

Order of Worship

Gathering Music

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Welcome

Rev. Judy Arnold

A Time of Silence

Prelude

Puer nobis nascitur

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Call to Worship

Rev. Will Burhans

One: Gather in all you seekers.

Come with the gift of your hearts and lay it before the Christ Child.

All: We bring to this worship time our love for God and neighbor.

One: Gather in all you wise ones.

Come with the gift of your truth and lay it before the Christ Child.

All: We bring to this worship time our honesty and vulnerability.

One: Gather in all you journeyers.

Come with the gift of your whole life and lay it before the Christ Child.

All: We bring to this worship time all we are in body, mind and spirit.

One: You are welcome here; loved by God, received by Christ, embraced by the Holy Spirit!

All: Praise God and Amen!

*Processional Hymn

What Star Is This, With Beams so Bright

PH #144

Call to Confession

Kathleen Zagata

*Prayer of Confession

Ever-patient God, we are a people who live in thick darkness. We stumble around bombarded by news of conflict and suffering, unkindness and hatred, injustice and oppression. We participate in these realities, sometimes unwittingly and sometimes intentionally. The maelstrom of troubles in our hearts and in this world can overwhelm and paralyze us. We have a tendency to check out and avoid instead of trying to offer some good however small. Hear our confession and help us to be people of the light, shining your light of righteousness, peace, and joy into the dark places of our lives and world. Turn our aimless wanderings into a journey of purpose guided by Your star. Forgive us, O God, and lead us in the way everlasting.

Assurance of Forgiveness

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

*An Act of Praise

Gloria in excelsis Deo

PH #116

Testimony

Marcie Troisi

Hymn

All Poor Ones and Humble

see insert

Scripture

Isaiah 60:1-5

Matthew 2:1-12

Liturgist: Rev. Judy Arnold

OT pg. 690, LP OT pg. 649

NT pg.2, LP NT pg. 1

Sermon

"Journey to God"

Rev. Will Burhans

A Quiet Time for Reflection

Offertory

Anthem *We Are...from "lessons"* Words & Music by Ysaÿe M. Barnwell (b. 1946)

For each child that's born a morning star rises and sings to the universe who we are.

We are our grandmothers' prayers. We are our grandfathers' dreamings.

We are the breath of our ancestors. We are the spirit of God.

We are Mothers of courage, Fathers of time, Daughters of dust, Sons of great vision.

We are Sisters of mercy, Brothers of love, Lovers of life and the builders of nations.

We are Seekers of truth, Keepers of faith, Makers of peace and the wisdom of ages.

WE ARE ONE.

Karen Lauterwasser, soloist

*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.**

Sacrament of Baptism

Hope Cary Sandak

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

(The Deacons will distribute the bread and cup in the pews this morning. Everyone is welcome to partake but if you choose not to please pass the plate to the person beside you. All the bread is gluten free and the cups are filled with grape juice.)

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving (by Beth Merrill Neel)

O Jesus, our beloved, we give you thanks for inviting us to your table and sharing your feast. May we know that we have been fed with love and grace, and may we follow You out in the world, ambassadors of Your hope and peace. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

We Three Kings of Orient Are

PH #143

Benediction

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Postlude

Little Partita for Epiphany (vs. 4)

James Woodman (b. 1957)

Today's Worship Service

Sanctuary Flowers

Today's Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of deceased members and friends of this congregation.

P&D Fund

On Communion Sundays you will find envelopes for the Pastors' & Deacons' Fund. This fund offers monetary aid to congregation members who are experiencing an urgent need for financial crisis assistance. Please consider a donation as part of your worship today.

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](https://www.facebook.com/fccwucc)

[instagram.com/firstchurchwinchester](https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchwinchester)

twitter.com/fccwucc

Text FCCW to 22828 to join our email list

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 for the first week of the month is a combined worship service specifically made for them. We will meet in the Chapel before the start of the service and will return to the sanctuary to take communion with the congregation.

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.

January 6, 2019

Epiphany

10:00 Worship Service

People for Whom We Are Praying ...

<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Family of Isabel Hart	In their grief
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.

Ripley Chapel Renovations

After the worship service **today** the Ripley Chapel Working Group will host a **Question and Answer Hearing** in the Palmer Room to share any and all information about the planned renovations to the Chapel. This session is a preliminary step in advance of a **Special Congregational Meeting** scheduled right after worship next Sunday, 1/13/19, in the Sanctuary.

Epiphany Celebration Tonight!

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, TODAY, 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 one's - Wise Ones – 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 5:00 pm and we are finished by 7:00 pm.**

Second Wednesday Bible Study – January 9th

Each month Rev. Judy leads a Bible Study on the Second Wednesday. We gather in the Health Ministry office and read scripture together. Rev. Judy provides some context and history. As a group, we raise questions about the meaning and talk about what implications God's word has for our lives. Each month is a stand-alone study, so you can come without fear of being behind. This month we will look at the book of Proverbs – not all of it. Proverbs is an interesting collection of statements about daily life that are applicable today as they were 2,000 years ago. Join us. We meet at 7:00 pm and end promptly at 8:30.

**FCC Monthly Men's Group Sunday January 13, 7-9 PM,
4 Heritage Drive, Woburn (Paul and Lynne Rahmeier's house)**

All FCC men and their guests are welcome. We discuss matters that are personal and spiritual. Potluck beverages or snacks are welcome but not expected. Questions to chris.noble@yahoo.com.

Start the New Year Right

FCC is hosting Financial Peace University (FPU) for church members and the broader community beginning in January 2019. FPU is a 9-week personal finance class that shows you how to take control of your money, get out of debt, and create a wealth-building plan for your future. Based on common sense and biblical teachings, FPU is taught at churches around the country and more than 5 million people have attended the program.

This class is for anyone interested in learning a new way to manage their household finances. Invite your friends and family to join FCC this New Year!

FCC's class will begin on Wednesday, January 16 (7-8:30pm) and run for 9 weeks. Class registration (\$109 per couple or individual) is available at: <http://www.fpu.com/1075860>

1. All poor ones and hum-ble and all those who stum-ble,
2. The Christ Child will lead us, the Good Shep-herd feed us

come hast-ening, and feel not a-fraid, for Je-sus, our trea-sure,
and with us a-bide till his day. Then ha-tred he'll ban-ish;

with love past all mea-sure, in low-ly poor man-ger was laid.
then sor-row will van-ish, and death and de-spair flee a-way.

Though wise men who found him laid rich gifts a-round him,
And he shall reign ev-er, and noth-ing shall sev-er

WORDS: St. 1 and refrain, traditional Welsh carol, tr. Katharine E. Roberts, 1927, *The Oxford Book of Carols*, 1928, alt.; st. 2, William T. P. Davies, 1951
MUSIC: Traditional Welsh carol; harm. *The Oxford Book of Carols*, 1928

OLWEN
668.668D w. refrain

This Welsh carol comes to us through *The Oxford Book of Carols*, 1928, a landmark collection of folk tunes and texts.

Tr., st. 1, harm. © 1928, by permission of Oxford University Press
Words, st. 2 © 1951 W. T. Pennar Davies