

December 21, 2025

10:00 AM

Christmas Sunday

**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST – MAKING HIM KNOWN
COME WORSHIP THE LORD!**



PREPARATION OF OUR MINDS

“The Prince of Peace was born in Bethlehem so we could have peace with God through him (Romans 5:1). Christ himself is our peace, reconciling us to God and to one another through the cross (Ephesians 2:14-16). As the chaos of Christmas stirs...in Christ we receive and eternal peace that cannot be revoked or shaken, despite how unruly our circumstances may seem.” – Kendra Dahl

**CHORAL INTROIT & LIGHTING OF CANDLES - “Wait For The Lord” Taize
WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

PRAISE TO AN AWESOME GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING - Peace

Scripture – Reflection – Prayer – Lord’s Prayer

James and Diana Beddows

***HYMN:** “O Come O Come Emmanuel”

Hymnal #133 (v.1-4)

***THE PEACE**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Sharing our joys and burdens in prayer.)

OFFERING SENTENCE AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY: “Canticle of the Turning”. Rory Cooney

The Sherman Church Choir

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Hymnal #808

PREACHING THE WORD

***NEW TESTAMENT:** Revelation 21:22-22:5

SERMON: "The Light of Life Brings Peace"

John 20:19-22

Bible p.1231

Pastor Carpenter

Bible p.1075

PROCLAIMING THE GLORY OF CHRIST

***HYMN:** “O Come O Come Emmanuel”

Hymnal #133 (v.5)

***BENEDICTION and THREEFOLD AMEN** (*Congregation, please stand if able.)

**Come gather for fellowship
following our Worship Service**

NEXT SUNDAY: “Christmas is Over, Now What?” Is Christmas just a family highlight of the year or does it make any difference once the holiday is over? Before New Years arrives, consider Christmas as an opportunity for transformation more than a prelude to New Year resolutions, a chance to place growing in Christ a life goal.

**DON'T MISS THIS YEAR'S
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

Come early! Starting at 7:15 PM we will have a special presentation of Christmas music for piano and flute by Penny Rose and her daughter Ann to help prepare our hearts and minds for our Candlelight Service. This service of lessons and carols will center around the light of Christ, illuminating the love of God in this world, in your world. We end with the traditional singing of “Silent Night” as we bring Christ’s light into the world.

CALENDAR

December 21st -27th

(Links for online meetings may be found at shermanchurch.org)

Sunday:

Worship at 10 A.M.
(Also Live Streamed)

Wednesday:

Christmas Eve Service
7:30 p.m.
Lessons and Carols

Next Week

Responsibilities

Flowers:

Christmas Committee

Announcements:

Aimée Suhie

Coffee Hour Host:

TBD

Nursery:

Anna Galasso

**Sunday School and Adult Bible Study at 4:00pm will be on hiatus
for the month of December.**

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OUR CHURCH:

Interim Pastor:

Rev. John Loring Carpenter

Ministers:

The Congregation

Minister of Music:

Penny Rose

Moderator:

Charles Mastroni

You may make a prayer request anytime by contacting the church office at info@shermanchurch.org or (860)-354-6114. Outside of office hours (9:00 AM – 2:00 PM) or for an emergency prayer or pastoral request contact the Chair of Deacons (deacon@shermanchurch.org or 860-733-9972) or the Pastor (pastor@shermanchurch.org or 860-350-5151). Let us join together in prayer!

PRAYER IS ALWAYS OUR MISSION

Prayer is a vital part of our ministry at The Sherman Church.

You are invited to join in prayer each Thursday to pray for our church. Dial-in information is in the calendar.

FIRE EXITS are located at the rear of the sanctuary through the double doors and at the front through the doors on both sides of the altar.

THE SHERMAN CHURCH

Gathered In 1744

Continuing to invite all to know the love of Jesus

6 Church Road | Sherman, CT 06784
860-354-6114

info@shermanchurch.org | Shermanchurch.org

A MEMBER CHURCH OF THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

OUR MISSIONARIES:

- Mesa Global: Robert & Nina Bruneau;
- CCCC Church Re-Planting:
Green Mountain Church, Chester, VT,;
- Lion of Judah Academy,
- Hope Academy of the Bronx.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- Eliza Capehart, serving in the United States Air Force.
- John Langworthy, back injury.
- Brian Barnier, health.
- Jim Beddows, health.
- Jim and Christine Munch, health.
- Roberta Judd, health.
- Christopher Siebert, healing of foot.
- Rev. Daniel Morton, health
- Betty Freeman, health
- Chris Freeman, health, strength in the care of her mother
- Debbie Whittaker, Dawn Langworthy's sister. Healing and growing faith.
- Jill Finch, Strength and healing during troubled times.
- Mike Annuzzi, friend of Tim Alemany, healing

THE SHERMAN CHURCH



Gathered In 1744
Continuing to invite all to know the love of Jesus

Christmas

Flowers and Decorations



The Flower Committee is joyfully preparing to adorn the church sanctuary and its exterior with festive cheer for the Christmas season.

This year, memorials will once again be honored through free-will donations to the Flower Fund, instead of individual plant orders. Flower donation envelopes will grace each pew starting **December 7th**. Simply place your heartfelt donation in an envelope, labeled "In Memorial or In Honor of..." and drop it in the offering plate.

Rest assured, the amount of your generous gift will remain known only to the Financial Secretary of the church. For those who are far from home but wish to contribute to the Flower Fund, please mail your clearly marked donation to the church office, and it will be lovingly added to the memorial folder. To ensure inclusion in the memorial folder, kindly send your donation by **December 21st**. All donations to the Flower Fund will illuminate our decorations, unless specified otherwise.

Should you have any questions, feel free to call the church office or speak with Penny LeMasurier, Edna Coons, Lynne Gomez, Carol Voorhees or Anna Galasso on Sunday morning!

Keep your eyes peeled for the next gathering of the Flower Committee. All who wish to join in this joyful ministry are warmly invited to join us.

"Canticle of the Turning" Rory Cooney

V.1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

V.2 Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. **(Refrain)**

V.3 From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. **(Refrain)**

V.4 Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
til the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. **(Refrain)**