

Order of Worship: Fourth Sunday of Advent, 12/23/18

Gathering Music

Little Partita for Christmas

James Woodman (b. 1957)

Welcome

Rev. Will Burhans

A Moment of Silence

Prelude

The First Noel/Silent Night

The Carilloneers

Traditional/arr. Michael Bedford

Advent Wreath: Candle of Love

The Crawford family

*Processional Hymn

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PH #107

Call to Confession

Kathleen Zagata

Prayer of Confession

During this Advent season of waiting for the coming of Christ, forgive us, O God, for our impatience and our inability to wait prayerfully for the path forward. Forgive us for the pace we keep that causes us to miss the precious details of life. Forgive us when we dwell upon the negative aspects of our lives instead of the many blessings. Forgive us God and make us into people of gratitude, hope and mercy so that our lives can be witness to the coming of the Light of the World. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness and the 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 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

*Gloria in excelsis Deo (Glory to God in the Highest!)

PH #116

A Time for the Young

Ben Pulaski

*Hymn

My Heart Sings Out With Joyful Praise

please see insert

(Verse 1: Sung by the women of the choir
Verses 2 & 3: All)

Scripture

Micah 5:1-5a
Luke 1:39-56

Liturgist Michelle Crawford
OT pg. 865, LP OT pg. 818
NT pg. 57, LP NT pg.49

Sermon

"Blessed Art Thou Among Women"

Rev. Will Burhans

A Quiet Time for Reflection

Anthem

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree [1967]

Anon. text/Elizabeth Poston (1905-87)

The tree of life my soul hath seen, Laden with fruit, and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be Compared with Christ the apple tree.
His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell,
The glory which I now can see In Jesus Christ the apple tree.
For happiness I long have sought, And pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see 'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.
I'm weary with my former toil, Here I will sit and rest a while:
Under the shadow I will be, Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.
This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be With Jesus Christ the apple tree.
Susan K. Navien, soprano

Prayers of the People

Rev. Judy Arnold

Offertory

Flößt mein Heiland, flößt dein Namen

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

from *Christmas Oratorio*, BWV 248/4

Susan K Navien & Lucy Page, sopranos & Peter Owens, oboe

Does your name instill, my saviour,
Even the tiniest seed
Of that fierce terror?
No, you yourself say (No!)
Shall I now be afraid of death?
No, your sweet word is there!
Or should I rejoice?
Yes, you my saviour say it yourself (Yes !)

*Doxology

NCH #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above you heavenly host, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Closing Hymn

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

PH #136

Benediction

Rev. Will & Rev. Judy

Passing of the Peace of Christ

(Please offer "peace" or "The peace of Christ" to your neighbor as you depart)

Postlude

Nun komm, der heiden Heiland (BWV 661)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

(Now comes, the savior of the heathen)

Today's Worship Service

Sanctuary Flowers

Today's Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of David Richardson Jr. and Sarah Miller by Sybil and Buck Richardson.

Meet Our Church

First Congregational Church in Winchester, UCC, An Open and Affirming Congregation

21 Church Street, Winchester, MA 01890

781-729-9180

www.fcc-winchester.org

facebook.com/fccwucc

instagram.com/firstchurchwinchester

twitter.com/fccwucc

We are a Christ-centered, nurturing community: growing in faith, serving in love, welcoming all with joy.

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 Congregational Health & Wellness

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

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

Ms. Sarah Marino, Office Manager

Mr. Tyler Campbell, Sexton

Mr. Ed Banzy, Building Manager

Mr. Bill Lewis, Custodian

Mr. Jeffrey Mead, Organist

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

Welcome!

We are happy you have joined us today for worship. We hope that in the coming hour of quiet, song, prayer, sacred scripture, and communal gathering, you will awaken more fully to God's presence in your life and the world around us.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located down the stairs as you first enter the front doors of the church.

Accessibility

We now have an inductive hearing loop for those whose hearing aids have Telecoil (ask your audiologist). Listening devices are also available in the back. For our coffee hour in Chidley Hall, an elevator is located out the doors to the right of the front chancel area and down the hall. Please ask a greeter if you need assistance.

Childcare

Children are always welcome in the sanctuary! We appreciate the sounds of little ones among us. If you'd prefer, there are trained caregivers in our a nursery on the floor beneath the sanctuary. Ask a greeter if you need help finding it.

