



SUNDAY JOY VIDEO WORSHIP December 20, 2020

Hosted by Episcopalians Together in Oxford

St. Peter's Church & Christ Church Quaker Farms

INTRODUCTION by Don Peck, Director, producer & camera

WELCOME -- The Rev. John Donnelly

“Our King and Savior now draws near. Come, let us adore Him”

OPENING SENTENCES The Rev. Ellen Donnelly

Blessed be God, Father, Son, & Holy Spirit.

AND BLESSED BE HIS KINGDOM, NOW AND FOREVER. AMEN

Let us pray. Almighty God, the scriptures all point to the HOPE we have through Christ our Lord. Thank you for that first gift of hope wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Thank you Father for this immeasurable gift. In the name of the Christ child, Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE “Hosanna” as played & sung by Katherine Browne, CCQF Minister of Music

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!

Lord we lift up Your name, with hearts full of praise

Be exalted oh Lord my God! Hosanna in the highest! (Glory to the King of Kings!)

(second time around)

Glory, Glory, Glory to the King of Kings!

Glory, Glory, Glory to the King of Kings!

THE READING Numbers 24: 15-17a

Then [Balaam, the prophet] spoke his message:

“This is the prophecy of Balaam son of Beor, the prophecy of one whose eye sees clearly,

¹⁶ the prophecy of one who hears the words of God, who has knowledge from the Most High, who sees a vision from the Almighty,

¹⁷ “I see [the Messiah], but not now; I behold him, but not near.

A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel.

THE WORD OF THE LORD. **People: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

THE SERMON: *The Rev. John Donnelly and all of us*

Kid Story—Go outside and look at the Bethlehem Star 45 minutes after sundown.

POST SERMON SONG**“My Life is in You, Lord”****THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Led by Rev Ellen**

Leader: In Hope, let us pray to the Lord Jesus Christ. *(Pause)* Let us pray for the churches of our nation, especially St. Peter’s & Christ Church, who are Episcopalians Together in Oxford. May your worldwide church live in the Hope of Jesus coming again, by boldly proclaiming the Gospel and serving the hungry in His Name. Amen

People: In Hope, we pray to you, Lord Christ.

Leader: We pray for all those in governmental authority throughout the world, and especially for President-elect, Joseph Biden, and for our Vice President-elect and the members of Congress, that they would fairly govern with compassion and justice

People: In Hope, we pray to you, Lord Christ.

Leader: us pray for peace; for the good will among all nations; and for the wellbeing of all people. Let us pray for justice and peace on earth.

People: In Hope, we pray to you, Lord Christ.

Leader: We pray for the healing of the sick, for provision for the poor and hungry, and for freedom for the oppressed. We pray for those in any need or trouble.

People: In Hope, we pray to you, Lord Christ.

Leader: Now, let us offer prayer: for ourselves, others; and our thanksgivings.

Leader: Praise God for those, who in every generation have placed their hope in Jesus; pray that we would have the grace to place our hope in Him in our own day. Amen.

THE PEACE *We are going to exchange the Peace now. Some of us are sitting with family members, and others of us are not. For those of us, who are alone, you can exchange the “peace” with Jesus by making the peace sign; the others of you may exchange the peace with one another.*

Rev. Ellen: May the Peace of the Risen Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

THE OFFERING –Fr. John

“All good things come from you O Lord, and from what is yours, we give back to you.”

During this time of self quarantine and no in-person Sunday services, the church is still required to fulfill our financial obligations and pay our bills. Your continued and needed donations are desperately needed and always appreciated. **CCQF friends & parishioners** can send a check to the church at Christ Church Quaker Farms, 470 Quaker Farms Rd., Oxford, CT. 06478 Or, go to our web page, where you will find a green button on the right, so that you can make an online donation at...www.ccqf.org **For those giving to St. Peters**, checks maybe mailed to St. Peter’s Church, 421 Oxford Rd, Oxford, CT 06478

THE LORD'S PRAYER—led by Rev. Ellen

CONCLUDING SONG “Prepare ye the Way of the Lord”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING—*Fr. John*

DISMISSAL

Rev Ellen: Let us go forth in the Hope of Christ! Alleluia!! Alleluia!!

