

Hope

Advent Week 1

Sunday, November 27, 2022



Plymouth
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH

Liturgy for the Celebration of Worship

November 27, 2022 - First Week of Advent

*When you see an * please stand.*

Greetings

Plymouth Chimes

Prelude

“Wachet Auf, ruft uns die Stimme” (BWV645)

J.S. Bach

Call to Worship & Lighting of the Advent Candle

Leader: We gather in the long shadows of the year,
deep in this dark season, to await the light of Christ.

**People: We light this candle as a sign of hope
shining in the night.**

Leader: We wait and hope for the love of God to take human
form, incarnate in our lives.

**People: Come Emmanuel! Come find us where
we fear we are lost. Claim us as your own.**

Leader: By the light of hope we trust in what we cannot yet see
or fully know.

**All: O Come, Emmanuel! God be with us as we await
the coming of the Lord!**

Advent Reading & Prayer

*Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(See next page)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,
2. O come, thou Wis - dom from on high,
3. O come, O come, O Lord of might,
4. O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free



and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
em - bra - cing all things far and night:
as to your tribes on Si - nai's height
your own from Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny;



that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
in an - cient times you gave the law
from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way.
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Re - joice! Re - joice!



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Children's Hymn

"Jolly Old St. Nicholas"

**Jolly Old St. Nicholas we greet you today.
You are such a special guest, please come in and stay.
Each December we await this great day of cheer.
It brings joy and happiness, we are glad you're here.**

**Jolly Old St. Nicholas, help us be like you –
being kind to young and old, shown in all we do.
Holy, happy, gentle man, now the stories told,
we now read and share with all your great legends bold.**

Children's Celebration

St. Nicholas

(It's a Family Sunday, so kids will remain in worship with their families)

Scripture Reading

Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:3b-6, 17-19

Pew Bible HB pg. 871-73

***Sermon Hymn**

"Waiting"

(See next page)

Sermon

"How Long?"

Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean

Call to Offering

Offertory

Chancel Choir

"Thou Shalt Know Him"

Mark Sirett

***Doxology** *(Join in singing)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, you heavenly host;
praise God, and Christ and Holy Ghost.**

***Prayer of Dedication**



2. To God Cre - a - tor, God the Son, And God the Spir - it Three in One,



Praise, hon - or, might, and glo-ry be From age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

(At this time, children are excused to go to Children Choir rehearsals)

***Hymn**

“Jesus in Glory Comes”

(See next page)

***Benediction**

Congregational Response (people seated and singing)

**God be with you till we meet again.
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a Shepherd’s care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again. Amen.**

Plymouth Chimes

Postlude

“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying”

Michael Burkhardt

Jesus in Glory Comes

*Unison
Refrain*

Je - sus in glo - ry comes, the earth now re - joic - es.

O - pen the gates be - fore him, lift up your voic - es.

1. Who comes to us in glo - ry; how shall we call him?
2. In all of Gal - i - lee, in cit - y or vil - lage,
3. Sing then of Da - vid's Son, our sav - ior and broth - er;
4. He gave his life for us, the pledge of sal - va - tion;
5. He con - quered sin and death, he tru - ly has ris - en.

He is Em - man - u - el, the prom - ised of a - ges.
he goes a - mong the peo - ple, cur - ing their ill - ness.
in all of Gal - i - lee was nev - er an - oth - er.
he took up - on him - self the sins of the na - tion.
And he will share with us his heav - en - ly vi - sion.

