



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 20, 2009



hope church

open minds · open hands · open hearts

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



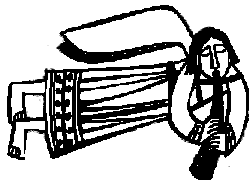
## Visitation

Each woman listens.  
Each speaks:  
Ah! The life within you, within me...  
a new revelation:  
God's saving love  
impregnates the universe  
in woman...  
joy...  
Magnificat!  
Again today  
women tell their  
stories to each other—  
magnificat!  
Listen sisters, listen brothers,  
a new outpouring.  
This time:  
resurrection!

Mary Southard

## GATHERING IN WORSHIP

*You are invited to light a candle at any time during worship that we might all share in the Light.  
During Communion find members of our prayer team are available to pray with you.  
Our prayer team will pray through the week the prayers that you offer via the prayer request form.  
We hope you will let us know that you have been with us by completing the form in the bulletin.*



**Living Hope**

**Welcome**

**The Walk to Christmas**

The Children of Hope Church

**The Candle of Love**

**Opening Song**

“O Come O Come Emmanuel”

**Confession, Assurance and Celebration**

**Prayer & Silence**

**Sung Confession:**

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Your name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, Your name is called Emmanuel.

**Assurance of Forgiveness and God’s Presence**

**Passing of the Peace** One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

**Sung Celebration:**

“Soon and Very Soon”

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King (3 times)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.

No more crying there, we are going to see the King (3 times)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.

No more dying there, we are going to see the King (3 times)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.

(repeat first verse)

**Call To Prayer**

Hope Church Singers

**Prayers of the People**

*In addition to our open prayer time, you are encouraged to use the prayer circles that are available during Holy Communion and the Prayer Request in this bulletin which will bring your prayers to the attention of the pastor and the prayer ministry team.*

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

### Scripture



A - le - lu - ia - A le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia - A - le - lu ia

Micah 5: 2-5a

Luke 1:39-45

The Magnificat

One: The Word of Truth      **All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

SINGING ANYWAY

Rev. Wendy

Hymn

"What Child is This?"

### COMMUNION

#### Offering

Invitation to Joyful Stewardship

Sung Response (*Amen*), Procession of Gifts and Prayer of Dedication

#### Holy Communion

**Invitation to the Feast:** *This is an open table; everyone is welcome. You are invited forward to receive the bread and dip it into the bowls of grape juice or the chalice of wine. Gluten Free "bread" is available. Should you need assistance; a server will bring you the communion elements.*

**Communion Prayer and Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Prayer of our Savior (sins; sins against us)**

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever, amen.

**Sharing the Bread and Cup**

### SENDING AND FAREWELL

One: The church is a family.... Together we have lived.

**All: *We feel sorrow in your leaving, yet we rejoice with you in anticipation of this new phase of your lives.***

***We will miss your love and support, your leadership and your voice, your music and your hearts, yet we know you will add all of that and more to the lives of those who will be your new church family.***

One: Sara, Jane and Silas, we send you with blessings and our love to Iowa;  
J.C., Mindi and A.J, we send you with blessings and our love to Oklahoma;  
Kent and Robert, we send you with blessings and our love to Washington;

**All: *Know that Hope Church goes with you and sends you out  
to do God's work in the world, commissioning you to bring  
to others what you have learned and experienced here .***

*Please gather around our beloved friends to lay hands on them and pray.*

**Closing Hymn**

“Hark the Herald Angels Sing ”

**Benediction**

### **CHILD CARE**

Child Care and is available in the parlor,  
(through right hand door at the front of the sanctuary).

### **LIVING HOPE**

#### **WORSHIP THIS WEEK & BEYOND:**


Invite a friend to come along and join us for worship.

#### **Today, December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent, 5:30pm Worship:**

The children of Hope will lay a path to Christmas and light the Candle of Love. And our worship will “Surprise” us with the almost unimaginable ways in which God is with us. We will sing along with Elizabeth and Mary-rejoicing in the Messiah and the Hope that Jesus brings.

**Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, 6:00pm Worship:** Hope Church’s renowned Unrehearsed Christmas Pageant Joy for all ages!

**Next Sunday, December 27, First Sunday after Christmas, 5:30pm Worship:**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Save the Date</b> <b>Hope Church Annual Meeting</b> <b>Sunday, January 24, 2010</b> <b>6:30pm</b></p> 
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**.Worship Participation:** Please consider signing up for one of the Sunday worship roles in advance at the online Worship Participation site. Go to [http://hopeboston.org/worship\\_spirituality/worship\\_participation](http://hopeboston.org/worship_spirituality/worship_participation) and then click on the words “Worship Participation”.

