



**United Church of Dorset and East Rupert
~ January 1, 2023 ~**

WORSHIP SERVICE ~ JANUARY 1, 2023
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS ~ AULD LANG SYNE ~

SILENT MEDITATION *Look back and appreciate the experience; let go of the worries, celebrate the goodness and give thanks for all of it. Look ahead with wonder, look ahead and plan, look ahead and open your heart to the hope and grace that our God is with us always. The new year gives us a chance to be a little more gentle, a little more loving and a little more filled with hope. Celebrate your life: if you like yourself just a bit more, you will be able to like others a bit more, and maybe, just maybe, we will create a world filled with peace.*

PRELUDE *One Good Year* Slaid Cleaves

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING OF GOD'S PEACE

AS WE BEGIN OUR WORSHIP, NOW IS OUR TIME TO SPEAK TO GOD

ENTER "THE FLAME" & "THE WORD"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Jim Gray

L: People of the world, it is time to celebrate new beginnings.

P: *We step into the new year with faith.*

L: People of faith, it is time to look ahead with hope.

P: *We step into the unknown with hope.*

L: People of hope, it is time to walk in paths of righteousness.

P: *We step forward together in love and justice.*

L: Let us worship God.

***HYMN (CH) # #143 (vs. 1,3) "Joy To The World, The Lord Is Come"**

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Jane LoBrutto

L: The Lord be with you. **P:** *And also with you.* **L:** Let us pray.

ALL: *Eternal God, you call us to adventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths not yet trodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love is guiding us. In the holy name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

***THE LORD'S 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI (CH) #36**

*Glory be to the Father
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

SAYING GOODBYE TO 2022 *Auld Lang Syne* Robert Burns

Congregation singing:

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne!

Leader: **READING OF MEMORIAL LIST OF 2022** Rev. Jim Gray

Congregation singing:

For auld lang syne, my dear
For auld lang syne!
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet
For auld lang syne!

Leader: **PRAYER LIST OF 2022** Jane LoBrutto

Congregation singing:

So here's a hand my trusty friend
And give hand to thine
We'll take a right good cup of faith
For auld lang syne!

Leader: **CURRENT EVENTS OF 2022** Rev. Jim Gray

Congregation singing:

For auld lang syne, my dear
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup o'kindess yet
For auld lang syne!
Repeat

AS WE CONTINUE OUR WORSHIP NOW IS THE TIME TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM *Hard Times Come Again No More* -Stephen Foster –Donald Moore, arr

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURES AND HYMNS TO BEGIN A NEW YEAR

Reading One Genesis 8:20-22

Rev. Jim Gray

Hymn #619 (vs. 1,2) *"My Life Flows On"*

Reading Two Genesis 17:1-7

Jane LoBrutto

Hymn #132 (vs. 1&2) *"When God Is A Child"*

Reading Three Genesis 34:8-10

Rev. Holly Ross

Hymn #73 (vs.1,2,3) *"There's A Wideness In God's Mercy"*

Reading Four Jeremiah 31:31-34

Peter Davis

Hymn #713 (vs. 1,2) *"God of our Life"*

Reading Five Hebrews 6:13-20a

Rev. Holly Ross

Hymn # 354 *"Seek Ye First"*

Reading Six Hebrews 1 1:1-3 and Hebrews 12:1-2

Jane LoBrutto

Hymn #618 (vs. 1,2) *"How Firm A Foundation"*

Reading Seven Revelation 21:1-5

Rev. Jim Gray

Hymn #67 (Vs. 1) *"O God, Our Help In Ages Past"*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF INVITATION

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *Most loving God, we confess that we have seen much pain without being moved to compassion. We have begged forgiveness from others, while hoarding our own charity. We have gathered our own tranquility at the expense of peace of others and creation. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy upon us. Amen.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

LITANY OF PREPARATION

L: God be with you.