Participants in the Service

Preaching this morning

Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean

Liturgist

Rev. Heather Coates

Minister of Music & Fine Arts

Kim Manz

Advent Candle Lighters

Megan Hiebert

Dana Dole

Jan Willey

Children's Message

Kara Holcombe

St. Nicholas

Lay Reader

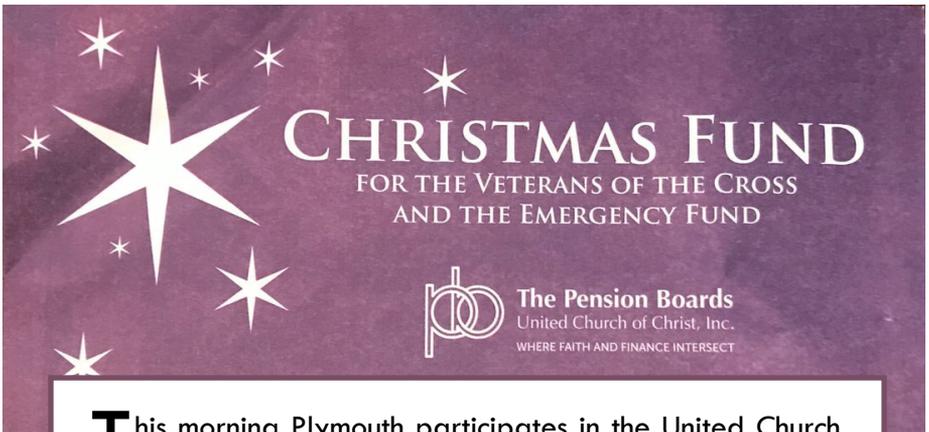
Charlotte MacFarland

Sound, Lights, and Radio Broadcast

Mark Maziar

Cameras & Video Broadcast

Jeremy Winfrey



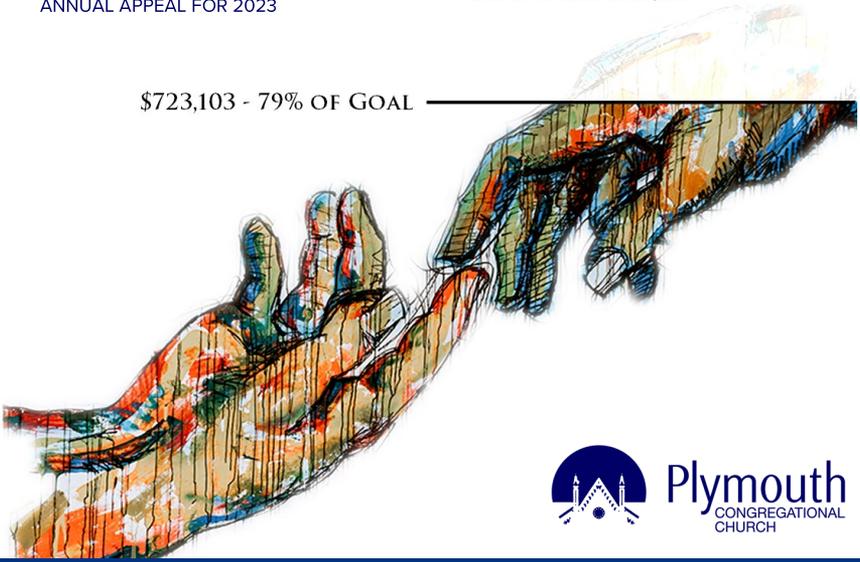
This morning Plymouth participates in the United Church of Christ's (UCC) Christmas Fund Offering. The Christmas Fund is one of the UCC's Big Five offerings of the year. The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees. You can contribute to the Christmas Fund by clearly marking on your checks, offering envelopes, and online giving platforms "Christmas Fund."

RENEWING THE COVENANT

ANNUAL APPEAL FOR 2023

2023 GOAL \$911,000

\$723,103 - 79% OF GOAL



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Above is a graphic showing how close Plymouth is to reaching its 2023 Annual Appeal goal as of Tuesday, November 22. Please remember to submit your pledge cards if you have yet to do so already as we wind our campaign to a close. If you have any questions about annual giving here at Plymouth, please contact the church's financial staff at accountant@plymouthlawrence.com. Join us next Sunday, December 4 between services in the Mayflower Room for an important 2023 Proposed Budget discussion.

Percent of Total Cards Received (11.22.22): 40%

Percent of 2023 Pledge Target Received: 79%

2023 Total Pledges Received: \$723,103

Pledges Needed to Reach Our 2023 Goal: \$187,897

**Dec.
4th**

**BUDGET MEETING
BETWEEN SERVICES
IN THE MAYFLOWER ROOM**

Between this morning's services, come to the Mayflower Room to take part in an important discussion. Plymouth's Annual Appeal Committee, Stewardship Board, and Treasurer will present the proposed Mission Spending Plan (Budget) for 2023 based on Pledge/Commitments from the 2023 Annual Appeal campaign. So come, learn more, offer feedback, ask your questions.



