

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2011 10:00 AM**

**Blackstone Valley
United Methodist Church**

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*Our Mission is to change people's lives
through a relationship with Jesus Christ.*

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~WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE~

Greeting of Peace

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Opening Song

"To God Be the Glory"

#98

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy

Sam Hall, Tim Hall

Reader 1: Advent is a season of waiting: waiting for the hope, peace, joy, and love of God to break into our lives anew through the story of the birth of Jesus. It is a season that reminds us to look for where God's way of love is present in our world today. Today we light the fourth candle, the candle of love.

Reader 2: We wait – not because we do not know the story of Jesus, and not because Jesus is not already and always here. We wait because to wait is to expect something more. To wait is to expect that the story might enter our hearts and our world in new ways, to bring the change for which we long.

(Light all four Advent candles.)

Reader 3: As we light the candle of love we remember the stories of your faithfulness and steadfast love which surrounds us and will not be contained. We trust that you are with us always. As love that bursts forth from all your people, love is born again and again in all creation.

Hymn

"Star Child"

#2095

This Week at Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church



61 Linwood Avenue
Whitinsville, MA 01588
508-234-2275

Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

*Charles Peter Rollins III, child of God
and of Katharine Marjorie Rollins*

(Children may be dismissed for Sunday School)

Offertory "Here I Am, Lord" #593

Doxology #95

Offertory Prayer

God whose love has no limits, accept these gifts of our imaginations and our love for you, and may they be part of the pouring out of your love for the world. Amen.

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~WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD~

Anthem "Be It Unto Me"
by Randy Phillips and Cindy Morgan

Reading of the Word

Gospel *Luke 1: 26-38, 46b-55*

Hymn "Glory to God" #2033

Message *Rev. Michele Ewers*

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~WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE~

A Time for Prayer *Dean Fortin*

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

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~WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD~

Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #211

Sending Forth

L: Go now, beloved of God, go and love, as Christ loves.
All: *We will enter into the love of the Creator for all creation, the hospitality of Jesus welcoming all people, and the friendship of the Spirit for us all. Amen.*

Closing Song "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me" #2151

Bringing the Light Into the World

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Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy, Offertory Prayer and Sending Forth:
from *Seasons of the Spirit Fusion*.

Lectionary Readings

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Romans 16: 25-27

*The altar flowers are given in memory
of Danielle Beauchaine
by the Wheeler family.*