

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor  
Epiphany Sunday & Communion  
Nancy Parsons, Lay Reader

January 3, 2021

Worship 10:30 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God,

**People: We bless You.**

Leader: Object of the Magi's search, subject of an old man's song, fulfilment of the Baptist's preaching,

**People: We bless You.**

Leader: Mary's son, Joseph's son, God's only son,

**People: We bless You.**

HYMN 233 *We Three Kings of Orient Are* (Please sing along at home!)

**We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

*Refrain: O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

**Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies. (Refrain)**

INVOCATION (in unison)

**Later after the angels, after the stable, after the Child, they went back...as we always must, back to the world that doesn't understand our talk of angels and stars and especially not the Child. We go back complaining that it doesn't last. They went back singing praises to God! We do have to go back, but we can still sing the alleluias! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI (Please sing along at home!)

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON *Isaiah 60: 1-6*

MORNING PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON

*Matthew 2: 1-13*

HYMN 223

*Star-Child*

Please sing along at home!)

**Star Child, earth Child, go between of God,**

**Love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod:**

*Refrain: This year, this year let the day arrive when Christmas comes  
for everyone, everyone alive!*

**Street Child, beat child, no place left to go, hurt child,  
used child no one want to know: (Refrain)**

*Grown child, old child, memory full of years, sad child, Lost child,  
story told in tears: (Refrain)*

**Spared child, spoiled child, having, wanting more, wise child, faith child  
knowing joy in store: (Refrain)**

*Hope-for-peace Child, God's stupendous sign, down-to-earth Child,  
Star of stars that shine: (Refrain)*

COMMUNION MEDITATION

*Star-Word*

Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Sonata, Op. 27 No. 2, Adagio (Moonlight)*

by Ludwig Van Beethoven; Edie Rice, piano

\*THE DOXOLOGY

(Please sing along at home!)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**O God, from whom comes all the good things we enjoy; we offer our gifts in the spirit of those long ago who opened costly treasures before Jesus. We give in response to your generosity, identifying with your compassion for victims of violence, poverty, and oppression. May all who are in need experience the unsearchable riches of Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit, even as their physical needs are met. May we be coworkers with Christ, whose sacrifice bought our redemption. Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMN 698 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

(Please sing along at home!)

**Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:**

**bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

*Refrain: Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!*

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt**

**gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Emmanuel) everywhere! (Refrain)**

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table, Consecration and Sharing of the Bread and Cup

HYMN 243 *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise* (Please sing along at home!)

**Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to you we raise;**

**Once revealed, when heaven's star brought the wise men from afar;**

**branch of royal David's stem in your birth at Bethlehem,**

**Word before the world began, God revealed to us in man.**

**Stars shall fall and heavens fade, sun and moon shall dark be made;**

**Christ will then like lightning shine, all will see the glorious sign;**

**All will then the trumpet hear, all will see the Son appear,**

**Word before the world began, God revealed to us in man.**

## BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

*Call to Worship reprinted from Cloth For the Cradle, Wild Goose Pub; Invocation reprinted from Kneeling in Bethlehem, Ann Weems; Unison Prayer of Dedication reprinted from Whispers of God by Lavon Bayler*

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

### *Happy Birthday*

Jan. 1 – Don DeSmith

Jan. 8 – Brian Weeden

Jan. 2 – Larry Rowles

Jan. 9 – Carl Mabie

Jan. 8 – Andy Platou

### *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**; **Den, Paris, and Kira** (Friends of Fred Henry); **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); **Gene Hermet and Family**; **Carin Herren**; **Jim and Carolyn** (Amy Ogden's friends); **Jim Kolesar** (George & Carin Herren's friend); **Sue Kotalik**; **Jan Larsen** (Dawn's mother); **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); **Andy Orrell** (Linda Orrell-Fair's son); **Claude Peters**; **Pia** (Jim & Connie Malone's friend); **Piper** (Lori & Rebecca's daughter); **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/Dworetzky Family** (Okke & Kathy Postma's friends); **Smith Family** (Jessica Casellas' friends); **Pat Smith**; **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); **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*

Sunday Jan 3 - Worship Live Stream 10:30

Mon. Jan 4 – Study Grp 9; Study Grp 5:30

Tues. Jan 5 – 8 Men's; 9 Study Grp; 10 RH

Wed. Jan 6 – Epiphany; 9 Study Grp; TOPS 10

Thurs. Jan 7 – CE 12-1 Zoom

Sunday Jan 10 – Worship Live Stream 10:30; Social Action 12:30 Zoom

Mon. Jan 11 – Trustees 4 Zoom; Study Grp 5:30; Sacred Convers. On Race 7 Zoom

Tuesday Jan. 12 - 8 Men's; 9 Study Grp; 10 RH

Wed. Jan 13- 9 Study Grp; TOPS 10

Thurs Jan 14 – Pastor Parish In person 10; Staff Meeting 4 In person

Sunday Jan 17 - Worship Live Stream 10:30

Mon. Jan 18 – Study Grp 9; Study Grp 5:30

Tues Jan 19 – 8 Men's; 9 Study Grp; 10 RH; Council 7 Zoom

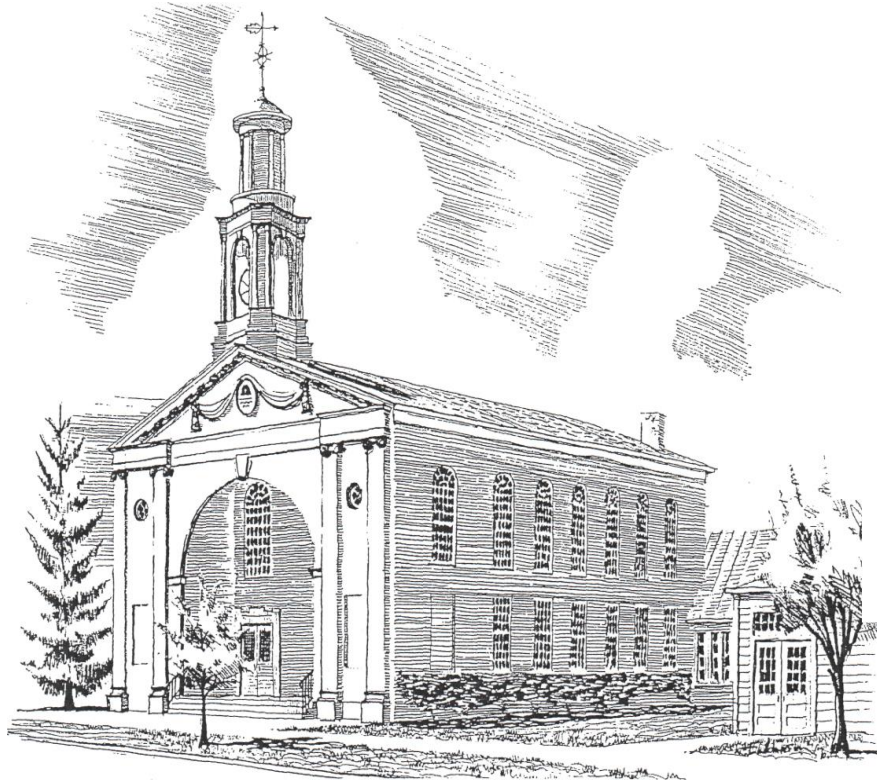
# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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.