



First Congregational Church

IN WINCHESTER, UCC

Order of Worship - Third Sunday of Advent - December 10, 2023 A Festival of Lessons and Carols

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| Prelude | <i>Concerto in G (BWV 592) - Allegro</i> | J.S. Bach (1685-1750) |
| Welcome | | Rev. Will Burhans |
| Lighting of the Advent Wreath | | Moura family |
| | Candle of Peace | |
| Processional Hymn | <i>Once in Royal David's City</i> Verse 1: Nathan M., soloist Verses 2 & 3: Congregation | New Century Hymnal, #145 |
| Responsive Morning Prayer, Lord's Prayer, Gloria in excelsis | | Rev. Maeve Hammond |
| | The Word in Lessons and Carols <i>Magnificat, RV 610 [c. 1715-1719]</i> Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) Beth Welty, violin; Mark Latham, violin; Noralee Walker, viola; Sandi-Jo Malmon, cello | |
| Lesson | Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7 | Aaron Kneiss |
| Carol | 1. "Magnificat" (My soul doth magnify the Lord...) 2. "Et Exultavit" (And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior...) Susan K. Navien, Elizabeth Page, Peter Owens, soloists | Choir |
| Lesson | Isaiah 11: 1-2, 6-7, 9 | Rebecca Beltz |
| Congregational Carol | <i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i> | Pilgrim Hymnal, #131 |
| Lesson | <i>Making the House Ready for the Lord</i> Mary Oliver | Matt Gardiner |
| Carol | 3. "Et misericordia" (And his mercy is from generation unto generations...) | Choir |
| Lesson | Luke 1: 31-35, 38 | Virginia Seay |
| Carol | 4. "Fecit Potentiam" (He hath showed strength with his arm...) 5. "Deposuit Potentes" (He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble...) | Choir |
| Sermon | "Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary, The Revolutionary" | Rev. Will Burhans |
| Lesson | <i>Gabriel's Annunciation</i> Jan Richardson | Kaye Nash |

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| Congregational Carol | <i>What Child Is This?</i> (vv. 1 & 3) | Pilgrim Hymnal, #140 |
| Lesson | Luke 2: 1, 3-7 | William McCarter |
| Carol | 6. "Esurientes" (He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away). Susan K. Navien & Cynthia Wankowicz, soloists | Choir |
| Lesson | Luke 2: 8-16 | Peter Owens |
| Congregational Carol | <i>The First Nowell</i> (vv. 1, 2, 5) | Pilgrim Hymnal, #141 |
| Offertory | 7. "Suscepit Israel" (He remembering His mercy hath helped his servant Israel). 8. "Sicut Locutus" (As he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever). | Choir |
| Lesson | <i>Christmas Is the Season of Affirmation</i> (Howard Thurman) | Rev. Maeve Hammond |
| Carol | 9. "Gloria" (Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit...) | Choir |
| Lesson | John 1: 1-14 | Rev. Will Burhans |
| Moment of Silence | | |
| Pastoral Prayer | | Rev. Maeve Hammond |
| Closing Hymn | <i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i> (verses 1 & 3) | PH # 120 |
| Announcements/Benediction | | Rev. Maeve Hammond/Rev. Will Burhans |
| Postlude | <i>Meine Seele erhebt den Herrn</i> (BWV 733) (My soul doth magnify the Lord) | Bach |

Rev. Will Burhans, Lead Pastor, Rev. Maeve Hammond, Associate Pastor,
Jane Ring Frank, Minister of Worship & the Arts, Maggie Keeler, Minister of Children & Families,
Jeffrey Mead, Keyboards, Sarah Marino, Office Administrator
Thanks to Brian McArdle, our Live Stream Technician and Julia Daggett for Slide Advancement
Deacons serving today are: Carol Andrus, Andy Gallop, Megan Scipione, and Janet Vaughn.

Visitors, get connected!

Please tell us about yourself and/or request a prayer by filling out a Welcome/Prayer Request Card found in the pews.

Please keep these people in your prayers

Carol Andrus's friend, **Barbara**, who is facing multiple surgeries for cancer.

John Keeley, for healing and recovery.

