

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
CANTON CENTER, CT

December 17, 2023 ~ 10:00 a.m.

The Third Sunday of Advent

****MUSIC SUNDAY****



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

184 Cherry Brook Road, PO Box 133, Canton Center CT 06020-0133

Church Office 860-693-4581 E-mail: office@cantoncenterchurch.org

www.cantoncenterchurch.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Please stand, if able. **Bold denotes unison response.*

CHIMES

Karen Needham

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENT

*Brief announcements are welcome, please be in the front pews at the start of the announcements.
Offerings and prayer request on the yellow prayer cards found in the pews may be placed in the offering plate at the time of the offering or in the designated boxes on the back table.*

PRELUDE

The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy
Junior Choir - Dir. Judy Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 96)

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**Let us sing to the Lord, praising His Holy name,
singing with shouts of joy.**

Yes, with shouts of joy proclaiming God's marvelous deeds among all people.

**We will worship the Lord in the splendor of His Holiness,
for God is our source of hope, peace, and joy!**

Say among the multitudes, "The Lord reigns." The heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad, let the sea resound and all the world be filled with joy, for the Lord our God is One!

**Let the fields be jubilant and everything in them. Then all the
trees of the forest will sing for joy!! Let us join in joyful worship!**

*HYMN

How Great Our Joy!

Chalice (Blue) 170

*GATHERING PRAYER & *THE LORD'S PRAYER

God of hope, God of peace, God of joy, help us to rest in Your Spirit of Holiness. Place a smile on our lips, a beautiful memory in our mind and may our voices exclaim Your magnificence and splendor. May we wake each day with *hope*, find *peacefulness* as we engage in our daily lives and witness the beauty of *joy* in our world, within our own beings and in all others. May all our days drink in the wonder of abundant joyful living in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. 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 Patri

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end, Amen, Amen.*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE – Joy *Sean Collins and Darryl Haberern*

PRESENTATION OF THE CRECHE *Church School Youth*

OFFERING



OFFERTORY

Away in a Manger Cynthia Dobrinsky
Cherry Brook Chimes Handbell Choir and Organ

Members in order of appearance:

Karen Needham, Gina Magennis, Cindy Webb, Diana Ferraiuolo,
Allison Potter, Kathy Pickrell, Donna Hammond, Martha Stansel,
Hugh Anderson, Megan Keefe, Judy Robinson

***Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that love has done,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**



Joys and Concern
Silent meditation
Pastoral Prayer

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Joey Raney

Narrator and Sound - Jerry Alonzy

Christmas Day in the Morning Choir/Ensemble

Have You Heard Choir/Ensemble

Celtic Christmas Lullaby Choir/Ensemble

O Holy Night Choir, Soloist - Jerry Alonzy and Ensemble

Come and Adore Him Choir/Ensemble

Wexford Carol/Finale Choir, Soloist - Kathleen Lundgren, Ensemble

Choir Members

Sopranos:

Donna Hammond
Megan Keefe
Gina Magennis
Judy Robinson
Kathy Todd

Altos

Gert Delin
Kathleen Lundgren
Karen Needham
Kathy Pickrell

Tenors

Jerry Alonzy
Tim LeGeyt

Basses

Art Dewey
Dan LeGeyt
Paul Stansel
Jim Todd

Ensemble

Cindy Webb, flute
Jon Keefe guitar, drum and percussion
Mary Lou Keefe, piano

*POSTLUDE

Pat-a-Pan

Fr. Carol

The Worship Is Ended... Our Service Now Begins

Interim Minister: Rev. Kurt Satherlie

Director of Music: Mary Lou Keefe

Asst. of Faith Formation: Karen Needham

Office Manager: Kristen DiMattia

Greeter: Sean Collins

Camera: Craig McAllister

Ministers: Every Member

Dir. of Faith Formation: Dr. Hollace Bristol

Sexton: Walt LeGeyt

Duty Deacons: Kristin Oswald/Tim Lundgren

Coffee Hour: Music Committee

WELCOME

Please know that whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

If you're visiting, we invite you to fill out a visitor's card (found in the pews or on the back tables) and place it in an offering box, to help us better connect with you.

