

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor
Christmas Sunday
A Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols

December 25, 2022

Worship 10:30 AM

PRELUDE *Mary's Lullaby* arr. for piano John Rutter

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP Jim Malone

Leader: A child is born, a child to save us

People: We share the news with great joy

Leader: A child is born, a child to challenge us

People: We share the news with great joy

Leader: A child is born, a child for the world

People: We share the news with great joy!

ADVENT CANDLES AND THE CHRIST CANDLE Rick, Cindy and Nataelee Mullen

*HYMN #179 *Joy to the World*

*INVOCATION Laurie Stoutz

Born as an innocent Babe and wrapped in the swaddling bands of the world's sorrows and cares. Born, not in a palace, but in a hovel. Not surrounded by servants and tranquility – but by animals, and noise, and heaving human activity. Born, to bring love, and hope, and a new way of living. Born, as an innocent babe and wrapped also in joy and a belief in humankind that defies description. Born as a single red rosebud bearing thorns on its stem with the strength and sharpness of nails: bud and thorn holding together your present innocence with your future experience. 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.

CHRISTMAS READING *And Did It Happen?* Connie Fredericks-Malone

THE FIRST LESSON The Lord God Omnipotent
Reader: Gloria McAlpin (Isaiah 40: 1-5)
Carol # 190 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (vs.1)*

SPECIAL MUSIC/BELLS

Good King Wenceslas, Angels We Have Heard on High, Hark! the Herald Angels Sing
Chris & Lynn Sohn, Kelly Meath,
Carol Benner, Stu Gillim & Laura Gillim

THE SECOND LESSON Announcing the Coming Kingdom
Reader: Evan Wilt (Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7)
Carol # 229 *The First Noel (vs.1)*

THE THIRD LESSON The Peaceful Kingdom
Reader: Alyssa Maxfield (Isaiah 11: 1-9)
Carol # 182 *O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs.1)*

SPECIAL MUSIC *O Come Little Children* Children and Youth

THE FOURTH LESSON The Angel's Announcement
Reader: Jocelyn Wilt (Luke 1: 26-33)
Carol # 185 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (vs.1)*

THE FIFTH LESSON God Comes to us as a Child
Reader: Logan Piorkowski (Luke 2: 1-7)
Carol # 191 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (vs.1)*

ANTHEM *Angel's Carol* Choir

MEDITATION *Christ is Born Today* Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen

THE SIXTH LESSON An Angel Announces the Birth of the Savior
Reader: Bella Wilt (Luke 2: 8-20)
Carol # 188 *Angels We Have Heard on High (vs.1)*

THE SEVENTH LESSON Wise Ones Seek the Messiah in Bethlehem
Reader: Nataelee Mullen (Matthew 2: 1-2, 7-11)
Carol # 233 *We Three Kings of Orient Are (vs.1)*

SPECIAL MUSIC *Carol Him Sweetly* Dan Rice, Debbie Lyon,
Lynne Peffley and Stu Gillim

THE EIGHTH LESSON The Word Became Flesh and Dwelt Among Us
Reader: Dawn Garrett-Larsen (John 1: 1-5, 14)
CAROL # 198 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (vs.1)*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* arr. Anna Laura Page

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

Live Stream: John Maguire

Happy Birthday

25 Jean Ingalls
27 Alan Lupton ~ Jessica Gilbert
30 Rich Morgan
31 Helen M. Ellis ~ Michelle Nevin

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); **Barb & Wally Iglewski**; **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 25	<i>Christmas Day ~ Virtual Service</i>
Mon Dec 26	<i>Office Closed in Celebration of Christmas Day</i>
Tue Dec 27	8:00 Men's Group 10:00 Rug Hookers
Sat Dec 31	<i>New Year's Eve</i>
Sun Jan 1	<i>New Year's Day 2023</i> 10:30 Worship In-Person & Live Stream
Mon Jan 2	<i>Office Closed in Celebration of New Year's Day 2023</i>

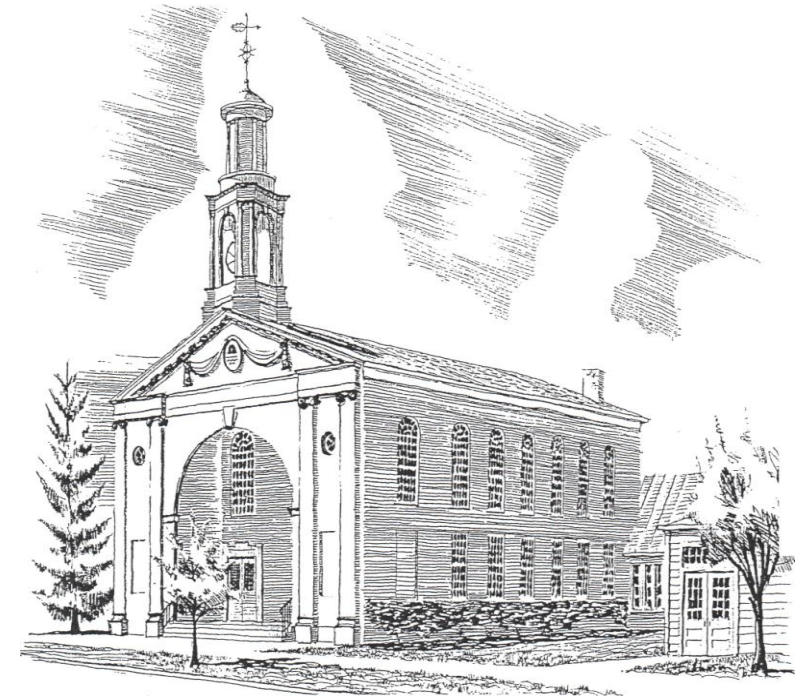


FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

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We're a Different Kind of Church

- ❖ We value and respect diversity in the ways we express our faith.
- ❖ We enjoy thoughtful dialogue about faith issues.
- ❖ We encourage each other to work for justice and to care for people in need in our community and in our world.