

*Welcome to the*  
**Setauket Presbyterian Church**  
of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

# *Order of Worship*

January 1, 2023

❖ *please rise in body or in spirit; unison prayers are in bold*

## GATHERING MUSIC

## RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

## WELCOME

### ❖ **CALL TO WORSHIP & CANDLE LIGHTING**

Hope is:

**Trusting that there is light, even in the dark.**

Peace is:

**The wolf lying down with the lamb.**

Joy is:

**Contagious sounds of Alleluia.**

Love is:

**Unquenchable, never-ending, born in a manger, here today.**

Christmas is:

**A love song to the world; the light that shines in the darkness; God-With-Us!**

Let us worship God.

### ❖ **HYMN no. 133** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (verses 1 & 3)

## THE FIRST LESSON (Isaiah 63:7-9)

*I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that the Lord has shown according to the Lord's mercy, according to the abundance of the Lord's steadfast love. For the Lord said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and the Lord became their savior in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but the Lord's presence that saved them; in the Lord's love and in the Lord's pity the Lord redeemed them; the Lord lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.*

### **HYMN no. 305** *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!* (verses 1 - 3)

## PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

## SECOND LESSON (Matthew 1:18-25)

*Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the*

*Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.*

**HYMN no. 121** *O Little Town of Bethlehem (verses 1, 3 & 4)*

### **THIRD LESSON (Matthew 2:1-12)**

*In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.*

**HYMN no. 147** *The First Nowell (verses 1, 2 & 6)*

### **FOURTH LESSON (Matthew 2:13-18)**

*Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was*

*infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”*

**HYMN no. 123** *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (verses 1 - 3)*

**FIFTH LESSON (Hebrews 2:10-13)**

*It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.” And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Here am I and the children whom God has given me.”*

**REFLECTION**

Rev. Dr. Johanna McCune Wagner

❖ **HYMN no. 140** *Once in Royal David's City (verses 1 & 2)*

**OFFERING**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING**

**God of hope, peace, love and joy, you have given us everything we have – from the magic of this season to New Year celebrations to our very faith in you. You have given us everything, and yet when you were born into this world, all they gave you was a manger and some hay. God of light we pray—take and use these gifts. Use them so that others might have more than you did as a baby: more warmth, more safety, more justice. In deep gratitude we pray, Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER**

❖ **BENEDICTION**

❖ **HYMN no. 134** *Joy to the World!*

**POSTLUDE**

-----  
The liturgy has been adapted from A Sanctified Art written by Sarah Are | sanctifiedart.org.  
The cover artwork is also from A Sanctified Art and titled “Flight to Egypt” by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman. | sanctifiedart.org.  
-----

Thanks to our liturgist and readers for their service this morning!

## THE SESSION

The Rev. Dr. Johanna McCune Wagner, Moderator  
Stuart Campbell, Clerk

### CLASS of 2023

Ken Jaeggi  
Jan Kavazanjian  
Lois Levine  
Mary Sansone  
Sheila Towers

### CLASS of 2024

Jamie Moore  
Susan Ryan  
Beth Senf  
Patricia Siegal  
Susan Spagnoli

### CLASS of 2025

Greg Cote  
Debra Sabatini Dwyer  
Alice Leser  
Michael Tucci

## THE BOARD of DEACONS

### CLASS of 2023

Ann Becherer  
Lauren Ishida  
Alice Nicklas  
Ken Rogers  
Traci Thompson

### CLASS of 2024

Erica McFaul-Erwin  
Alfreda James  
Pat McCumber  
Mark Robinson  
Jennie Sucilsky  
James Suhadolink

### CLASS of 2025

Alice Dawes  
Joellen McNamara  
Sara Mostow  
Virginia Sassano  
Patricia Stein  
Jane Marie Wright

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**Founders Circle:** Carol Ullo and Arlene Rogers, Co-Moderators

## THE STAFF

Rev. Dr. Johanna McCune Wagner, Pastor  
Rev. Ashley McFaul-Erwin, Community Outreach Pastor  
Noby Ishida, Director of Music  
Heidi Parles, Director of Spiritual Formation

Aaron Watkins-Lopez, Church Administrator and Assistant to the Pastor  
Elizabeth Smith, Communications Coordinator  
Heather Klein, Preschool Teacher/Co-Director    Yvonne Sterrett, Preschool Teacher/Co-Director  
Richard A. Holroyd, Church Treasurer  
Jean Hrbek, Financial Secretary  
Eva Stanganelli, Outreach Operations Manager

## The Setauket Presbyterian Church

*Established in 1660*

5 Caroline Avenue, Setauket, New York 11733

631-941-4271 ● setauketpresbyterian@verizon.net ● www.setauketpresbyterian.org

*Setauket Presbyterian Church is a member congregation the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.),  
and thereby of the Presbytery of Long Island.*