

Chebeague Community Church

Knowing and working with our neighbors near and far as we grow in God's love together
258 North Road, Chebeague Island, ME 04017
207-846-6987 | www.chebeaguechurch.org | Facebook: ChebeagueChurch
A Reconciling Congregation



ORDER OF WORSHIP DECEMBER 24, 2021 CHRISTMAS EVE

When is the time for love to be born? The inn is full on the planet earth,
And by a comet the sky is torn— Yet Love still takes the risk of birth.
Madeline L'Engle, Risk of Birth

Liturgies and Prayers by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

☒ We rise in body or spirit

Welcome

Here at CCC, we are all one family. Restrooms are in the Parish House across the street. Join in when bold letters appear. For COVID, we are masking, sanitizing hands, and practicing physical distancing. During songs, we invite you to be in prayerful meditation or sing along in your heart.

Call to Worship

This year, we dreamed of world peace.

We dreamed of deep breaths and restful sleep.

We dreamed of love that lasts and suffering that passes.

We dreamed of doors open wide and a cure to disease.

We dreamed, because to dream is to believe.

For to dream is to hope; to dream is to see.

So make room in your being to dream yet again,

Of a world without fear, and a God that draws near.

For it is almost Christmas.

Love is almost here.

May we dream to see, and hope to believe. Let us worship Holy God.

Hymn O Come, All Ye Faithful

Prayer of Confession

Ever-present God, From time to time we dream radical dreams.

We dream of freedom for the imprisoned, food for the hungry, and equality for all.

We dream bold, radical dreams, until the world tells us that these dreams are impossible.

And when that happens, we are tempted to tuck our dreams into coat pockets and let them collect dust on the shelves of our hearts. Forgive us for giving up so easily.

Forgive us for giving up so easily, for on this night we remember and celebrate a radical dream — That you dwelled among us - and that you are present with us still.

Give us the courage to dust old dreams off the shelf With the confidence that with you, the impossible is possible.

With you, a light always shines in the darkness.

With you, even an unwed teenage couple and a band of shepherds can bring joy to the world. Thanks be to God for a dream like that. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Reading Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 *Lighting the Candle of Hope*

Hymn Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Reading Luke 1:26-38

Hymn It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Reading Matthew 1:18-25 *Lighting the Candle of Peace*

Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem

Reading Luke 2:1-7

Hymn Once in Royal David's City

Reading Luke 2:8-14 *Lighting the Candle of Joy*

Hymn Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Reading Luke 2:15-21

Hymn Away in a Manger

Reading Matthew 2:1-12 *Lighting the Candle of Love*

Hymn What Child Is This

Reading John 1:1-14

Lighting the Christ Candle

Hymn Silent Night

✠Benediction

Mysterious God, confounding our expectations, meeting us where we least expect to find you:

Stay with us now.

Child of the manger, sharing our humanity, loving skin and bone:

Stay with us now.

Source of Life, birth of God within our own experience:

Stay with us now.

Stay with us in our beings, stay with us on our journeys

Walk beside us, live within us, lead us in love.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for joining us this evening for worship! Instead of blowing out your candle, please tap it with your finger to extinguish the flame. Place your candle in a box as you leave the sanctuary;

Join us for worship via Zoom on 12/26 at 10 AM (Meeting ID: 834 4114 5219, Passcode: 20152020) for a casual time of reflection, prayer, and stories! We'll hear *The Legend of the Christmas Rose* together.

Worship on 1/2/2022 will be At-Home - visit www.chebeaguechurch.org/files to download a worship service to share with others in your household. You can also visit our sister congregations remote services: HopeGateWay, Grandview in Lancaster, PA, or Tuttle Road Community Church (visit their websites for worship info!)

We anticipate gathering in-person, with our remote option, on Sunday, January 9th for our Star Words Epiphany Worship Gathering!

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PRAYER LIST

For the families of Jane Harrington, Peg Lyons, and Bill Cushing. And for Lola & Bill Armstrong, Dick Bowen, Anne Brown, Bob Dyer, Ed Gilchrist, Lisa Googins, Kyle Grannell, Chuck Hilly, HobeY Hinchman, Billy Hutchinson, Roy & Suzanne Jackson, Jessica, Jonathan, Mary Lou & Frank Koughan, Scott Libby, Lisa, Beryl O'Neil, Bea Pettit, Herb & Florence Rich, Helen Scott, Alison Shepherd, Juan Toj, Linda White, Craig Winslet, Rev. Alijandro and the people of Guatemala; those who live with addiction or mental illness; veterans and those serving in the military; children who are hungry or abused; victims and perpetrators of domestic violence; refugees and those who are homeless; housing on Chebeague; our island school and families, the leaders of our country, children and families at the border, those who experience hate because of their racial identity or sexual orientation, including Black, Asian, Hispanic, Middle-Eastern, Native American and LGBTQ+ folk, all impacted by COVID-19, those who are disabled, those who are ill, our new church, our environment, those who experience injustice in our world, and that all may know hope and love.

Contact Us

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(207) 846- 6987

Ministers: Pastor Melissa Yosua-Davis and All the People

Lay Leader: Lola Armstrong

Administrative Assistant: Deb Bowman

258 North Road, Chebeague Island, Maine 04017

Office Hours (Parish House) Thursdays 10 AM - 1 PM

www.facebook.com/chebeaguechurch

www.instagram.com/chebeaguechurch

www.chebeaguechurch.org

Join us for other church activities, both in-person and virtually!

Sundays
10 am Worship

Thursdays
10 am Office Hours
11 am Ladies Aid
1 pm Bible Study with Gloria Brown

Food Pantry
Contact chebundance@gmail.com to make an appointment or for information.

For all our events, including Zoom links, visit www.chebeaguechurch.org.