FELLOWSHIP FORUMS

Current events, politics, theology, and real life. What do all these things have in common? We'll talk them over during Plymouth's Fellowship Forums. Join the conversation between services on Sunday mornings in the Heritage Room, 10:40-11:20 am.



EVERY SUNDAY!

**HERITAGE
ROOM**

seeker
 sessions

Phillip Kroh, Plymouth's seminarian intern, offers a time and place to discuss and try out various spiritual disciplines. If you are interested in adding something new to your personal spiritual life and prefer to get started not on your own, Phillip is available in room 205N between services on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Groups and couples are welcome if you want to start a practice together.

2022

Poinsettias & the Pastors' Emergency Fund



ORDER HERE!

Each year during the Christmas season, we decorate our sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias. Plymouth members and friends purchase the poinsettias, often in memory or in honor of loved ones. Others give directly to the Pastors' Emergency Fund. Likewise, our pastors use the Pastors' Emergency Fund to assist Plymouth members, friends, and community members in need. During this time, the Pastors Emergency Fund has become more critical than ever.

You may order your poinsettias using the QR Code to the left, or by filling out an order form at the Featured Ministry Table.



HOLIDAY BAKE SALE!



SCAN ME

Plymouth's Annual Holiday Bake Sale is December 11! Bakers, we want your favorite cookies, cakes, pies, bars, breads, Christmas candy, and gingerbread creations for the sale. This morning, stop by the Featured Ministries Table in the Narthex to get a Baker's card or use the QR code above to register your baked goods for the sale. Thank you for making this important fundraiser a reality. All proceeds from this sale go to support Plymouth's mission endeavors.

Gingerbread

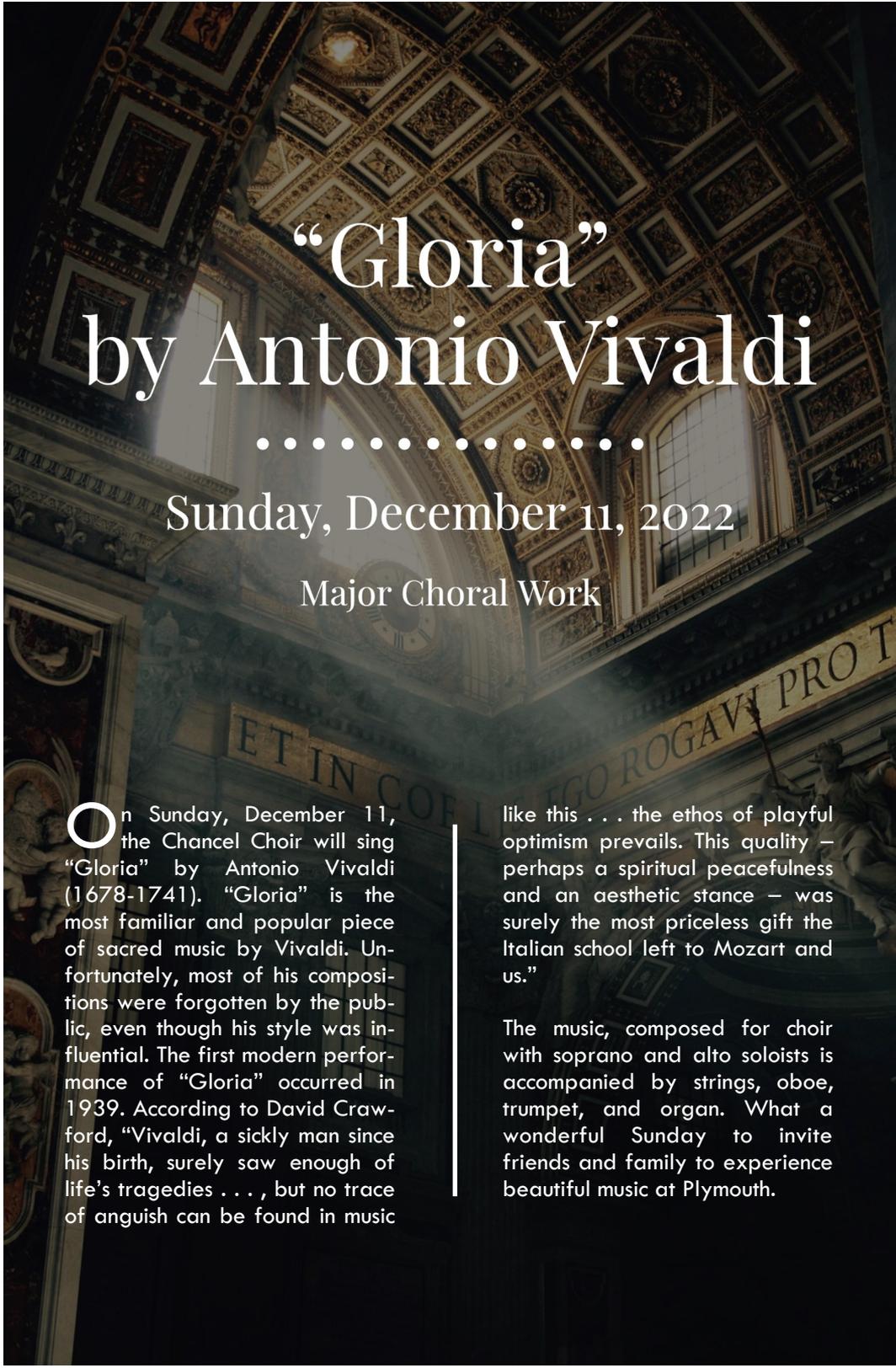
HOUSE EXTRAVAGANZA!
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 @ 4 PM



