



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

December 29, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Lessons & Carols

In Person & Live Streamed



*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*

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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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

CHIMES

Karen Needham

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Star Carol

John Rutter

(lighting of the altar candles by the acolyte at the beginning of the prelude)

PRESENTATION OF THE CRECHE

Church School Youth

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us gather in this sacred space, seeking the presence of the Divine.

In this moment of quiet reflection, may we find peace and tranquility.

We come to you, O God, seeking Your guidance and Your love.

May Your Spirit fill our hearts with joy and Your peace surround us with comfort.

We open our hearts to receive Your blessings.

Let us worship You with gratitude and reverence, acknowledging your infinite wisdom and supremacy.

***CAROL**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Pilgrim (red) 132

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

Moment of Silence

Deacon Prayer

***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 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.*

OFFERING

As we present our offerings today, let us remember the words of the Psalmist: "The Lord is good to all, and His mercy is over all His works" (Psalm 145:9). Let our offerings be a reflection of our gratitude for His blessings and our commitment to sharing His love with the world.



OFFERTORY

The Snow Lay on the Ground
Senior Choir

Jody Lindh

*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

As we bring our offerings before You today, we ask that You continue to bless us with Your generosity and grace. May these gifts be used to serve others, to make the world a better place, and to spread Your love and compassion to all. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen

LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST LESSON	Isaiah 40:1-5	Kathleen Lundgren
CAROL	<i>God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen</i>	Pilgrim (red) 122
SECOND LESSON	Matthew 1:18-25	Andy Rees
CAROL	<i>What Child Is This?</i>	Pilgrim (red) 140
THIRD LESSON	Luke 1:26-45	Vicki Rees
CAROL	<i>It Came upon the Midnight Clear</i> (vs. 1, 2)	Pilgrim (red) 129
FOURTH LESSON	Luke 1:46-55	Rebecca & Ashlyn Glinsman

CAROL	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	Pilgrim (red) 134
FIFTH LESSON	Luke 2:1-7	<i>Ann Buckley</i>
CAROL	<i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i>	Pilgrim (red) 120
SIXTH LESSON	Luke 2:8-14	<i>Tim Lundgren</i>
CAROL	<i>The First Noel</i> (vs. 1, 2)	Pilgrim (red) 141
SEVENTH LESSON	Luke 2:15-20	<i>Casey Levine</i>
CAROL	<i>Angels, We Have Heard on High</i>	Pilgrim (red) 116
EIGHTH LESSON	Galatians 4:4-7	<i>Beth Lingenheld</i>
*CAROL	<i>Joy to the World!</i>	Pilgrim (red) 130
*BENEDICTION		
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE:	<i>Gloria</i> Senior Choir	
POSTLUDE	<i>A Festive Choral</i> from Cantata 129 of J. S. Bach	

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ~ SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025

NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING: of the First Congregational Church, Canton Center, Sunday, January 12, 2025 after the 10 am service, *OR* on January 26 or subsequent Sundays until a Quorum is obtained.

AGENDA

1. Approval of the proposed 2025 budget.
2. Any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Respectfully Submitted, *Bev Sealand*, Clerk

Interim Minister: Rev. Kurt Satherlie

Director of Music: Mary Lou Keefe

Asst. of Faith Formation: Karen Needham

Office Manager: Kristen DiMattia

Duty Deacons: Phil Doyle & Cora Mutch

Coffee Hour: Hollace, Karen & Youth

Ministers: Every Member

Dir. of Faith Formation: Dr. Hollace Bristol

Sexton: Walt LeGeyt

Trustees: Sue Lampros & Bob Howson

Greeters: Rick Herbek