt, (1660-1716), *Psalmodia Sacra*, Gotha, 1715

STUTT GART

87.87

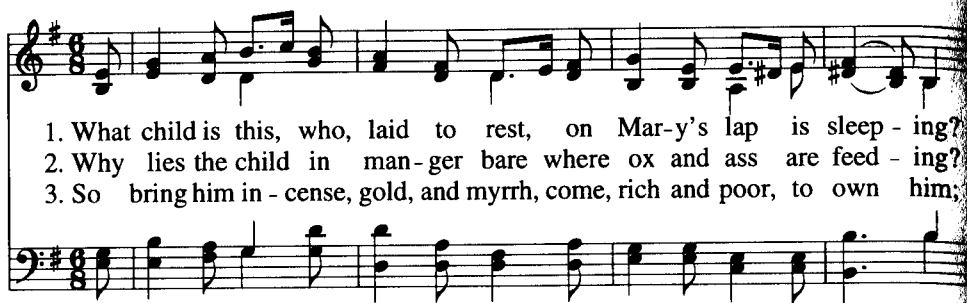
Witt was court organist, then Kapellmeister, at Gotha, Germany.  
He composed sixty-five church cantatas.

1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
 2. Hea - ven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - stain;  
 3. An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,  
 4. What can I give him, poor as I am?

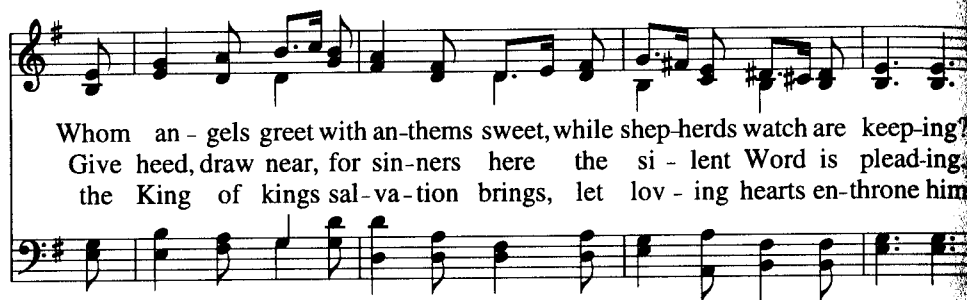
earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign.  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thronged the mid - night air;  
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 In the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed the  
 but his moth - er on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,  
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet

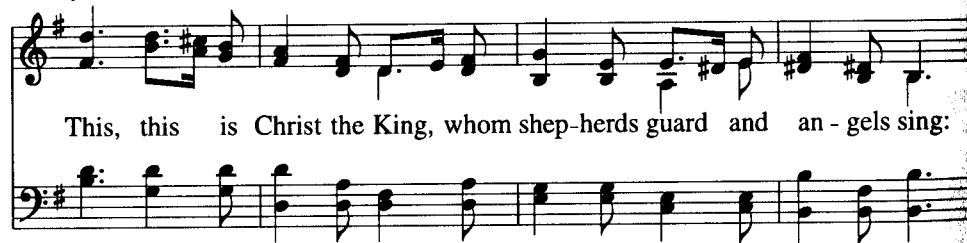
in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 Lord God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
 wor - shipped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.  
 what I can I give him: give my heart.



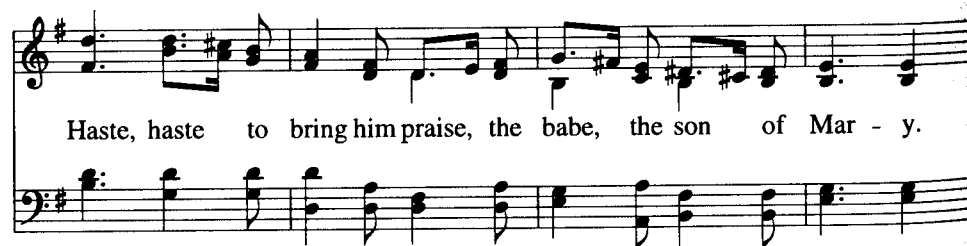
1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep - ing?  
 2. Why lies the child in man - ger bare where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
 3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come, rich and poor, to own him;



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?  
 Give heed, draw near, for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.  
 the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en-throne him

*Refrain*


This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing:



Haste, haste to bring him praise, the babe, the son of Mar - y.