Looking for more information about the church?

Please feel free to ask the church office during the week.

An Open and Affirming Congregation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers are given by Curt & Holly Johnson

in celebration and loving remembrance of their family members, relatives and friends.

May the warm memories live on!



CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING SERVICE ~ 10:00 a.m. *Choral and Handbell Choirs*

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE ~ 5:00 p.m. *Candle lighting, Choral and Handbell Choirs*

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

He's already got all his gifts in the bag – how about you? Stop by the Scrip table during Coffee Hour if you need to finish up your shopping. We have gift cards for over 650 retailers available to order and receive in 1 week. Plus we have many cards in stock for you to take home today. Every gift card you purchase through Scrip gives a percentage back to the church. **Today** is the last day to order cards and have them in time for Christmas!

Missions Box Collection for December will be our traditional **new hats, gloves, mittens and scarves** for the Hands of Grace. Please place items in a plastic zip bag so they will not get full of needles, on or under the Christmas tree in the sanctuary. Items will be donated to local organizations in the Farmington Valley area. Also, **new or gently used, clean blankets** for the clients of Brian's Angels. Many of these folks are sleeping outside, in tents, or other places with limited shelter. There will be a bin by the Christmas tree for the blankets. (These don't need to be bagged.)

Pledges/Envelopes - We kindly ask our members to make every effort to complete your current year pledges before year end. If you would like your 2023 contributions included on your year end statement, please have them in by Dec. 31. Thank you.

If you requested offering envelopes, please pick them up from the table near the kitchen.

POINSETTIAS 2023



In Loving Memory Of:

My parents, Sam & Mary Humphrey
and Aunt Ruthie Humphrey

Our parents, Lester & Dorothy Chamberlin
and Edward & Dorothy Keefe

Muriel LeGeyt

Chris Bibby

Leon & Vera Turner

Alden & Ruth Tyrol

Burton Turner

Norman, Barbara & Erick Erickson

Ev & Louise Erickson

Dick Berry

Jan Galusza, Eileen Lyons, Ken & Marge King

Bob Oswald - A wonderful husband,
father and giving church member

Phil & Kathy Worley, with love

My sister, Holly Smith French

Marion & Henry Lundgren

Our parents, Margueriette Baran
and Gwen and John Johnson

Patricia Ann Howson

Lt. Col. Richard G. Howson (USAF)

Our mothers, Ruth Wilkins and Joan Prince

Given By:

Marianne Burbank
Marianne Burbank

Peter & Mary Lou Keefe
Peter & Mary Lou Keefe

Tim & Cary LeGeyt

Peggy & Bill Borchert

Susan Turner

Susan Turner

Susan Turner

Susan Turner

Susan Turner

Susan Turner

Susan Turner

The Oswald Family

The McCormick Family

Mary Lee Dunn

Kathleen Lundgren

Craig & Linda McAllister

Craig & Linda McAllister

Bob Howson

Bob Howson

Martha & Paul Stansel



POINSETTIAS 2023



In Loving Memory Of:

Casey LeGeyt
Brett E. Hooper
Denise Perkins Humphrey
My Little Angel
Mom & Dad

Ned Bunnell
John & Anna Bunnell, Franklin & Helen Andrews

In Celebration Of:

Abigail and John & Mallory
My family near and far
Our grandkids Will, Rob, John, Laila & Collin
Family and friends
My grandson, Greyson Penn
My family - past and present
Our family - past and present
Our family - past and present
Our daughters, Cailyn, Lauren and their families

In Honor Of:

Pastor Kurt

Given By:

Mommy & Daddy
Mom & Dad
Mom & Phil
Daddy
Phil LeGeyt

Geri Bunnell
Geri Bunnell

Given By:

Peggy & Bill Borchert
Jan Tanner
The Dunns'
Gail Macbeth
Darryl Haberern
Evelyn Sealand
Charles & Donna Hammond
Skip & Nancy Alford
Craig & Linda McAllister

Given By:

The McCormick Family