

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor**

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Regina Schneider, Lay Reader

December 18, 2022

Worship 10:30 AM

PRELUDE *Away in a Manger* arr. Robert Schultz

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God summons the innocent; God summons the guilty

People: God summons us with love

Leader: God welcomes the poor; God welcomes the powerful

People: God welcomes us with love

Leader: God judges the just, God judges the faithful

People: God judges us with love

Leader: Like Abraham and Sarah laughing, like Jacob wrestling for a blessing

People: Keep us keeping on

Leader: Like Hannah praying in the temple, like Noah building boats in the wilderness

People: Keep us keeping on

Leader: Like Moses challenging injustice, like Joseph and Mary listening to angels,

People: Keep us keeping on

*HYMN # 193 *Sing We Now of Christmas*

*INVOCATION

Hold your light out to the world and let people of all nations feel the warmth of God's love as they encounter the Word made Flesh through Christ our Lord. Follow, where the Spirit of Hope leads us. Listen, as the Child of Peace cries for us. Rejoice, as the Love of God embraces us and let us worship with Hope, Peace and Love in our hearts and the blessing of Creator, Child and Spirit forever within us. Amen.

YOUTH DRAMATIC READING

*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 *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* arr. Keith Christopher

CHILDREN'S MOMENT CRECHE

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE Peggy & Dave Sauter,
Jeannie, Will & Madeline Phillips

ADVENT CANDLE SONG

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON *Isaiah 7: 10-16* Pg # 603

*HYMN # 189 *Angels, From the Realms of Glory*

MORNING PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 1: 18-25* Pg # 1

SERMON *Choose Love* Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen

OFFERTORY *He Is Both, The Holy Child* 18th Century French Carol

*DOXOLOGY # 34

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Reveal yourself to many, O God, through these offerings. May our gifts proclaim the gospel of Christ and strengthen your faithful apostles. Grant us all to know Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.

*HYMN # 188 *Angels We Have Heard on High*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *O Come, All Ye Faithful* arr. Michael Larkin

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

Call to Worship & Invocation adapted and reprinted from Shine On, Star of Bethlehem, Geoffrey Duncan; Prayer of Dedication reprinted from Fresh Winds of the Spirit, Book 2 by Lavon Bayler

***Greeters This Morning: Sue Hawkes, George Herren
Ushers This Morning: Bill & Sue Blaker, Tarry Shipley, Dan Casellas
Live Stream This Morning: Mike Ryan
Coffee Hour Hosts: Steve Brooks, Laurie Stoutz***



**If you are visiting with us, welcome!
Please fill out a green card and place it in the offering plate.**

Happy Birthday

18 Judy White ~ Elliott Morgan
19 Nancy Parsons
20 Jim DeMay ~ Thomas Rice
21 Alice Berry
22 Debbie Jackson

Prayer List

Ancy & Family (Fred Henry's friend); **Carol Birx** (friend of the Casellas Family); **Marjorie Case**; **Cheryl** (Jennifer Maxfield's sister-in-law); **Judy Clark** (friend of the Casellas Family); **Abby Coons** (Carl & JoAnn Reed's friend); **Cathy Coots**; **The Deland Family**; **Bob DeSantis** (Dorice & Don Raw, Sr.'s friend); **Marilyn DeSmith**; **Kade Dolan** (Bonnie & John Maguire's son); **Steve & Diane Fuchs** (Karen's friends); **Max Grossman** (George Herren's friend); **Carin Herren**; **Linda Hudick** (Karen's friend); **Wally Iglewski and family**; **John** (Lin's nephew); **Sue Kotalik**; **Lu Krahl**; **Dennis Maxfield**; **Paul** (Dennis Maxfield's brother); **Bernard** (Karen Maxfield's uncle); **Frank McAlpin** (Patrick McAlpin's father); **Norine** (Marilyn DeSmith's friend); **Kathleen Piper** (friend of George and Carin Herren); **Chris Pritchard** (Rick, Cindy Mullen & George Herren's friend); **Don Raw, Sr.**; **Adam Robb** (Barb & Milan Kutner's nephew); **Ruth** (friend of Jim & Elaine Hilton); **Pat Smith**; **Dr. Steven Smith & Family** (Jessica & Dan Casellas' friends); **Robin Wisniewski** (Alicia Francis' mom); **Josh Yeo** (Barb Stahl's friend); **Jason Zeller** (Kathy Ward's son); **Jim Ziegler**

Calendar

Sun Dec 18	11:45	Christmas Eve Angel Rehearsal
	1:00	A Christmas Carol
Tue Dec 20	8:00	Men's Group
	10:00	Rug Hookers
Sat Dec 24	5:00	<i>Christmas Eve Service</i>
Sun Dec 25		<i>Christmas Day ~ Virtual Service</i>
Mon Dec 26		<i>Office Closed in Celebration of Christmas Day</i>
