

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**United Church of Christ**  
**December 24, 2022**  
**Christmas Eve**

Welcome

Carol "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him, born the king of angels.  
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:

"Glory to God, all glory in the highest!" [Refrain]  
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Reading Luke 2:1-7

Carol "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply, Echo back their joyous strains.

Gloria in ex-cel-sis De-o, Gloria in ex-cel-sis De-o.  
See within a manger laid Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, with us sing our Savior's birth.  
Gloria in ex-cel-sis De-o, Gloria in ex-cel-sis De-o.

Reading Luke 2:8-14

Carol "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:  
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:  
veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,  
pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

Reading Luke 2:15-20

Carol "What Child Is This"

What Child is this who, laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom Angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and  
Angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, come peasant, king to  
own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone  
Him.  
Raise, raise a song on high, the Virgin sings her lullaby.  
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

A Christmas Homily "We Tell This Story"

Anthem "Christmas Lullaby" *John Rutter*

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

A Christmas Offering

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

Carol “Silent Night! Holy Night!”

Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and Child. Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar; Heavenly hosts sing alleluia.  
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Wondrous star, lend thy light.  
With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King.  
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love’s pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Reading John 1:1-5,14

Carol “Joy to the World!”

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let earth receive her King.  
Let every heart prepare Him room, And heav’n and nature sing,  
And heav’n and nature sing, And heav’n and heav’n and nature  
sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations  
prove The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love, and  
wonders of His love, And wonders, wonder of His love.

Benediction

Postlude

*First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Littleton, New Hampshire  
December 24, 2022*

*“We Tell This Story”*



**Rev. Peter Ilgenfritz**

Interim Pastor

206-484-9814 (cell)

peter@1stconglittleton.org

189 Main Street

Littleton, NH 03561

603-444-3376, Fax: 603-444-6589

E-mail: fstcong189@gmail.com

www.1stconglittleton.org

**Music Director & Organist**

Dorothy Morton

*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.*

## 2022 Poinsettia Dedications



- Laurie Boswell** – In memory of Art Hunt, Jane & Earl Boswell  
**David Boyle** – In memory of Art Hunt, Louis Thompson & John D. Boyle Sr.  
**Dottie and Dudley Bailey** – In memory of Dottie Sundman  
**June Davis** – In memory of my parents, Charles & Regina Cicerone  
**Tonya Eastman** – In memory of my mother, Mary Jo Scott  
**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 parents, nephew Mark, brother Keith & all organ donors; In honor of Sunday School friends: Erma, Anna & Elaine  
**Dottie Morton** – In memory of my husband, Ray  
**Alice and Bob Muh** – In memory of loved ones  
**Cynthia and Lars Nielson** – In memory of family & friends who have passed  
**Pam and Jeff Nute** – In memory of my dad, ‘Grandpa the Great!’  
**Judy and Bob Oleary** – In memory of our parents  
**Elaine and Emil Pollak** – In memory of our parents  
**Suzanne Schott** – In memory of grandparents, Fred & Helen Sleeper, Ken & Suzanne Schott  
**Kathleen Searles** – In Memory of Lowell and Gladys Gallaway, Robert N. and Barbara P. Searles and Marjorie P. Searles  
**Eric Trafford** – In memory of my grandparents

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

Our offering this evening will fund Tri-County CAP’s Fuel Assistance program and the 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.