

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
December 24, 2023
Christmas Eve

Welcome

Carol #249 “O Come, All Ye Faithful” *Celebration Hymnal*

Lighting the Candle of Love and the Christ Candle

Reading Luke 2:1-7

Carol #278 “Angels We Have Heard on High” *(Verses 1, 4)*

Reading Luke 2:8-14

Carol #277 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” *(Verses 1, 3)*

Reading Luke 2:15-20

Carol #281 “What Child Is This?”

A Christmas Homily “We Make Room”

Anthem “Celtic Advent Carol” *Angerman and Barrett*

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer *(trespasses)*

A Christmas Offering

Anthem “Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes” *Raney*

Doxology

Praise God for gifts of hope and peace
Praise God for gifts of joy and love
Praise God for sending Christ to dwell
On Earth for us Emmanuel – Amen

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Carol #253 “Silent Night! Holy Night!”

Reading John 1:1-5,14

Carol #270 “Joy to the World!”

Benediction

Postlude

Thank you to Kim Smith for sharing her gift of liturgical dance

Thank you to Laurie Boswell and Family, our Greeters

Thank you to Mary Menzies, Deacon

Guidelines for Lighting Candles:

1. If you are holding a lit candle, keep it upright (so no wax will spill).
2. To light your candle, turn it sideways and light it from your neighbor’s candle.
3. From then on, hold your candle upright (so no wax will spill).
4. Turn and let your neighbor light his or her candle from the flame of your upright candle.
5. And so on.

You’re welcome to take your candle home, if you like.

Please leave the plastic candle-holders in the basket at the back of the sanctuary. Thanks for helping us have a safe and joyful Christmas Eve service.

2023 Poinsettia Dedications



- Martha Jane Aldrich** – In memory of my husband, E. Ralph Aldrich
Laurie Boswell – In memory of Art Hunt, Jane & Earl Boswell
David Boyle – In memory of Louis Thompson
Dottie and Dudley Bailey – In memory of Dottie Sundman
June Davis – In memory of my parents, Charles & Regina Cicerone
Nancy and Doug Hadfield – In memory of our daughter, Amy Mayberry
Joyce and Phil Krill – In memory of our parents
Emily and Reg LaFlam – In memory of our son, Ronald LaFlam
Karen Lord – In memory of my parents, nephew Mark, brothers Kenneth & Keith and Lyman & Leone Lord
Dottie Morton – In memory of my husband, Ray
Alice and Bob Muh – For the glory of God
Pam and Jeff Nute – In memory of my dad, ‘Grandpa the Great!’
Judy and Bob Oleary – In honor of our friend, Ed
Elaine and Emil Pollak – In memory of our parents and
in honor of First Responders
Marion Schlosser – In memory of Louis Schlosser
Suzanne Schott – In memory of loved ones
Linda Warden – In memory of Erma, Anna & Angel Family

Thank you to Eric Trafford for coordinating the poinsettia order this year!

*First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Littleton, New Hampshire
December 24, 2023*

“How Does a Weary World Rejoice?” We Make Room



Rev. Peter Ilgenfritz
Pastor

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Our Mission Statement:

As followers of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we are called to provide a loving invitation and welcome to all, to inspire and uplift through the worship of God, to reach out to heal and enrich lives through the Holy Spirit, and to nurture people at various stages of their spiritual growth.