Family Room

There is also a comfortable room with water, sofas, chairs, carpet and a video link to the service for when you need more room to attend to your family. It is located just outside the doors to the right of the front chancel area.

Children (Stepping Stones) and Youth Church School

Classes for children and youth in pre-k through 12th grade are taught during worship. Families begin the worship service together in the sanctuary. Children are then invited to join us at the front (if they are comfortable) for the Time for the Young. Afterwards, their teachers lead them and the youth to their classrooms.

Get connected!

Please tell us about yourself and/or request a prayer by filling out a Welcome/Prayer Request Card found in each pew and place it in the offering plate when it passes. We look forward to getting to know you at Coffee Hour, held downstairs immediately following the service.

Thanks to Julia Daggett for design of the advent bulletin covers!

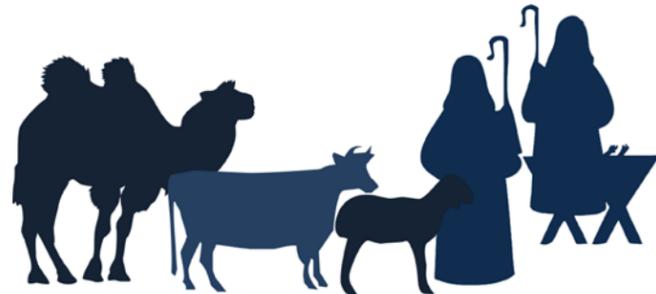
People for Whom We Are Praying ...

<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
The Zimber and Moorman Families	For healing and peace
Beth Preston	For the loss of her husband Ted
Bruce Lauterwasser	For strength and healing during this current course of chemotherapy
Alice, friend of John Keeley	For strength
Barbara Hoekelman	Healing and comfort
Rachel, friend of Mike Redding	For healing from cancer

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

Ding dong merrily on high, church bells will be ringing today!

Have you ever wanted to ring an English Handbell? Today, at the conclusion of the worship service, the Carilloneers will be hosting a "Handbell Meet and Greet," **a Bell Petting Zoo of sorts!** All ages are invited to come up after the service and ring the bells. Newcomers will be encouraged to play some very simple Christmas carols. You don't have to read music well. Give it a try – it's really fun! If you would like more information about the Carilloneers, there will be a sign-up sheet available. Questions? Please contact Jane Ring Frank, jringfrank@comcast.net.



Christmas Eve Worship

5 PM Candlelight Service & Pageant

10 PM Candlelight Service

Epiphany Celebration Sunday January 6th

You know that the Wise Men brought gifts to the Christ Child; but do you know that they were given, not on Christmas Day, but on Epiphany, the 12th day after Christmas – (12 drummers drumming). We celebrate it beginning with a potluck dinner that includes a special dessert. After dinner, three special ones - Wise Men (or women, boys or girls or gender non-conforming) – lead the group through the darkened church building – guided by a few battery-powered candles – to locate the star over the baby in the manger. When we find the baby, we, like the Wise Men before us, will worship him. This is a great family event – kids love the search for the baby through the dark church. It is also a way to express Christmas beyond the presents and the tree. The dinner is at 6:00 pm and we are finished by 8:00 pm.

124 My Heart Sings Out with Joyful Praise (Song of Mary)

1. My heart sings out with joy - ful praise to God who rais - es me,
 2. The arm of God is strong and just to scat - ter all the proud.
 3. The prom - ise made in a - ges past at last has come to be,

who came to me when I was low and changed my des - ti - ny.
 The ty-rants tum - ble from their thrones and van - ish like a cloud.
 for God has come in pow'r to save, to set all peo - ple free.

The Ho - ly One, the Liv - ing God, is al - ways full of grace
 The hun - gry all are sat - is - fied; the rich are sent a - way.
 Re - mem - b'ring those who wait to see sal - va - tion's dawn - ing day,

to those who seek their Mak - er's will in ev - 'ry time and place.
 The poor of earth who suf - fer long will wel - come God's new day.
 our Sav - ior comes to all who weep to wipe their tears a - way.

WORDS: Ruth Duck, 1981, 1985, 1992
 MUSIC: Traditional English melody; coll. Lucy Broadwood;
 arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, *The English Hymnal*, 1906
 KINGSFOLD CMD

As editor of *The English Hymnal*, 1906, Ralph Vaughan Williams introduced a host of traditional English folk tunes he and his contemporaries had rescued from obscurity.