### **Fast Track Grant**

#### **Wild populations of apes are declining and could become extinct in the near future.**

The New England Chapter of the American Association of Zookeepers is hosting a new fundraiser event called Ape Rock, which is a Rock-A-Thon to help the chapter promote ape conservation. The funds raised will help them participate in a group called AZA Ape Tag Conservation Initiative. The chapter will be participating at the silver membership level, which is a commitment of \$1000 for the next three years. Their goal for this year is to raise enough money for their first year of dues for the Initiative.

For this Rock-A-Thon, Dan will be sitting in a rocking chair at the Franklin Park Zoo from 2pm on January 8th to 2pm on January 9th at 2pm (with scheduled bathroom breaks), where he will talk to any visitors about Apes and Conservation. Group members and Dan are currently raising funds through donations/pledges for his "sit". Everyone is invited to visit the zoo during Dan's sit to cheer him on, and learn more about Ape conversation!

Through this \$250 grant, Hope Church is helping to protect one of God's most vulnerable creations. With our support, the hope is that this chapter will be able to participate in more conservations globally, and next year they hope to hold this event again, with more opportunities for the Hope community to become more involved in a hands-on way.

Rock on Dan!

*Christmas is coming...*  
*...slow down...make space...for the holy...*  
*...take time...get ready...for the miracle...*



**Tues, Dec 22, 7:00 pm**  
**A Blue Christmas**  
**Longest Night Service**  
Sacred space offering hope and healing for those living with darkness and loss.

**Thursday, December 24,**  
**Christmas Eve, 6:00 pm**  
Hope Church's renowned  
Unrehearsed Christmas Pageant  
Joy for all ages!



## HOPE CHURCH LEADERSHIP

**Ministers:** All of us!

**Interim Pastor:**

Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade, [pastor@hopeboston.org](mailto:pastor@hopeboston.org)

**Administrative Manager:**

Frederick Hayes, [office@hopeboston.org](mailto:office@hopeboston.org),

**Interim Music Director**

Jeanne Lucas, [jeannemlucas@hotmail.com](mailto:jeannemlucas@hotmail.com)

**Music Leadership**

Hope Church Singers,  
Sara Goplin, Bobby Hall, Neil Helme, Todor Stoinov

**Interim Minister**

**Spiritual Formation & Christian Education**

Frederick Hayes, [office@hopeboston.org](mailto:office@hopeboston.org),

**Leadership Circle:**

J Conlon, [board@hopeboston.org](mailto:board@hopeboston.org) (Moderator)  
John Brock, Bob Drake, Christie Dustman,  
Kathie Mainzer, Stacey Schamber,  
Frank Stevens, Kevin Tucker , Judy Wagoner

## HOPE CHURCH MINISTRIES

*Hope Church is a vibrant and growing community with lots of ways to get involved. Please contact these leaders and let us know where you feel called to serve and we'll plug you in!*

<b>Casserole Care:</b>	Kathy Bermingham
<b>Children's Church:</b>	Fred Hayes
<b>Finance:</b>	Frank Stevens
<b>Hospitality:</b>	All of us....
<b>In Care Committee</b>	Polly Hamlen
<b>Nominating Committee:</b>	Laura Everett
<b>Prayer Ministry:</b>	Beverly Pacheco
<b>Search Committee:</b>	Beth Chandler
<b>Seminarian Support:</b>	Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade Rev. Steven Vandergrift
<b>Social Justice:</b>	Neeka Stanley
<b>Stewardship:</b>	Ellen Snoeyenbos
<b>Welcome Baby:</b>	Barbara McQueen
<b>Welcome Wagon:</b>	Jean Vandergrift
<b>Worship, Arts and Music:</b>	Nanette Savides/Sarah Goplin

## **Welcome to Hope Church...**

Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe.

Welcome to new visitors and to old friends.

Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, and single people.

Welcome to people of all colors, cultures, abilities, and sexual orientations, to old and young, to believers and questioners – and welcome to questioning believers.

Welcome to everyone!

Tonight we are all invited to live into God's love, peace, and justice

### **CONTACT:**

#### **Hope Church**

United Church of Christ & Disciples of Christ

87 Seaverns Avenue  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
617.522.0600  
office@hopeboston.org



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