

WELCOME

We hope and fully expect that you'll encounter God this morning and even meet a few warm-hearted people as well.

You can expect the service
to last around an hour
and a half.

RESERVOIR FAMILIES

CHRISTMAS CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Children age two through fifth grade are welcome to a program of Christmas songs, storytelling, and crafts.
We'll bring them up to the sanctuary at 11:30 to join you for worship and communion.

get connected

- » RESERVOIRCHURCH.ORG
- » INFO@RESERVOIRCHURCH.ORG
- » FACEBOOK.COM/CAMBRIDGERESERVOIRCHURCH
- » [INSTAGRAM: @RESERVOIRCHURCH](https://INSTAGRAM.COM/@RESERVOIRCHURCH)

15 Notre Dame Avenue • Cambridge, MA 02140 • 617.252.0005

Discovering the love of God, the joy of living, and the gift of community.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

OPENING WORSHIP

Song: *Angels We Have Heard On High*
Our worship leader will pray for us, and our band will lead us in a song.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON

MUSICAL WORSHIP, PRAYER, AND ARTS

Song: *Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming*
Song: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
You'll have the chance to receive healing prayer in the back right of the room, if you like. You're welcome to engage with our art table on the right side of the room.

COMMUNION

Song: *Hope*
All are welcome to receive Communion.
Gluten free and juice options are available in the back left of the room.

FINAL SONG

Song: *O Holy Night*
Our band will lead us in a final song. An offering basket will be passed during this time. If you're new, please don't give!

DECEMBER 23, 2018

10:30 A.M.



reservoir
CHURCH

Mark 4:26-32 (CEB)

²⁶Then Jesus said, “This is what God’s kingdom is like. It’s as though someone scatters seed on the ground, ²⁷then sleeps and wakes night and day. The seed sprouts and grows, but the farmer doesn’t know how. ²⁸The earth produces crops all by itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full head of grain. ²⁹Whenever the crop is ready, the farmer goes out to cut the grain because it’s harvesttime.”

³⁰He continued, “What’s a good image for God’s kingdom? What parable can I use to explain it? ³¹Consider a mustard seed. When scattered on the ground, it’s the smallest of all the seeds on the earth; ³²but when it’s planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all vegetable plants. It produces such large branches that the birds in the sky are able to nest in its shade.”

Ezekiel 31:3-6, 12-14 (CEB)

³Consider Assyria, a cedar of Lebanon:
beautiful branches, dense shade, towering height;
indeed, its top went up between the clouds.
⁴Waters nourished it; the deep raised it up,
because its streams flowed around the place where it was planted.

From there, water trickled down to all the other trees of the field.
⁵ And so it became higher than all the trees of the field.
Its branches became abundant; its boughs grew long.
Because of the plentiful water, it grew freely.
⁶All the birds in the sky made nests in its branches;
all the beasts of the field gave birth under its boughs,
and in its shade, every great nation lived.
...
¹²Foreigners, the worst of the nations, cut it down
and left it to lie among the hills.
All its branches fell among the valleys,
and its boughs were broken off in the earth’s deep ravines.
All the earth’s peoples departed from its shade and abandoned it.
¹³On its trunk roost all the birds in the sky,
and on its boughs lie all the beasts of the field.
¹⁴All this has happened so that no other well-watered tree would tower high or allow its branches to reach among the clouds. Nor would their leaders achieve the towering stature of such well-watered trees. Certainly, all of them are consigned to death, to the world below, among human beings who go down to the pit.

Dreaming with Jesus

Fourth in the Series “Light in the Darkness”

STEVE WATSON

Try This:

1) An Invitation to Whole Life Flourishing:

Look for the mustard seeds among you this Christmas. Notice and celebrate and invest in the small people and moments and ideas and organizations that have promise to lead to real flourishing.

2) Spiritual Practice of the Week:

Say to yourself, and to Jesus, I am the mustard seed, we are the mustard seed. Grow in me, grow in us, your flourishing new life.

Notes:
