

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor  
Second Sunday in Advent  
Jay Garrett-Larsen, Lay Reader

December 6, 2020

Worship 10:30 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Joy to the World* by G.F. Handel, arr. Patricia A. Sanders  
*Bell Choir, led by Pam McGuire*

Bell Ringers: Laura Gillim, Pam McGuire, Claire Russell, Susie Shafer, Mariena  
Schneider and Hannah Weeden

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord;

**People: Make a path for our God in the desert.**

Leader: Each valley should be exalted;

**People: Every mountain and hill be laid low.**

Leader: The crooked shall become straight;

**People: Rough places shall become plain.**

Leader: The glory of the Lord shall be revealed;

**People: All people shall see it together.**

Leader: This is the promise of the Lord;

**People: God's promise shall be fulfilled.**

HYMN #184 *What Child is This?* (Please listen but do not sing)

What child is this who laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping

This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come peasant king to own him;

The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the Virgin sings her lullaby;

Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

INVOCATION (in unison)

**Let Christ be born in you! Let hope be born, Let love be born. Let newness of heart  
be born in you! Let gentleness be born, Let truth be born. Let concern for the poor  
be born in you! Let generosity be born, Let compassion be born. Let close  
communion with God be born in you! Let prayer be born, Let action be born.**

**Let the faith to take up your cross and follow be born in you! And let it lead you in  
the ways of our Lord, for the sake of our Lord, now and always. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI *(Please listen but do not sing)*

A CELEBRATION OF ALICIA FRANCIS' 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE The Weeden Family

Leader: As we prepare to proclaim Your promise of Peace, Great Comforter, we  
remember first your promise of hope.

**People: We light again the Advent Candle of Hope which burns here in our  
sanctuary, but also in our hearts. (Light the candle of Hope)**

Leader: In this holy place, O God, we seek to prepare a path through the wilderness of  
our lives.

**People: Quiet our souls that we may hear your voice.**

Leader: Keep us mindful of the work yet to be done in your Kingdom.

**People: Remind us to see that work through the lens of possibility.**

Leader: Help us remember the covenant you forged with our ancestors,  
even as we yearn for your peace in our world today.

**People: Illuminate our path, that our feet may be guided toward the way of peace.**

Leader: Today we light the second candle on our Advent wreath, the candle of Peace.

**People: May the Peace of the coming Christ child live within us all. (The candle of  
Peace is lit.)**

ADVENT CANDLE SONG

Chloe Schwab

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON

*Isaiah 40: 1-11*

HYMN #190

*Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming* (Please listen but do not sing)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!

Of Jesse's lineage coming as saints of old have sung.

It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;

With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.

To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

MORNING PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON

*Mark 1: 1-8*

COMMUNION MEDITATION

*Make Way*

Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen

OFFERING OF SPECIAL MUSIC *Angels We Have Heard On High* French Melody  
arr. by Patricia A. Sanders *Bell Choir, led by Pam McGuire*

\*DOXOLOGY

*(Please listen but do not sing)*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**The land has yielded its increase, and we have been blessed, O God. For all your good gifts we give humble thanks. Now we would share some of your bounty, use these gifts to feed your flocks and carry your lambs to safety. Amen.**

HYMN # 389 *Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands* (Please listen but do not sing)

Put peace into each other's hands and like a treasure hold it;

Protect it like a candle flame, with tenderness enfold it.

As at communion, shape your hands into a waiting cradle;

The gift of Christ receive, revere, united round the table.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table, Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*(The bread served at Communion is gluten free so that all may partake together)*

HYMN #191 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* (Please listen but do not sing)

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,

from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King."

The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,

When, with the ever-circling years, shall come the time foretold,

when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,

and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts from "Christmas Oratorio"* ed. by Diane Bish

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

Call to Worship reprinted from Cloth from the Cradle; Wild Goose Pub; Invocation adapted and reprinted from The Uncluttered Heart; by Beth Richardson; Unison Prayer of Dedication reprinted from Whispers of God by Lavon Bayler

### ***Happy Birthday***

Dec 6: Holly Bond

Dec 8: Jim Ziegler

Dec 12- Gwen McCausland

Dec 7: Brian Beiner

Dec 9- Hannah Weeden

### ***Prayer List***

**Steve Beck** (Heidi Schwarz's brother); **Brad Bliss**; **Marjorie Case**; **Charley** (Marilyn DeSmith's brother); **Cheryl** (Jennifer Maxfield's sister-in-law); **Cathy Coots**; **Peggy & Bob DeSantis** (Dorice & Don Raw, Sr.'s friends); **Julie English** (Janet & Kim Tenreiro's friend); **Family of Melanie** (Dennis & Jennifer Maxfield's niece); **Brian Fuscaldo** (Mara Huberlie's nephew); **Jerry Gomez** (Kathi Nacca's friend); **Tom Hermet and Family**; **Carin Herren**; **Jim and Carolyn** (Amy Ogden's friends); **Jim Kolesar** (George & Carin Herren's friend); **Sue Kotalik**; **Michelle List** (JoAnn Reed's friend); **Loren** (Meg & Jack Radley's friend); **Lynn** (Joan Ryan's friend); **Eileen McCarthy** (Carla DeMeco & Betsy Dresser's friend); **Sally Mueller**; **Liz Nelson** (Kathy Ward's friend); **Claude Peters**; **Pia** (Jim & Connie Malone's friend); **Chris Pritchard** (Rick, Cindy Mullen & George Herren's friend); **Jack and Meg Radley**; **Sara** (Meg & Jack Radley's granddaughter); **Scott and Amanda** (nephew and niece of Don & Marilyn DeSmith); **Smith/Dworetsky Family** (Okke & Kathy Postma's friends); **Smith Family** (Jessica Casellas' friends); **Sally Stowell** (Alice Berry's mother); **Walker** (Don & Dorice Raw's friend); **Tom Wallace** (Jackie Lowe's significant other); **Kathy Ward**; **Gordon Wenner** (George & Carin Herren's friend); **Merle Winn** (Amy Ogden's friend); **Robin Wisniewski** (Alicia's mom); **Josh Yeo** (Barb Stahl's friend); **Jason Zeller** (Kathy Ward's son); **Linda Zeller** (Kathy Ward's daughter in law)

### ***Calendar***

Sun. Dec 6 - Worship & Sunday School; 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent; Messiah – Virtual

Mon. Dec 7 - Study Group 9 Chapel

Tues. Dec 8 – Men's Group Gateway 8; Study Group 9 Chapel; Rughooking 10 Dining Room; Carols and Candles 3 live stream

Wed. Dec 9 - Study Group 9 Chapel; TOPS 10 Basement; Study Group 5:30 Youth Rm

Thurs Dec 10 – Resource Comm 3 Zoom; Staff 4:30 in person

Sun. Dec 13 – Worship & Sunday School; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent; Xmas Pageant 11:45 Virtual; Christmas Carol Virtual

Mon. Dec 14 – - Study Group 9 Chapel; Trustees 4; Sacred Conversation on Race 7 Zoom

Tues. Dec 15 – RESERVATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE DUE; Men's Group Gateway 8; Study Group 9 Chapel; Rughooking 10; Carols and Candles 3 Live Stream; Council 7

Wed. Dec 16 - Study Group 9 Chapel; TOPS 10 Basement; Study Group 5:30 Youth Rm

Thurs. Dec. 17 – Christmas Party 7-8 Congregational Life Zoom

Sun. Dec 20 - Worship & Sunday School; 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent; Rehearsal for Christmas Eve 11:45