Bring the family and enjoy the fun of building gingerbread houses, joining in the singing of carols, and a warm holiday meal together in fellowship! **Scholarships are available to pay for the registration fee.** Sign up online by using the QR code to the right, in our weekly emails, at the Featured Ministry Table this morning, or at plymouthlawrence.com on our News & Events Page. Deadline for reservations is November 27.



SIGN UP HERE!



“Gloria” by Antonio Vivaldi

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Sunday, December 11, 2022

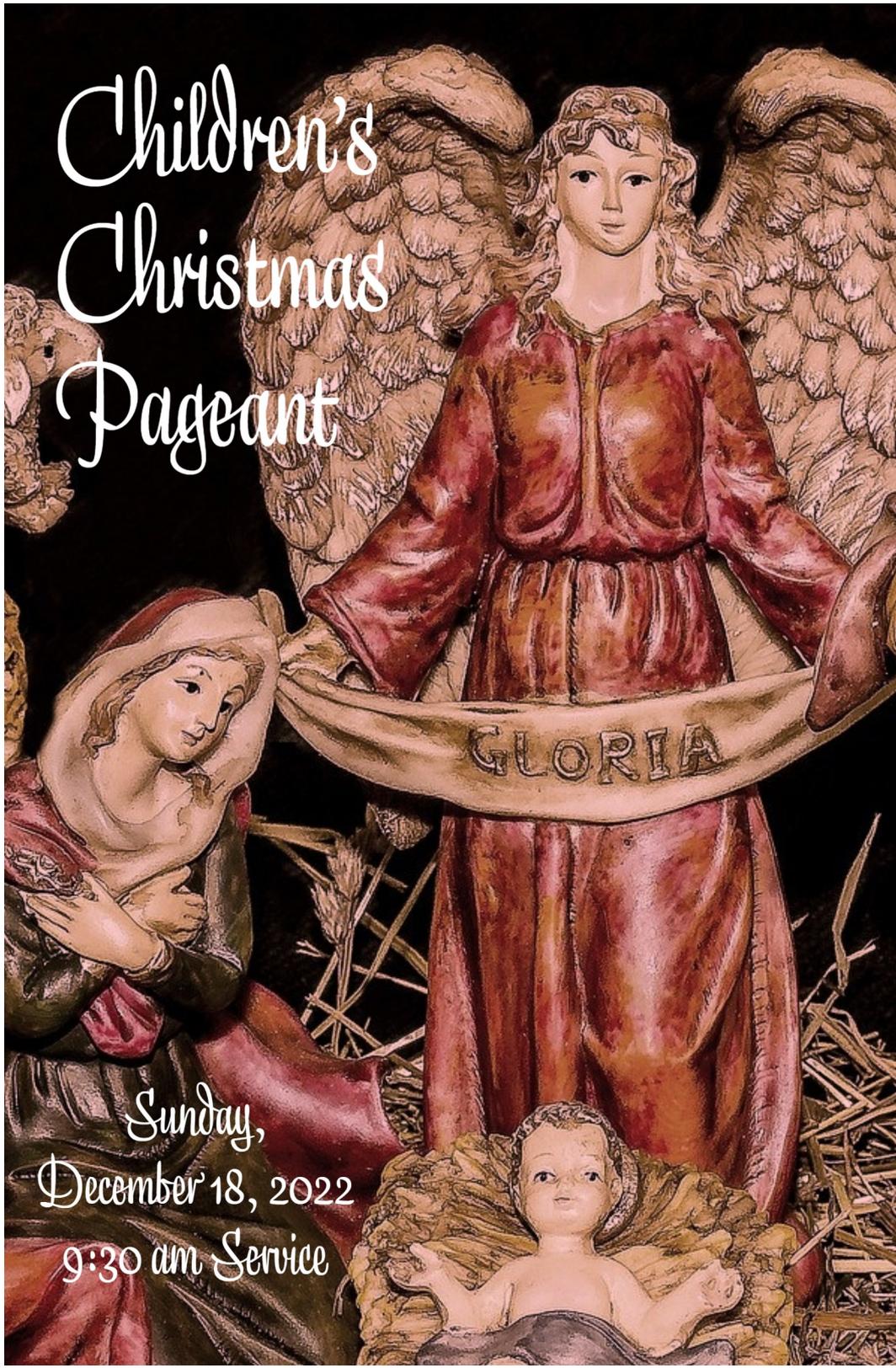
Major Choral Work

On Sunday, December 11, the Chancel Choir will sing “Gloria” by Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741). “Gloria” is the most familiar and popular piece of sacred music by Vivaldi. Unfortunately, most of his compositions were forgotten by the public, even though his style was influential. The first modern performance of “Gloria” occurred in 1939. According to David Crawford, “Vivaldi, a sickly man since his birth, surely saw enough of life’s tragedies . . . , but no trace of anguish can be found in music

like this . . . the ethos of playful optimism prevails. This quality – perhaps a spiritual peacefulness and an aesthetic stance – was surely the most priceless gift the Italian school left to Mozart and us.”

