

# The Lord's Day

December 11, 2022 ~ 10:30 AM

Scripture for Meditation: "Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands."

-Isaiah 49:15-16 (ESV)

Prelude Benjamin Bassett, piano

\* Call to Worship (Bible, p. 857) [Luke 2:8-14](#)

\* Hymn 211 [God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen](#) GOD REST YOU MERRY

\* Invocation

Old Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 650) [Jeremiah 23:1-6](#)

New Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 944) [Romans 8:1-11](#)  
(continuous reading)

Hymn (insert) *The First Noel* THE FIRST NOWELL

\*\* Silent Prayer of Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon

\* Hymn 208 [O Come, All Ye Faithful](#) ADESTE FIDELES

\*\* Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Carol Jones, piano

\* Hymn 731 [Doxology](#) OLD HUNDREDDTH

\* Prayer of Dedication

Sermon *Engraved on God's Hands* Pastor Will Snyder  
Text: [Isaiah 49:1-16](#) (Bible, p. 609)

\* Hymn 230 [Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor](#)  
QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

\* Benediction

\* Silent Meditation

Announcements and Dismissal

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please be considerate of others who are quietly preparing for worship. Please silence your cell phones before the service begins.*

**COVID-19 Guidelines:** Consistent with current state and local government guidelines, the use of face coverings is optional for all individuals.

Nursery care is available for infants through age 3 in Rooms 2 and 4.

### **Shepherding Groups, 12:00 PM:**

All Shepherding Groups will meet today after the morning worship service. There will be no evening service tonight.

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\* Congregation Standing

\*\* Congregation Kneeling

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

### December 11, 2022

**Worship Leader:** Elder Sterling Harmon  
**Greeters:**  
**Deacon in Charge:** Scott Bolliger  
**Ushers:** Jeff Edwards  
**Audio:** Benjamin Bassett  
**Nursery:** 9:30:  
10:30 (*Worship*): Toni Kirk, Natalie Snyder  
**Toddler Time:**  
**Coffee Clean-up:** Jones Shepherding Group  
  
**Evening Audio:** *Shepherding Groups-  
No Evening Service*

### December 18, 2022

**Worship Leader:** Elder Armand Chenelle  
**Greeters:**  
**Deacon in Charge:** Peter Benedict  
**Ushers:** Walter Mayo  
**Audio:** Benjamin Bassett  
**Nursery:** 9:30:  
10:30 (*Worship*): Sue Owens, Anita Hilinski  
**Toddler Time:**  
**Coffee Clean-up:** Jones Shepherding Group  
  
**Evening Audio:**

## This Week at Church

Wednesday	1:00 PM	Bible Study
	6:00 PM	Mid-Week Recharge
Thursday	1:00 PM	Red Cross Blood Drive
	7:00 PM	Deacons' Meeting
Friday	7:00 PM	PCC Christmas Pageant
Saturday	7:00 AM	Men's Covenant Group
	1:30 PM	Caroling at Fox Hill Center
Sunday	9:30 AM	Women's Sunday School

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMING EVENTS

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#### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be on **Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. You can visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) to schedule an appointment.

#### PCC CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel..."*

We are delighted to invite you to an evening of Scripture reading, theatre, and singing.

Join us in the sanctuary for a **Christmas Pageant on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM!**

Refreshments and fellowship will follow.

Our PCC youth have been hard at work on this year's production. We hope to see you there!

- Colleen & Abe Millett

#### CHRISTMAS CAROLING

All are invited to join our church family for Christmas caroling at **Fox Hill Center in Vernon on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM.** (Snow date will be the 18<sup>th</sup> after the morning worship service.) Music will be provided. Please come and help spread some Christmas cheer!

### CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

As we approach Christmas we will have opportunity to worship our Savior on both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Christmas Eve is on a Saturday this year and we will have a service of Lessons and Carols at **5:30 PM**. Christmas day is on Sunday and we will have worship at our normal time of 10:30 AM. There will not be Sunday school on Christmas morning but we will have a time of fellowship (with refreshments) from 9:30-10:15 AM. You're welcome to come at any point during that time prior to worship and enjoy fellowship.

### CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRIP

**Location:** Zealand Hut, White Mountains, New Hampshire

**Date:** February 17-18, 2023

**Reservation deadline:** December 29, 2022

**Description:** 6 miles of cross-country skiing into Zealand Hut, sleep at Zealand Hut one night, and cross-country ski out 6 miles.

Ski rentals will be available.

Please let Derick Lessard know if you are interested and would like the reservation instructions.

