

**PLEASANT ST. KIDS** - We would love to help your children become devoted followers of Christ! Check in and get a name tag at the kids cart in the fellowship hall before service.

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**NURSERY** - (Babies-Age 3) during the service for Bible stories, music, play, and more!

**KIDSTREET** - (Age 4-2nd Grade) dismissed before sermon for a Bible story, craft/ activity, music and more!

**ECHO** - (3rd-5th Grade) dismissed after the sermon for 10 minutes of connection (except the last Sunday of the month).

All ages are welcome for the duration of the service. There is always space under the balcony and in the fellowship hall if you need to get the wiggles out.

**FAMILY SUNDAY** - On 5th Sundays we will hold a family service where we all worship in the sanctuary together during the duration of the service. We will now be offering nursery during these services.

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**NAC CHRISTMAS GIFT TAGS** - The Deacons will be distributing the NAC children's gifts this **Sunday, December 21st**, immediately following the church service. Thank you for your generosity!

**BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE** - A service of healing and hope at the Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church, 61 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville on **Sunday, December 21 at 2:00pm**. Sometimes Christmas is hard. Maybe you're experiencing a loss or simply feel overwhelmed this season. Step away from the busy-ness of the holidays for this quiet reflective service with music, scripture and candlelight. *-Presented by the Clergy of the Northbridge Association of Churches*

**PLEASANT STREET CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** - **Wed., December 24 at 6:00pm**. Invite your family and friends to join us for a candlelight service. A special offering will be received for the Deacons' Benevolent Fund.

**WOMEN COFFEE BREAK** - Will reconvene on **Tuesday, January 6 at 9:30am** and every week in the fellowship hall.. All women are welcome!

**THURSDAY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** - Will meet again on **Thursday, January 8 at 7:30am** and every week in the fellowship hall. New members are welcome.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** - Will reconvene (after a brief winter break) on **Monday, February 2 at 9:30am** in the Foundation. All women are welcome!

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**FINANCIAL GIVING ENVELOPES** - are available in the fellowship hall mailboxes. If you did not receive envelopes, please contact Sadie in the church office with your envelope number at: [finance@pscrc.org](mailto:finance@pscrc.org). If interested in giving electronically to Pleasant St., forms are available in the fellowship hall and office.

**CHURCH GIVING** - The Council requests that members prayerfully consider their giving to the General Fund for the next 2 Sundays as we approach the end of the year for 2025. Our deficit through November is \$44,000 and our projection for what is needed to cover our expenses for the year is \$96,000. Thank you for your generosity!

**THE FAIRWOODS BOARD** -Seeking 3 new board members who are dedicated to supporting and seeing Fairwoods continue to be a special place for Christian recreation and community building. Any questions, please contact Josh Van Eck at [Joshuaavaneck@gmail.com](mailto:Joshuaavaneck@gmail.com). The Annual Society Meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2026. Please save the date to come hear about all that is happening at Fairwoods!

**VERMONT TRIP** - **Save the Date: June 20-27th, 2026!** Pleasant Street is partnering with World Renew Disaster Response Services for a mission trip to Barre, Vermont, to help families affected by recent catastrophic flooding. We will be assisting with work like drywall, flooring, insulation, and painting. No experience is necessary, and all are welcome! If you are age 14 or older and would like to join or have questions, please email Emily Fortna at [ebolde@gmail.com](mailto:ebolde@gmail.com).

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**Ministry Staff — How Can We Serve You?**

Sr. Pastor: Rev. Matthew Burns; [matthew@pscrc.org](mailto:matthew@pscrc.org)

Children Ministries: Kate Martinka; [kate@pscrc.org](mailto:kate@pscrc.org)

Worship Leader: Steve Martinka; [steve@pscrc.org](mailto:steve@pscrc.org)

Finance: Sadie Perkins; [finance@pscrc.org](mailto:finance@pscrc.org)

Office: Colleen King; [churchoffice@pscrc.org](mailto:churchoffice@pscrc.org)

Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-12pm / 508-234-5268

**Shepherding Pastorates — Alphabetical By Last Name:**

A-Br — Elder Sandy Wynja & Deacon Kelly Lariviere

Bs-Eo — Elder Eric Wierenga & Deacon Karyn Schneider

Ep-Hl — Elder Tom Cooper & Deacon Mike O'Rourke

Hm-Mc — Elder Mike Anema & Deacon Brian St. Denis

Md-S — Elder Steve Stinson & Deacon Cathy Greene

T-Y — Elder John Woudenberg & Deacon Jodie Woudenberg

# WELCOME

**We're so glad you've joined us!**

*Sunday, December 21, 2025, 9:30 am*

Far As the Curse is Found: Awaiting the Messiah

“Awaiting the Sign”

Text: Isaiah 7:1-17



If you have been worshiping with us for a long time or you are entering the doors of a church for the first time, it is our hope that you will experience a kind welcome, a sense of genuine community, and the grace and truth of Jesus Christ that the Christian Church has celebrated for centuries. Welcome, we are so glad that you are here.

## **LIVING THE STORY OF GOD THIS WEEK**

S	6:30p	HS Youth Group
M	6:30p	Celebrate Recovery
W	6:00p	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Th		Christmas Day
F		Church Office closed

### *Prayer of Preparation*

*The Lord reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgment. He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity. The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you. (Psalm 9:7-10)*

## **GATHER**

*Welcome*

*Call To Worship from Spacious Faith*

Glory to God in the highest!  
And hope to every discouraged heart.  
**Glory to God in the highest!**  
And peace to every conflicted soul.  
**Glory to God in the highest!**  
And joy to every downcast spirit.  
**Glory to God in the highest!**  
And love to everyone.  
**Let us sing praises to our God.**  
**Let us offer this light against the darkness.**

**SONG:** Hark The Herald Angels Sing

*Advent Candle Reading*

Prepare the way of the Lord. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; the one who follows me will not walk in darkness but have the light of life." We light this candle of Peace as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.  
Let us walk in the light of the Lord. (*Isaiah 58:8*)  
**Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

**SONG:** O Come O Come Emmanuel

## **RENEWAL**

*Call To Confession*

Merciful God, always with us, always coming;  
we confess that we don't know how to prepare  
for your Advent.

**We have forgotten how to hope in miracles.**  
we have forgotten the promise of your kingdom.  
**Forgive us, God.**

Grant us the wonder of the shepherds, the courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph.  
**Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for your coming. Amen.**

*Silent Confession*

*Words Of Assurance from Psalm 85*

Surely God's salvation is at hand for those who fear him,  
that his glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and  
faithfulness will meet; Faithfulness will spring up from the  
ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.  
**The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.**

In Christ, God's salvation is at hand, and righteousness  
has come.

**Thanks be to God!**

*Offering: Ministries of Pleasant Street  
Psalm 95*



**SONG:** Oh Come All Ye Faithful

**Passing The Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you!**

**KidStreet Dismissal**

**[ages 4 through 2nd grade are dismissed]**

## **WORD**

*Congregational Prayer*

*Scripture reading:* Isaiah 7:1-17

*Sermon* Awaiting the Sign

## **SEND**

*ECHO Dismissal*

*[Students in grades 3-5 are dismissed]*

**SONG:** Holy Forever

*Apostles' Creed*

*Benediction*

**SONG:** Christmas Sanctus (Holy Holy Holy)

***Go In Peace To Love And Serve The Lord, Jesus Christ!***