The music, composed for choir with soprano and alto soloists is accompanied by strings, oboe, trumpet, and organ. What a wonderful Sunday to invite friends and family to experience beautiful music at Plymouth.

Children's Christmas Pageant



GLORIA

Sunday,
December 18, 2022
9:30 am Service



*Mitten
Tree!*



*Just
Food!*



*Giving
Opportunities*



*Let's
Shelter
Gifts!*



*Christmas
Eve Offering!*

This Advent and Christmas Season, we can help those in need in our community by donating to those served by our mission and community partners! Drop off donations at church Sunday mornings, December 11 and 18, or Monday, December 12, from 9 am - 3 pm.

LAWRENCE COMMUNITY SHELTER

Lawrence Community Shelter requests gift cards valued at \$10 - \$25 from Wal-Mart, Target, or Amazon. We will also collect Adult Underwear (new, in the package, and unwrapped) and Towels or washcloths. (new and unwrapped). Look for collection barrels in the Mayflower Room.

MINDY'S MITTEN TREE

Our annual Mitten Tree, officially named the Mindy Hazlett Dunlap Mitten Tree, may be found in our sanctuary during Advent. Please bring your donations of new mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, etc., to hang on this tree. Donated items go to our Head Start families first and then to the Lawrence community shelter. Thank you to the Hazlett family for sharing this memorial to Mindy and Jim and Bev Carothers for donating the beautiful tree.

