

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

Our offering this evening will fund our Local Needs / Emergency Relief Fund (formerly known as the Deacon's Fund)

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.

2021 Poinsettia Dedications



Laurie Boswell – In memory of Art, Mom, and Dad

Joyce and Phil Krill – In memory of our parents

Emily and Reg LaFlam – In memory of Ron LaFlam

Karen and Stuart Lord – In memory and honor of our parents

Alice and Bob Muh – To the glory of God

Pam and Jeff Nute – In memory of my dad, 'Grandpa the Great!'

Suzanne Schott – In memory of beloved family, parents, grandparents, and great grandparents

Amy and Dennis Sharpe – In Memory of our parents - Jean, Art, Jinny, and Chuck

*First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Littleton, New Hampshire
December 24, 2021*



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, 2021
Christmas Eve

Prelude "He Shall Feed His Flock" Handel
JoBeth Dudley - Flute

Ministry of the Acolyte

Welcome, Announcements and Opening Prayer

*Hymn #249 "O Come, All Ye Faithful!"

Lighting the Advent Candles *Amy and Dennis Sharpe*

One: Rejoice, people of God! The light has come into the world.
O God, now we light the candle of your nativity!

All: With the company of heaven and with sounds of great joy, you come to us. This is the time of light and resplendent joy. God has been born among us.

One: The prophet Isaiah proclaimed a time when those who walked in the shadows would see a great light. A light would shine and a child would be born to us. Luke recounted the nativity story and the heavenly song of the angels, "Glory, peace on earth and goodwill!" John declared that this great light is Christ, the Word made flesh. This great light lives among us. By it we behold God's glory—full of grace and truth. We now rejoice at Christ's nativity.

All: God, our Life and Light, thank you for coming to us. Thank you for touching all heaven and earth with your splendor. Shine your peace and grace in every corner of the world and in every corner of our hearts. Amen.

Carol: #256 "Love Has Come!"

Reading Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Carol #240 "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Reading Isaiah 11:1-9

Carol #255 "Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming" *vs. 1, 2*

Reading Luke 2:1-7

Solo "O Holy Night" Adam *Victoria Cole*

Reading Luke 2:8-14

Carol #278 "Angels We Have Heard on High" *vs. 1-3*

Reading Luke 2:15-19

Carol #281 "What Child Is This?" *vs. 1-3*
Sacred Dance Kim Smith

Reading Matthew 2:1-12

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

Dedication of our gifts and offerings

*Doxology

Pastoral Prayer Lord's Prayer (*trespasses*)

Carol #253 "Silent Night! Holy Night!" *Kim Smith*
Sacred Dance

Benediction

Postlude