

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Gloria, Alyssa and the Youth Group, Lay Readers

Sunday, December 12, 2021

Worship 10:30 AM

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gloria McAlpin

Leader: Come freshly to us, Living God. Bring in your Kingdom of justice and love;

**People: Your Kingdom come;**

Leader: Forgive us, that we may learn to repent,

**People: Your Kingdom come;**

Leader: Heal us, that we may be whole in your service,

**People: Your Kingdom come;**

Leader: Teach us, that we may be surprised into truth,

**People: Your Kingdom come;**

Leader: For you are the God who longs to set us free to love and serve you wholeheartedly.

**People: Your Kingdom come in us, Lord, and transform the world to your praise and glory.**

\*HYMN # 180

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

\*INVOCATION

Alyssa Maxfield

**Lord make me ready to hear, ready to see, ready to receive your gift of love. Make me ready to do, ready to go, ready for all you're making ready for me. Lord, make me ready to hear your story, ready to see your glory, ready to receive your gift of love – that's Jesus. Make me ready to do what's right, ready to go spread your light to all the world. Amen.**

\*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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI # 734

ANTHEM

*Noel, Noel*

Linda Spevacek

HEBREW BIBLE DRAMATIC READING *The People Who Walked*

Youth Group

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

The Maxfield Family

ADVENT CANDLE SONG

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

\*HYMN # 198

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

MORNING PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON

*Luke 3: 7-18*

SERMON

*Transformation*

Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY # 34

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Whether we face plenty or hunger, abundance or want, we are in debt to God for all we have and all we are. In these moments of thankfulness, we remember how God has blessed us. We give with joy because we trust the God of our salvation. Amen.**

\*HYMN # 179

*Joy to the World*

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE # 154

**Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel**

POSTLUDE

**\*Please stand if you are able.**

*Call to Worship and Invocation adapted and reprinted from Shine on, Star of Bethlehem – Compiled by Geoffrey Duncan; Unison Prayer of Dedication reprinted from Gathered by Love by Lavon Bayler*

***Greeters This Morning:** Jim & Elaine Hilton, Sue Hawkes  
**Ushers This Morning:** Bill Blaker, Tarry Shipley, Scott Warnshouse, Kelly Meath  
**Live Stream This Morning:** John Maguire*

If you are visiting with us, welcome! Please fill out a green card and place it in the offering plate. If you would like to use our hearing assistance system please see an usher.

## *Happy Birthday*

Dec 12 Gwen McCausland      Dec 13 Sue Blaker  
Dec 15 Patrick McAlpin      Dec 16 Jordan Johnson  
Dec 18 Judy White, Elliott Morgan

## *Prayer List*

**Ancy & Kira** (Fred Henry's friend); **Keith Blaker; Brad Bliss; Marjorie Case; Cheryl** (Jennifer Maxfield's sister-in-law); **Judy Clark** (Jessica & Dan Casellas' and Elaine Hilton's friend); **Cathy Coots; Corrine** (Denise & Scott's sister); **Bob DeSantis** (Dorice & Don Raw, Sr.'s friend); **Marilyn DeSmith; Brian Fuscaldo** (Mara Huberlie's nephew); **Bob Graumann** (Don DeSmith's friend); **Max Grossman** (George Herren's friend); **Carin Herren; Mara Huberlie; Barb Iglewski; Peter Ingalls** (Jean Ingall's son); **Jim and Carolyn** (Amy Ogden's friends); **John** (Lin's nephew); **Sue Kotalik; Michelle List** (JoAnn Reed's friend); **Loren** (Jack Radley's friend); **Lynn** (Joan Ryan's friend); **Eileen McCarthy** (Carla DeMeco & Betsy Dresser's friend); **Liz Nelson** (Kathy Ward's friend); **Norman** (Jennifer Maxfield's uncle); **Chris Pritchard** (Rick, Cindy Mullen & George Herren's friend); **Jack Radley; Don Raw, Sr.; Don Raw, Jr.; Sara** (Jack Radley's granddaughter); **Smith/Dworetzky Family** (Okke & Kathy Postma's friends); **Pat Smith; Dr. Steven Smith & Family** (Jessica & Dan Casellas' friends); **Betsey Stout; Sara Szrama** (Sally Mueller's granddaughter); **Gordon Wenner** (George & Carin Herren's friend); **Josh Yeo** (Barb Stahl's friend); **Jason and Linda Zeller** (Kathy Ward's son and daughter); **Jim Ziegler**

## *Calendar*

Tue Dec 14	8:00	Men's Group
	9:30	Building Security Inspection
Thu Dec 16	10-11:30	Hallelujah Adult Ed
	2:00	Sacred Conversation on Race – Zoom
	6:30	Bell Rehearsal – Hayes Room
	7:00	Sacred Conversation on Race – Zoom
Sun Dec 19	9:00	Choir
	10:30	Worship In Person & Live stream, Sunday School Advent Workshop
	11:45	Angel & Reader Rehearsal for Christmas Eve Usher training for Christmas Eve