

Home for the Holidays: Welcoming All College Students

On Wednesday Night, December 28 at 6:00 PM, join Ben, Rev. Judy and Kathleen for a Communion Service in Ripley Chapel. This event is specifically for our college students (freshmen/women through PhDs) home for the holidays. Following a Communion Service, we will move to the Forum Room for pizza and some catching up with each other. RSVP to Judy - jarnoldfccw@verizon.net or text 781-820-2410- just so we can have a head count for the pizza. The evening begins at 6:00, pizza probably around 6:30 and we'll end no later than 7:30. Hope you can join us.

~Ben Pulaski, Rev. Judy Arnold, Kathleen Zagata

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN WINCHESTER, UCC

21 Church Street

Winchester, MA 01890

781-729-9180

An Open and Affirming Congregation

The Congregation, Ministers to The World

Rev. William Burhans, Lead Pastor

Rev. Judith B. Arnold, Associate Pastor

Ms. Kathleen Zagata, RN, MS, CS, Minister of Cong'l Health & Wellness

Ms. Jane Ring Frank, Minister of Music & Worship Arts

Mr. Ben Pulaski, Minister of Faith Formation: Children & Youth

Sarah Marino, Office Manager

Mr. Bradley Ross, Sexton

Tyler Campbell, Assistant Sexton

Mr. Jeffrey Mead, Organist

Rev. Dr. Kenneth Orth, Pastoral Counselor (Affiliate)

FCCW www.fcc-winchester.org; MA Conference www.macucc.org; Nat'l UCC www.ucc.org

first.congregational@verizon.net

Order of Worship Christmas Day Dec 25, 2016 10:00 AM

Gathering Music *Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ (BWV 604)* J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Judy Arnold

Prelude *Away in a Manger (1996)* arr. Dave Brubeck (1920-2012)

The Call to Worship Kathleen Zagata

One: Light looked down and saw darkness.

All: "I will go there" said Light.

One: Peace looked down and saw war.

All: 'I will go there' said Peace.

One: Love looked down and saw hatred.

All: 'I will go there,' said Love.

One: So he, the Lord of Light, the Prince of Peace, the King of Love, came down and crept in beside us.

*Opening Hymn *The First Nowell* PH#141

*The Gathering Prayer (Adapted from Thom Shuman) Kathleen Zagata

***We cleaned out the stable and put down plush carpet;
and, you came, tracking in mud from the Jordan
and shaking sin's dust off your clothes.***

***The animals were dropped off at the ASPCA and the room deodorized;
and, you came; leading the lost, the least, the little into our midst.***

***We turned over the manger and covered it with Irish lace,
setting the table with the finest silver and china;***

***yet, you came; tearing the linen into strips for binding our wounds,
selling the silver to feed the hungry.***

***We've tamed this most holy of days,
shaping it to meet our own desires;***

***but, you came: slipping into our empty places and filling them with the
carols of angels. We pray the prayer you gave us,***

help us to live the words we say:

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 sins

***as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power***

and the glory forever. Amen

*An Act of Praise *Gloria in Excelsis Deo* PH #116

Christmas Prayer Rev. Will Burhans

*Hymn *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* PH #129

Story for Christmas Day "The Innkeepers Wife"

The Offertory

Invitation

Offertory

Some Children See Him (1951)

Rev. Will Burhans

Lyrics by Wihla Hutson (1901-2002)

Music by Alfred Burt (1920-54)

Some children see Him lily white the baby Jesus born this night.

Some children see Him lily white with tresses soft and fair.

Some children see Him bronzed and brown the Lord of heaven to earth come down.

Some children see Him bronzed and brown with dark and heavy hair.

Some children see Him almond-eyed this Saviour whom we kneel beside.

Some children see Him almond-eyed with skin of yellow hue.

Some children see Him dark as they sweet Mary's Son to whom we pray.

Some children see Him dark as they and, ah! they love Him too.

The children in each different place will see the Baby Jesus' face

Like theirs but bright with heavenly grace and filled with holy light.

O lay aside each earthly thing and with thy heart as offering

Come worship now the infant King 'tis love that's born tonight.

Adriana Repetto, soprano

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Will Burhans

*Closing Hymn *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* PH#120

*Benediction "The Christmas Story" by Langston Hughes

Postlude *Little Partita for Christmas (vs. 4)* James Woodman (b. 1957)

Special thanks this morning to Adriana Repetto for the gift of her singing.

*Those who are able, please stand PH indicates Pilgrim Hymnal (red) NCH indicates New Century Hymnal (black)

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People We Are Praying for...

<u>Names</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
The Mullane Family	For the loss of their dog, Cocoa
Lynda Koser	For healing and courage as she fights kidney disease
Michael Caine	Healing from cancer
Maggie Keeler's family	For the death of her aunt, Veronica Nicholas
Family of Jack Pemberton, Nanci Church's father	In their grief
Mary Lynn Bukey, Michelle Stewart's mother	Healing
Bob Shirley	For strength and healing
Family of Harry Huff, Minister of Music, Old South Church	In time of grieving
Dory Cole Ogden, niece of Stephen W. Cole	For healing
Martha George	For healing and courage
Lucy Sanders	In her job search
Jessica Brand	For healing
Bruce Lauterwasser	For healing

Please let the Deacons or Ministry Team know if you have someone to add or remove from this list.