P: *And also with you.*

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: *We lift them up to God.*

L: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

P: *It is right to give God praise and thanks.*

L: Therefore, with all the communion of saints we praise,

P: *Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of Your glory.*

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *(It is our tradition to partake in unison.)*

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we may experience Christ and receive his gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.*

***HYMN** (CH) # 67 (Last verse) *O God Our Help in Ages Past*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Prelude in D minor* J.S. Bach

PRAYER LIST Our prayer list is a network of love and faith in the power of prayer. We receive these names from members and friends of our church who hold these individuals up in their own prayer life for God's healing and strength upon them.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS PRAYER CONCERNS: Ann Healy; Stephanie & Steven Blake; Gary Wilkins; Sofia; Dan Pinsonault; Sandy Cary; Noemi; Rev. Marian "Pete" McCart; Elizabeth LaBerge; Chase Birkheimer; Jonny D.; Darlene Brown; Karen Statler; Nancy; Tom Brass; Eric Stevenson; Carol and Neil Groty; Cathy Linde; Jim Ameden; Robbie Littlewood; Jack Bertram; Isabella Wassick; Karen De Mascio; Pam LaCoste; Theo Cherry; Carl Hedman; Nicole, Bill McFall; Cari Komline; Larry Cochran; Iris Delilah; Linda and Dick Buswell; The Usuff Family; Wenda Ameer; Father Kariken Kasparian; Dan; John Griffith; Dotty Thompson; Jacqueline Denis; Alison; Pastor Fa Lane; and in the Dorset Church, for the Cabinet and the Nominating Committee as they begin to prepare for the Annual Meeting; in the Vermont Conference for the Shrewsbury Community Church; and in the UCC, for all the UCC congregations that are downsizing due to shrinking congregations; may God encourage them to find new ways to be a church as they share worship space with other denominations.

LONG-TERM PRAYER CONCERNS: Tom Shanahan; Naweedullah; Mustafa; Desiree Hazelton; Brian, Amanda, Sophie and Benjamin Krauss; Patricia Bono; Dottie Hinkle; Miles, Dan and Leigh Krauss; Martha Bowen; David Parsons; Amber Lundberg; Bob & Joann Jesberg; Linda Webster; Chip Wilson; Joe Crawford; Linda Sargent; Matthew Hill; Bentley Lewis; Richard Krauss; Hazel Prouty; Ronald Lamb; Toni-Ann Pearsall; Deb Sharp; Ken and Carol Shippey; James Jankowski; Mary Abbott Ludki; Tyler Kennedy; McKenzie Cahill; Rand Snyderman; Chris Waker; Pat Oltman; Shelly Krauss and Hershel; Marcus Noble; Ched Evans; Barbara West; Claire; Vern James; Jameson Gray Pelton; Maryann Dellinger; Sarah Quinlan; Ginny & Jim Lucas; Toddy Quinlan; Jennifer H.; Debbie Michota; Kimberly & Michael White; Judy Dunn; Evelyn Tobin; Cassia Duran; Charlie Thompson; Emily Metcalf; Reeve & Essie Cantus; Chris Willis; Julia Pitcher; Calder; Jennifer Cready; Rich; Chris C.; Liz LaVigne; Linda Bushee; Joe V.; Kyle; John Bordner; Mark Miksis; Grace Wise; Shirley Simpson; Fergus Cochran; Monroe Parks; Dody Daly; Amy Dunn; Douglas White; Mary Buchmayer; Doris Chartrand; Sue Bamford; George Smith.