For those missing loved ones this holiday season - due to death or distance.

Prayers of healing for **Cooper Sayre**, Liz and Dick Sayre's grandson, who is recovering after a serious car accident.

Prayers of peace for Sarah Gallop's long time MIT colleague **Paul Parravano**, who has entered hospice care.

Erin, Nanci Church's niece, who was recently diagnosed with cancer, for healing.

Jodie Mullane's sister-in law and my family as we go through holidays and my brother's birthday without him.

Sue Matinski, friend of Jody Mullane, for her treatment and diagnosis of breast cancer.

Family and friends of John Giblin, Deirdre Giblin's father, in their grief.

For Carrie Ehrbar's parents, Tom and Kathy, who are losing their ability to live independently.

For families and friends impacted by the mass shooting in Maine and continued prayer for sensible gun laws to help curb the violence.

Laurie Roby's friend Laurel and her family. Her sister, **Amy**, was recently diagnosed with cancer. Amy's husband, **Cliff**, had been diagnosed with cancer as well earlier in the year. And Laurel's **mother** was recently hospitalized with pneumonia.

Prayers for healing and recuperation for **Russell Carter** as he continues to recover abroad from surgeries to his collarbone.

Shelly Griffiths, Tomye Little's cousin, for healing, comfort and peace for her and her family.

Nancy Alleyn, friend of **Nick Wankowicz's sister, Nina**, for healing.

Prayers for peace for **Mike Redding** and her loved ones.

Glenn McPherson, Tony McPherson's brother, for healing as he awaits a kidney transplant.

Olivia, for healing and help finding her way back to recovery.

Flowers

Today's chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and In loving memory of Caroline Sullivan Sheehy and Ruth Payne Marotta, by the Marotta family.

Offering

Scan QR codes below, or visit the offering plate for cash or check.



venmo



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Program Notes: *Magnificat*, RV 610 [c. 1715-1719], Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

Antonio Vivaldi was born in Venice in 1678 and spent most of his career there. For many music lovers, his music is the quintessential Venetian music, evoking vividly the pageantry and theatricality of that special place.

Vivaldi began studying to become a priest when he was fifteen and was ordained ten years later in 1703. Because of his red hair he was nicknamed Il Prete Rosso, “The Red Priest.” Though his ill health prevented him from celebrating Mass, he kept a busy schedule as a musician, including touring with an opera troupe! He lived in Vienna at the end of his life, where he died in 1741.

Vivaldi composed both his *Magnificat in G minor* RV 610 and the *Gloria in D*, RV 589 as part of the splendid collection of sacred choral works he produced as maestro de’ concerti of the Ospedale della Pietà. The Ospedale della Pietà was one of four prominent orphanages (or children’s homes) in Venice housing female foundlings, among them, the illegitimate daughters of the Venetian noblemen who sponsored them. It also served as a music conservatory, training the most talented of its charges in music. Under the direction of Vivaldi, the Ospedale held celebrated weekly performances of the very latest compositions by its most advanced students.

The concerts that supported the Ospedale were attended by large numbers of Venice’s elite and visiting tourists. Imagine a time when the hot ticket in classical music was an all-female orchestra led by female conductors and featuring female soloists. The instrumentalists, chorus and soloists - all women from the Ospedale - performed hidden behind screens, in galleries above the audience. In defiance of traditional gender expectations, even the tenor and bass parts were sung by specially trained women, as lists of performers such as “Paulina dal tenor” and “Anna dal basso” would indicate. Today, Vivaldi’s *Magnificat*, as well as the *Gloria*, are best known as mixed chorus jewels of the musical canon. You will hear the *Magnificat* written for both female and male voices.

The text of the canticle is taken directly from the Gospel of Luke (Luke1:46-55), spoken by the Virgin Mary upon the occasion of her Visitation to her cousin Elizabeth. In the narrative, after Mary greets Elizabeth, who is pregnant with the future John the Baptist, the child moves within Elizabeth’s womb. When Elizabeth praises Mary for her faith, Mary sings what is now known as the *Magnificat* in response. Vivaldi brings his characteristic energy, rhythmic vitality and surprising harmonies to this stirring and dramatic *Magnificat*.