

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. W. David Weddington
Organist & Music Director: Dorothy Morton
Administrative Assistant: Pam Nute

OFFICERS:

Moderator: Lars Nielson
Vice-Moderator: Tim Gould
Treasurer: Dudley Bailey
Assistant Treasurer: Joyce Krill

COMMITTEES

Christian Education: Kim Smith, Chair
Deacons: Mary Menzies, Chair
Finance: Dudley Bailey, Chair
Mission:
Music: Tina Peabody, Chair
Personnel Relations: Ann Craxton
Property Management: John Lofgren, Chair
Stewardship: Bob Muh
Trustee of Trust Funds: Dudley Bailey
Caring Tree: Cynthia Nielson
Steeple Talk: Pam Nute

Shining Lights Learning Center:

Director: Ms. Melissa Kam
Board President: Suzanne Schott

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*Thank you for joining us for worship today!  
It is our sincere hope that all who gather in  
this place will know and experience the love,  
forgiveness, hope, and new life available  
through Jesus Christ.*

*First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Littleton, New Hampshire*

*December 24, 2017  
Eve*

# Christ

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| <p><b>Pastor:</b><br/>Rev. W. David Weddington<br/>E-mail: <a href="mailto:pastordavid@myfairpoint.net">pastordavid@myfairpoint.net</a></p> <p><b>Music Director &amp; Organist</b><br/>Dorothy Morton<br/>Sun. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>Worship Service and Sunday School<br/>10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Coffee Fellowship 11:15 a.m.</p> | <p>189 Main Street<br/>Littleton, NH 03561<br/>603-444-3376, Fax: 603-444-6589<br/>E-mail: <a href="mailto:fstcong@myfairpoint.net">fstcong@myfairpoint.net</a><br/><a href="http://www.1stconglittleton.org">www.1stconglittleton.org</a></p> <p>~~~~</p> <p><b>Church office hours: Monday-Thursday</b><br/>9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>~~~~</p> <p><b>FCC Shining Lights Learning Center</b><br/>444-7379</p> |
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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.*

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**United Church of Christ**  
**December 24, 2016**  
**Christmas Eve**

Prelude "He Shall Feed His Flock" *Handel*

Welcome, Announcements and Opening Prayer *Mary Menzies*

\*Processional Carol #249 "O Come, All Ye Faithful!"

Lighting the Advent Candles *Reg and Emily LaFlam*

One: *(light)* Once upon a time, when the world lay in sorrow,  
God sent a baby to be the world's Hope.

**All: Come, little baby, come to your manger,  
Hope of the world, we welcome your birth.**

One: *(light)* Once upon a time, when the whole world was fighting,  
God sent a baby to be the world's Peace.

**All: Come, little baby, come to your manger,  
Peace of the world, we welcome your birth.**

One: *(light)* Once upon a time, when the world lay in sadness,  
God sent a baby to be the world's Joy.

**All: Come, little baby, come to your manger,  
Joy of the world, we welcome your birth.**

One: *(light)* Once upon a time, when the whole world was lonely,  
God sent a baby to be the world's Love.

**All: Come, little baby, come to your manger,  
Love of the world, we welcome your birth.**

**Unison: Jesus, we wait in the darkness of winter; Jesus, we  
wait in the cold of the night; Jesus we wait in a world that  
still needs you. Come to your manger; come to your world;  
come to your people; dear Jesus, we welcome your birth.**

*(Lighting of the Christ Candle.)*

Choir Anthem "In the Bleak Midwinter" *Rossetti/Holst*

Reading Luke 2:1-7

Carol #262 "Away in a Manger"

Reading Luke 2:8-14

Carol #278 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Reading Luke 2:15-19

Anthem "Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes" *Raney*

Homily ". . . by the holy harmony . . ."

Reading Matthew 2:1-12

Carol #290 "As With Gladness Men of Old" *vs. 1-3*

Worship of God with our Offerings

\*Offertory

\*Doxology

Pastoral Prayer Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

Carol #253 "Silent Night"

Benediction

\*Carol #270 "Joy to the World"

\*Ministry of the Acolyte and Postlude

Announcements: Tonight, we're going to rise for the first and last carol, as indicated by the asterisk (\*). For the rest of the carols, we'll remain seated.

Our offering this evening will be for the Emergency Fuel Assistance program of Catholic Charities

A special thanks to those who took part in this service:

Greeters and Ushers: Barbara Holland, Reg and Emily LaFlam,

Instrumentalists: Dorothy Morton and Jo Beth Dudley

The First Congregational Church Choir

Choir Director: Dorothy Morton

Lead Deacon: Mary Menzies

Advent Candle-Lighters: Reg and Emily LaFlam

Readers: Bob LaFleur and Mary Menzies

Mary, Joseph and Jesus: Tim Gould, Pam Nute, and Marley Curell

Shepherds: Brenda Fairweather, Amy Sharpe, and David Weddington

Angel: Wilma Weddington

Magi: Ron Bolt, Bob O'leary, and Dennis Sharpe

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 boxes at the doors of the sanctuary.

Thanks for helping us have a safe and joyful Christmas Eve service.