(860) 810-9585 or derick.lessard@gmail.com

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

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### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Bible Study takes place at 1:00 PM at the church. If you are interested in joining, please contact Pastor Will at the church office: (860) 742-7222.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

(Every other Monday – next one Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>)

**In-Person** Women's Bible Study led by Debbie Goodale, at 6:30 PM at the church. We will be going through the book of Romans! Please reach out to Debbie Goodale if you have any questions. Cell: 860-455-6579; Email: dlhgoodale@gmail.com.

**Zoom** Women's Bible Study led by Maddie Edwards and Hannah Sung. We will be going through the book of Mark! Please reach out to Hannah Sung for the Zoom link via text/call: 862-334-3839 or via email: hannahmoon93@gmail.com.

### STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFTS

It has been our custom to give a cash Christmas bonus to our PCC staff as an extra “thank you” for the hard work they do throughout the year. You may place a gift in the offering basket on Sunday or in the black wall safe by the church office door by **Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**. If you've been worshipping from home via the live-stream, you can mail your gift into the church. Please clearly mark your envelope “Staff Christmas Gift.” **These donations are not tax-deductible, and must be in the form of cash or a check made out to ‘Cash’.**

### MID-WEEK RECHARGE

We believe it is important to provide a mid-week avenue for all believers to come together to grow in friendship and to seek the Lord in prayer. Additionally, there have been some in the church that expressed a desire for more opportunities to fellowship with one another and we desire to help cultivate that.

#### **Schedule**

This ministry will take place twice a month on the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month from 6:00-8:00 PM**. From 6:00-7:00 PM food will be provided and individuals and families may come at any time during that hour to eat and spend time together. Beginning at 7:00 PM the focus will shift to a time of prayer, facilitated by an Elder, Pastor, or other servant-leader in the church. This is an opportunity for prayer, fellowship, and to invite others outside of PCC to come and enjoy a meal and spend time together. The next Mid-Week Recharge will be **December 14<sup>th</sup>**.

#### **Kids Bible Club**

Along with food, fellowship, and prayer, a kids bible club led by Mark Popovitch will also be available for children grades k-5<sup>th</sup>. Kids club will begin at **7:00 PM** and is a ministry that provides opportunity for young people to grow in friendship with other children, receive instruction and lessons from God's Word, and enjoy singing praise to the Lord.

If you have any questions regarding this ministry, please contact Pastor Will or Mark Popovitch (860.742.7222).

## *Notes for the Preaching of God's Word*

### *Engraved on God's Hands*

Isaiah 49:1-16

**Main Preaching Point:** Though there is much in the world that *could* lead one to despair, give your hearts attention in life to the LORD's Servant so that *today* you would know his saving comfort.

- The First Voice: The Servant Brings Hope (v.1-6)
  - Calling
  - Restoration
  - Suffering
  - Mission
- The Second Voice: The LORD Provides Comfort (v.7-16)
  - Salvation
  - Comfort
  - Rejoicing

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Questions for Individuals, families, or small groups

Text: Isaiah 49:1-16

Title: Engraved on God's Hands

#### **Questions:**

1. What was most important or applicable in today's preaching? Can you summarize the main message?

#### **The First Voice: The Servant Brings Hope (v.1-6)**

2. Read v.1-6. Who is speaking in these verses (see v.3)? Verse 3 speaks of the servant being identified as Israel. However, in verse 5 the servant is called to restore Israel. According to the sermon, how is this to be understood?

3. What is the task or calling of the Servant? How does it relate to restoration and reconciliation? Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-21. Discuss.

- Where do we see the suffering or distress of the Servant? Read also Isaiah 53:3-6.

4. The Servant calls the coastlands to listen to him (v.1). Without a doubt, we are tempted to listen to many other voices in the world and focus our attention on many other things other than the Servant. Robert Murray M'Cheyne once said, "for every look at yourself, you need to take 10 looks at Christ." What has your attention in life right now? What are you focused on? What voice(s) has your attention? In what way(s) might you fix the eyes of your heart upon the Servant?

5. Read v.6. How does this passage shed light or bring a sense of fulfillment to God's promise in Genesis 12:1-7 and 15:1-6? What does v.6 reveal about the grace of God? Discuss.

#### **The Second Voice: The LORD Provides Comfort (v.7-16)**

6. Read v.7-16. Who is speaking in these verses? What is the main message that is being communicated and how does it apply to today? Discuss.

7. Focus on v.8. These words are quoted by Paul in 2 Corinthians 6:1-3. Give attention to that passage. What is being conveyed in these words and how is it applicable to the church today?

8. The whole passage has a strong focus on God's comfort (v.13). Focus in on v.16. What do these words mean and how do they communicate God's attention, care, and comfort for his people?