People: **THANKS BE TO GOD. ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOW TO FIND THE BETHLEHEM STAR on Dec. 21? *It is best to look close to the horizon in the western sky. You will find the pair near the moon, 45 minutes after sunset.*

Christmas Eve Video Services from Episcopalians Together in Oxford, St. Peter's & Christ Church on December 24 at www.ccqf.org

- **CCQF Christmas Pageant and Service** with music provided by our children and from Laura Webb & Keith Roland. Officiant: The Rev. John Donnelly
- **Traditional Christmas Eve Service** with Christmas Carols provided by Adam Kowell, St. Peter's Minister of Music and sermon by The Rev. Ellen Donnelly

Sunday, December 27, First Sunday of Christmas. The service will be offered by our own Christ Cathedral: Festival Lessons and Carols for Christmas, led by our Bishops. Service premieres at 10:00am at <https://www.youtube.com/user/ctepiscopal>

CCQF CHRISTMAS NEWS

The ECW Angel Tree will have a slightly different format this year. Instead of gifts we will be collecting gift cards. Our family is part of our CCQF family. An extremely loving couple has welcomed six children into their home. The siblings had been living in North Carolina, and when their situation changed the family was threatened with being separated. After considerable red tape, the children aged 6-16 are finally residing with their family in Connecticut. Adding so many children to a household is daunting. We would like to provide gift cards to the places that the family frequents on a regular basis: Kohls, Boscoves, Target, Walmart, and Stop and Shop. Gift cards can be mailed to Laura Burr at her home in Middlebury or dropped off at her office 71 Oxford Road, Monday-Friday 9-5. Please have donations to Laura by December 15 so that she can be sure the family has them in time to help ease the financial strain before Christmas.

Also, please keep this family in your prayers as they continue to share God's love with their new children.

SPOONER HOUSE Thank you to everyone who contributed to our December Holiday Feast for the Spooner House in Shelton. It has truly been amazing that we have been able to provide a meal every month since the pandemic hit. It has been a testament to your generosity and compassion. We will continue to provide dinner on the first Monday of every month. There are currently ten residents. The next dinner will be Monday, January 4. If you would like to help with the meal, or if your family is interested in providing a meal, please contact Kathie Osborn.

ST. NICHOLAS will be at Christ Church Quaker farms to pass out presents for our children and teens, Dec. 24, 3 to 5pm.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE NAVAJO CHILDREN *By Marilyn Stebar, Coordinator* The Episcopal Church in Navajoland (ECN), known formally as Navajoland Area Mission is located in the Four Corners Region of the United States. ECN exists in one of the most economically and financially struggling regions in the country. Navajoland has long participated in efforts to integrate Navajo language, traditions and spirituality within its expression of the Episcopal faith and life. The people seek to live out the power of God's incarnation as proclaimed in the Gospel through the Navajo language and spirituality. Christ Church Quaker Farms has been a friend to ECN for many years now. It is our tradition for the children to bring in unwrapped presents for us to send to the children in Navajoland. Unwrapped gifts will be collected on Sunday, January 6th, at CCQF, from 3 to 5pm. This is the Feast of the Epiphany, when the 3 magi gave their gifts to baby Jesus. If you cannot come at that time, call Marilyn Stebar (203-888-3469)

Bob Knapp wishes to thank everybody supporting CCQF. If you would make every effort to fulfill your pledge or giving commitments by Dec. 31, then we will end our year in the BLACK. Thanks be to God. You may make your donations on line at www.ccqf.org or mail them to the church @ 470 Quaker Farms Road, Oxford 06478