GIVING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2022

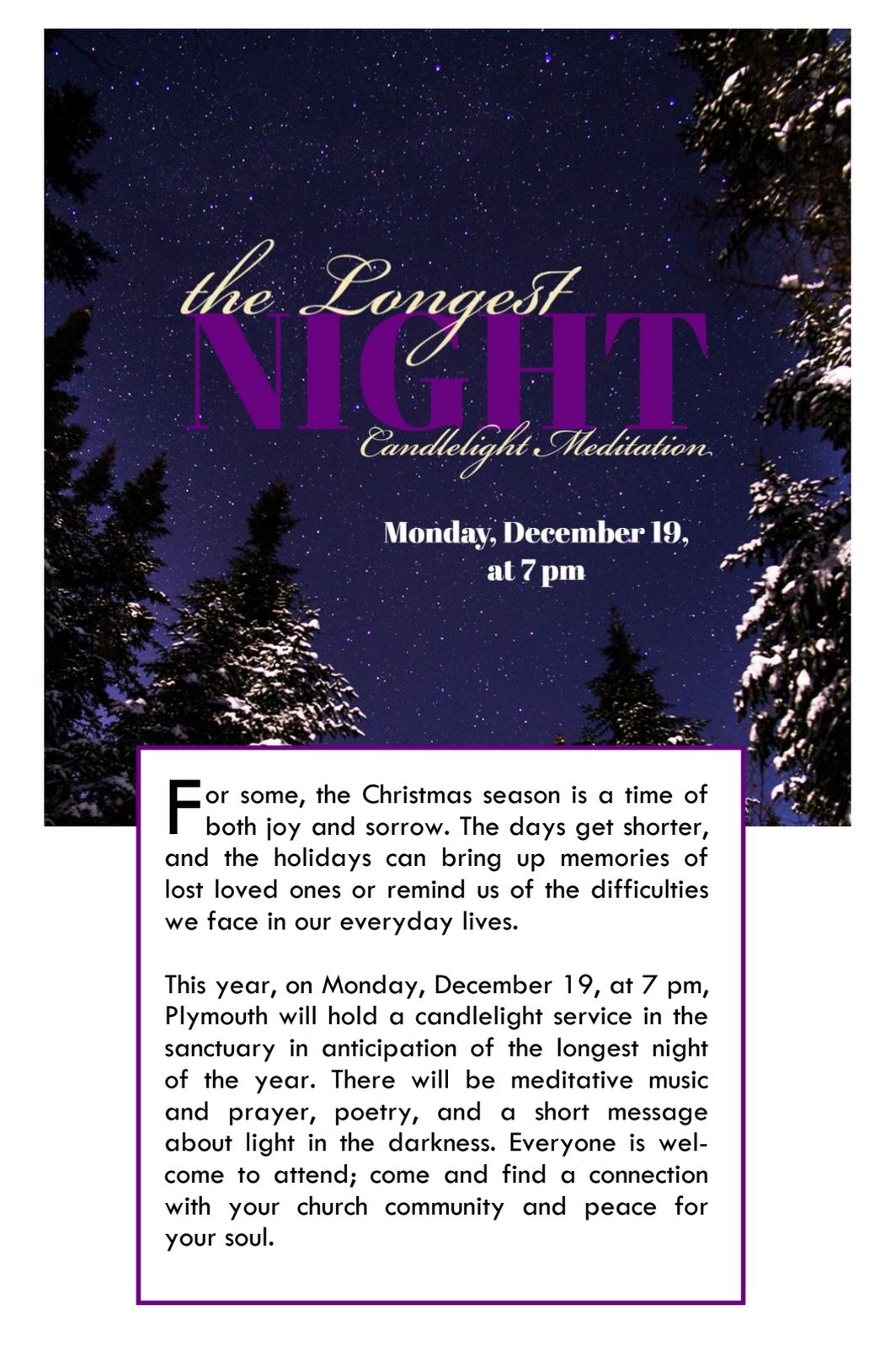
Giving Tuesday began in 2012 to encourage people to do good in the world through generosity and donations. Giving Tuesday, November 29, 2022, aims to tap into the spirit of giving that comes with the holiday season and to balance the consumerism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday. This Advent Plymouth's Mission and Service Board asks you to donate to Lawrence's food pantry Just Food. To donate, contact Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean at associatepastor@plymouthlawrence.com.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

Each year Plymouth takes up an offering during our Christmas Eve services, of which 100% of the monetary donations from this offering go to our mission partners and other Lawrence organizations. This year we will open this offering starting on Sundays, December 11 and 18, and then again during all three of our Christmas Eve services.



Plymouth
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the Longest
NIGHT
Candlelight Meditation.

**Monday, December 19,
at 7 pm**

For some, the Christmas season is a time of both joy and sorrow. The days get shorter, and the holidays can bring up memories of lost loved ones or remind us of the difficulties we face in our everyday lives.

This year, on Monday, December 19, at 7 pm, Plymouth will hold a candlelight service in the sanctuary in anticipation of the longest night of the year. There will be meditative music and prayer, poetry, and a short message about light in the darkness. Everyone is welcome to attend; come and find a connection with your church community and peace for your soul.