OUR THANKS TO ALL THAT HAVE PROVIDED POINSETTIAS THIS SEASON



Sue and Don Hinkel	Merry Christmas!
The Grapshi Family	In celebration of family!
Nora Larsen	In loving memories of loved ones
Dotty Thompson	In memory of loved ones
Beth Eyre	Merry Christmas!
Linda O'Leary	In memory of Millie & Francis O'Leary & Dotty Streeter
Nancy & Bob Faesy	Giving thanks for our children
Meg Mithoefer	In memory of Mike Seely
Gail & Don Brodie	Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all
Widgie Pierpont	For Mother Earth
Janet & David Chandler	Merry Christmas and Peace to All!
Ann Troumbley	In memory of my loving husband Theron
Lynn & Scott Welsh	Merry Christmas to all!
Rita Hobson	In honor of my sister, Eli-Rigmor Jensen
Caren & Joe McVicker	In honor of the McVicker Family
Caren & Joe McVicker	In memory of Harriet Johnson
Nan Leach	In loving memory of Howard Leach
Nan Leach	In loving memory of Mavis Larsen Gray
Justine, David and Evangeline	For healing prayers filled with love for June Cook
Bruce Welsh & Family	In loving memory of Carol Porter Welsh
Bruce Welsh & Family	Mom and Dad Welsh
Dan Zimmerman	For all God's creatures big and small

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank
you 

TO THE CONGREGATION! *It is with grateful hearts that we, the staff of the Dorset Church, send out to all of you this note of gratitude. Your Christmas gift to each of us is overwhelmingly generous and we all appreciate it. We see day in and day out how generous this congregation is and we thank you for sharing your generosity with all of us. With peace and hope that each of you has a new year filled with God's blessing and love, **The Staff of the Dorset Church.***

HOSPITALITY MEETING The next meeting will be **Monday, January 9th at 10 AM.**

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE will meet on **Wednesday, January 11th at 8:00 AM**

COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD NEEDS YOUR HELP IN JANUARY Dorset Church (as you may know) is responsible for getting volunteers for the **COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD** for the months of July and January! We have digitized the sign up and just need an email to go out to the congregation to register for a slot here:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10c0e4aadaf23a7fdc16-cfcvolunteers>

BE A COFFEE HOUR HOST! Opportunities are available for all of **2023** See new sign up sheet in the vestry. Thanks, The Hospitality Committee.



USHERS NEEDED FOR 2023 Please see the sign-up sheet in the vestry.



FLOWER SIGN-UP

PLEASE HELP US KEEP THE CHURCH BEAUTIFUL The **2023 flower chart** is hanging on the furnace room door. Please sign up to provide flowers for the altar.

FAITH INNSIDE will begin on **Friday, January 13th at 9:30 AM.** Rev. Gray will chose the book soon and we will order copies of the book. Please keep watch for more news!



BIBLE STUDY will once again begin on Wednesday, **January 11, 2023 at 5:00 PM.** All are welcome to join us for a simple supper, prayer and Bible Study.

HIKING CLUB will meet on **Saturday, January 14th at 9:00 AM** in the church parking lot.

ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE All board and Committees need to submit their Annual Report to the office for preparation of the church's 2021 Annual Report. The deadline is **Monday, January 16, 2023.**



HOLD THE DATE! THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on **Sunday, February 12, 2023 at 11:30 AM.**



Mark your Calendars – The Christian Education Committee will be hosting our Annual **Epiphany Lunch Celebration Sunday January 8th following worship** - All are invited for lunch and short program as we celebrate Epiphany with the Wise people in Bethlehem. We are looking for people to donate soup, salad, bread, star cookies, king cake as well as people to bring their favorite nativity scene to share as center pieces. Also, looking for people to share their story of following their epiphany "star" from last year. Or if you would be willing to share a story, tradition, song or poem related to Epiphany we would love to hear it. Sign up during coffee hour in the weeks to come or call 802 362-5548 or email Gretchen Lima at gretchenlima@aol.com

BENNINGTON COUNTY OPEN ARMS—we are still looking for not one, but two cars, actually. **One for Musa, the father of our church family** and **one for Mahshid** who just passed her test and hopes to become a mid-wife here in the states. Please contact Cheryl Gasperetti cgasp@vermontel.net, 802 293-5196 land line, 802 558-1041 cell. Thank you.

