

# SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

604 Seven Mile Road Hope, Rhode Island 02831



Phone: (401) 821-8217

E-mail: [office@sovumc.org](mailto:office@sovumc.org)

Website: [www.sovumc.org](http://www.sovumc.org)

Rev. Katherine Mitchell, Pastor  
Steve Haunschild, Music Director  
Donna Faria, Liturgist

Mary Anne Desrosiers, Samantha Dyl & Shyla Mollo, Lay Leaders

Worship and Sunday School at 9:30 AM

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 NOON

## VISION STATEMENT

**We are a multi-generational Christ community  
seeking to sing God's spirit into the world  
by inviting all, serving all, loving all.**

December 22, 2019  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Christmas Cantata

**GATHERING TOGETHER IN THE SPIRIT**

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

WELCOME

SUNDAY SCHOOL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

PRELUDE

*Still, Still, Still*

arr. Davis  
Dorothy Fassbender, Flautist

OPENING PRAYER

**All: O God of Love, who came as a infant, small and vulnerable; O Prince of Peace, who said "Let the children come to me;" O Spirit of Life, who empowers little ones to lead us in worship, continue to bring Joy to this world. Desperate is our need. Great is your Joy. Make of this hour a festival of joyous song, truthful confession, heartfelt praise, earnest words of hope amid our fears, hands and voices raised in adoration and extended in compassion. When at last we stand and sing our majestic chorus of "Hallelujah!", remind us again of the lowliness of a manger, and the folly of a cross, and the words of a prophet who once witnessed: *The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.* Lead us, O Lord. Amen!**

© Peter L. Haynes, 1990-2001

\*SINGING

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

FWS No. 2232, v. 1-2, 4

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

SINGING

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

FWS No. 2232, v. 3

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES TO GOD**

PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

*\*All who are able, please stand.*

\*DOXOLOGY

No. 94

**All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### CHRISTMAS CANTATA

SCRIPTURE READING                      Isaiah 9: 1-7                      OT Pg. 638

CHRISTMAS MUSIC                      *Come, Gentle Peace*                      Martin, Martin & Larson

*Et In Terra Pax (And on Earth, Peace)*                      John Purifov

*A Christmas Blessings*                      Stewart and Larson

*Creation Will Peace*                      Williams and Page

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*                      Miller, Jackson & McDonald

\*SINGING                      *Let There Be Peace on Earth*                      No. 431

\* THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES INTO THE WORLD

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE                      *Joy to the World*                      Handel/Bennett

**CONTACTING PASTOR KATHERINE:** Is there something that Pastor Katherine needs to know?  
Please write it down in *Pastor Katherine's Reminder Book* on the credenza in the hallway  
so that it will not get forgotten in the rush and confusion of Sunday morning!

Pastor Katherine can always be reached by e-mail ([pastorkatherinem@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkatherinem@gmail.com))  
or on her cell phone (401.683.8445).

## *Advent*

---

Lights out,  
dark house.  
Night sky.  
Stars murmuring  
their secrets.  
Little candle,  
light reaching  
into blackness,  
sparkling black.  
Angels maybe  
warming up,  
maybe not.  
Mystery descends,  
personal darkness.  
The more  
than visible  
moves closer.  
Silence is  
an open  
door. Wait.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes, [unfoldinglight.net](http://unfoldinglight.net)