

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

First Sunday of Advent  
Lorena Garmezy, Lay Reader

November 27, 2022

Worship 9:30 AM

PRELUDE *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* arr. Thomas Keesecker

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Holy One, we wait for you to come to us again,

**People: baby-small and vulnerable, to grace our poverty, our humanity**

Leader: with a heartbeat, a breath and a cry

**People: Holy One, you wait for us to notice you again,**

Leader: baby-small and vulnerable, here in these people and in this place,

**People: present in a heartbeat, a breath and a cry**

Leader: May the guiding Spirit once again bring your waiting and our waiting together,

**People: to lift up the vulnerable, and confirm the beauty of our humanity,**

Leader: each heartbeat, every breath and cry

**People: bringing to birth renewed lives filled with everlasting hope.**

\*HYMN # 153 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

\*INVOCATION

**God of birth, we watch in fear for your coming; scared of the pain and risk, the struggle of new life emerging and our own capacity to bear it. God of waiting, wait with us. God of the future, we watch in hope for your coming; anticipating an unknown future, uncertain of the unnamed reality, not sure of the form it will take. God of waiting, wait with us. God of celebration, we watch in joy for your coming; expectant with promises of freedom, eager for new possibilities, delighting in the gift of birth. God of waiting, wait with us. 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 *Every Valley Shall Be Exalted* Douglas E Wagner

CHILDREN'S MOMENT CRECHE

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE Steve & Cathy Brooks

ADVENT CANDLE SONG Children's Choir

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON *Isaiah 2: 1-5* Pg # 598

\*HYMN # 161 *People Look East*

MORNING PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 24: 36-44* Pg # 24

SERMON *Choose Hope* Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen

OFFERTORY *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns* arr. Thomas Keesecker

\*DOXOLOGY # 34

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**With these gifts, we seek to accomplish the good you intend, O God. With these offerings, we commit ourselves anew to your way of hope. Prosper the work of your church in this place and link us with all who watch and wait for your revelation. Amen.**

\*HYMN # 154 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* arr. Thomas Keesecker

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

*Call to Worship reprinted from Shine on, Star of Bethlehem, by Janet Lees; Invocation reprinted from Candles & Conifers, ed. Ruth Burgess; Prayer of Dedication reprinted from Fresh Winds of the Spirit, Book 2 by Lavon Bayler*

***Greeters This Morning: Jim & Mickey Ely***

***Ushers This Morning: Guy Burns, Carla DeMeco, Marilyn Clary, Mike Parsons***

***Live Stream This Morning: Mike Berry***

***Coffee Hour Host: Kelly Meath***



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

## *Happy Birthday*

Nov 28 Betsy Cox  
Dec 1 Jillaine Newman  
Dec 2 Jean Logan  
Dec 2 Chris Ieda  
Dec 3 Judi Stewart

## *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**; **Bob DeSantis** (Dorice & Don Raw, Sr.'s friend); **Marilyn DeSmith**; **Kade Dolan** (Bonnie & John Maguire's son); **Steve & Diane Fuchs** (Karen's friends); **Brian Fuscaldo** (Mara Huberlie's nephew); **Max Grossman** (George Herren's friend); **Carin Herren**; **Mara Huberlie**; **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 Nov 27	11:45	Social Action Committee
Mon Nov 28	7:00	Camerata Rehearsal/Chapel
Tue Nov 29	8:00	Men's Group
	10:00	Rug Hookers
Wed Nov 30	9:00	Annual Fire Inspection Office
Thu Dec 1	10:00	Adult Education/Advent
	4:00	Staff Meeting/Hayes Rm
Fri Dec 2	9:30	Piano Tuner/Chapel & Social Room
Sat Dec 3	10:30	DAR/Social Room
	3:00	Camerata/Chapel
Sun Dec 4	9:00	Choir
	10:30	Worship In-Person & Live Stream, Sunday School
	3:00	Messiah Sing/St. John's