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2022

PASTOR.....Rev. Dr. James H. Gray*

LICENSED MINISTER/ ADMINISTRATOR.....Jane A. LoBrutto*

PASTORAL ASSISTANTRev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson

BOOKKEEPER/ADMINISTRATOR'S ASSISTANT Leslie Mazzucco

MUSIC DIRECTORTom Salmon

SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR..... Paula Mann Nassivera

MODERATOR.....Lori Hong*

CLERK..... Linda O'Leary*

TREASURER.....Andrew Longacre*

MEMBER-AT-LARGE..... Al Lindsey*

CHURCH DELEGATES.....Kris Harvey, Joel Ario, Nora Larsen, Holly Ross

MANSE LIAISONGay and Roger Squire

TRUSTEES

Julie Citron, Martha Eyman, Kit Wallace, Patrick McGuire, Steve Holman,
Lori Hong, Sandi Hedman, David Chandler*, Scott Stewart

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Scott Stewart, Trustee Rep.; Steve Holman, Bruce Welsh

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Andrew Longacre, Treasurer; Ellen Maloney, Scott Stewart, Chair, (Trustee Rep.) Phil Peterson

STEWARDSHIP

Karen Allen, Jack Gilbert, Bill Bridges (A), Rev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson* (A),
Lori Hong, (Trustee Rep.), Jane LoBrutto

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Karen Allen, Staff Rep., Steve Holman, Trustee Rep., Al Lindsay, Henry Chandler

DIACONATE

Robin Chandler, Angie Florence, Ginger Foss, Keith Michl, Shawn Hazelton*, Co-Chair; Stacy Meszaros,
Karl White, Sue Westin, Secretary; Merrick Counsell, Ellen Leeds*, Co-Chair; Dan Zimmerman, Lynne Welsh

CHANCEL COMMITTEE (Ad hoc committee of Deacons)

Robin Chandler, Lindy Bowden and Ginger Foss

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Lee Romano, Peter Davis, Steve Holman, Elizabeth Karet*, Tom Salmon (ex officio)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Paula Nassivera*, Chair (ex officio); Ellen Leeds, Gretchen Lima, Tom Salmon, Youth Leader (ex officio),
Annabelle Liu, Heather McGuire, Kelly Gaiotti

FELLOWSHIP

Derry Dickinson*, Chair; Ginny Longacre, Secretary; Linda O'Leary*, Vice Chair; Betsy Olson, Treasurer

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Nora Larsen*, Chair; Betsy Olson, Judy Dunn, Betty Hazelton, Secretary, Caroline Sargent, Funeral Coordinator;
Dotty Thompson, Candace Parks, Treasurer; Luella Parks; Gail Brodie (A), Linda Drunsic (A), Nan Leach (A)

MISSION COMMITTEE

Janet Chandler, Martha Eyman, Daniela Stewart*, Chair, Cheryl Gasperetti,
Jen Parent (A), Rev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson (A)

GREEN TEAM COMMITTEE (Ad hoc committee of Mission Committee)

Ellen Maloney, Chair; Nancy Faesy, Bill Bridges, Sandi Hedman, Nan Leach, John Pitcher, Caroline Sargent,
Ginny Longacre, Skip Dickinson, Candace Parks, Tom Salmon, Nora Larsen, Ellen Leeds

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

David Chandler, Trustee Rep.; Merrick Counsell, Deacon Rep.
Al Lindsey, Member-at-Large; Roger Squire and Peter Davis, Pastor Reps.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Linda O'Leary, Betsy Olson, Richard Grip, Alex Gray, Colleen LaChac, and Dick Coss

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Merrick Counsell, Rob Gaiotti, Jane LoBrutto (Admin), Leslie Mazzucco (A), Tom Salmon (A) Sue Westin

SEXTON.....Lynn and Pete Jennings

*Member of the Cabinet (A) Appointed