Upcoming Events

God's Grace at Work!

We celebrated stewardship on Pledge Sunday, November 13th, and watched a wonderful musical slideshow on Christian Education produced by Ben Pulaski and team. We are very excited to report that we are off to a great start! To date 108 pledges have been received totaling over \$465,000. That's 88% of our goal of \$525,000.

If you have already pledged, thank you for your generous and joyful giving. If you haven't yet, then please take a moment to fill out a pledge card and mail it to the Church care of Bruce Lauterwasser, Treasurer, or place it in the offering at worship today. Pledge cards and envelopes can be found at the back of the sanctuary when you walk in to church next Sunday. You can also send a confidential email with your pledge amount to first.congregational@verizon.net.

Thank you. The Financial Resources Ministry

Epiphany Celebration, Friday January 6, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

We'll be celebrating it with a meal, an adventure, a couple of hymns and a chance to help children in Massachusetts find a place at the Inn – with the ***Bed for Every Child*** project. Details are in the all church email and will be in the Spire and on the Website.

Worship in January

In January 2017, we will worship in the Sanctuary with regular services – meaning the same style of worship we celebrate the rest of the year. For four of those January Sundays, January 8, 15, 22 and 29, we will offer Bible Study before the service. Laurie Roby will lead the sessions which will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 9:45. Watch for details about the theme as they develop. We'll gather in the Henry Room. Bring your own coffee and enjoy it with a light breakfast snack.

Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow
On a one-horse open sleigh,
O'er the fields we go,
Laughing all the way;
Bells on bob-tail ring,
Making spirits bright,
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight.

(2X) O, Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way!
O what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.

A day or two ago,
I thought I'd take a ride,
And soon Miss Fanny Bright
Was seated by my side;
The horse was lean and lank;
Misfortune seemed his lot;
He got into a drifted bank,
And we, we got upsot.

(2x) Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells,
Jingle all the way!
What fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.

Frosty The Snowman

Frosty the snowman was a jolly happy soul,
With a corncob pipe and a button nose
And two eyes made out of coal.

Frosty the snowman is a fairy tale, they say,
He was made of snow but the children
Know how he came to life one day.

There must have been some magic in that
Old silk hat they found.
For when they placed it on his head
He began to dance around.

O, Frosty the snowman
Was alive as he could be,
And the children say he could laugh
And play just the same as you and me.

Thumpetty thump thump,
Thumpetty thump thump,
Look at Frosty go.
Thumpetty thump thump,
Thumpetty thump thump,
Over the hills of snow.



Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer



Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer
had a very shiny nose.
And if you ever saw it
you would even say it glows.
All of the other reindeer
used to laugh and call him names.
They never let poor Rudolph
join in any reindeer games.

Then one foggy Christmas eve
Santa came to say,
"Rudolph with your nose so bright,
won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"
Then how the reindeer loved him
as they shouted out with glee,
Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer,
you'll go down in history.

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Let your heart be light!
From now on our troubles will be out of sight.
Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Make the Yuletide gay:
From now on our troubles will be miles away.

Here we are as in olden days,
Happy golden days of yore.
Faithful friends who are dear to us
Gather near to us once more.
Through the years we all will be together;
If the fates allow;
Hang a shining star upon the highest bough.
And have yourself a merry little Christmas now.

White Christmas

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know.
Where the treetops glisten
And children listen to hear
Sleigh bells in the snow.

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write.
May your days be merry and bright,
And may all your Christmases be white.



Sleigh bells ring, are you listening,
In the lane, snow is glistening
A beautiful sight,
We're happy tonight,
Walking in a winter wonderland.

In the meadow we can build a snowman,
Then pretend that he is Parson Brown
He'll say: Are you married?
We'll say: No man,
But you can do the job
When you're in town.

Gone away is the bluebird,
Here to stay is a new bird
He sings a love song,
As we go along,
Walking in a winter wonderland.

Later on, we'll conspire,
As we dream by the fire
To face unafraid,
The plans that we've made,
Walking in a winter wonderland.

The Christmas Song



Chestnuts roasting on an open fire,
Jack Frost nipping on your nose,
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir,
And folks dressed up like Eskimos.

Everybody knows a turkey and some mistletoe,
Help to make the season bright.
Tiny tots with their eyes all aglow,
Will find it hard to sleep tonight.

They know that Santa's on his way;
He's loaded lots of toys and goodies on his sleigh.
And every mother's child is going to spy,
To see if reindeer really know how to fly.

And so I'm offering this simple phrase,
To kids from one to ninety-two,
Although it's been said many times, many ways,
Merry Christmas to you

Silver Bells

City sidewalks, busy sidewalks
Dressed in holiday style
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas.

Children laughing, people passing
Meeting smile after smile
And on every street corner you'll hear...

Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the city.
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring
Soon it will be Christmas Day.

Strings of streetlights, even
stop lights
Blink a bright red and green,
As the shoppers rush home
With their treasures.

Hear the snow crunch
See the kids bunch
This is Santa's big scene.
And above all this bustle you'll hear...

Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the city.
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring
Soon it will be Christmas Day.

