

## WELCOME, ALL WORSHIPERS

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WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.  
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AN ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO JOSEPH IN A DREAM AND SAID, "JOSEPH, SON OF DAVID, DO NOT BE AFRAID TO TAKE MARY AS YOUR WIFE, FOR THE CHILD CONCEIVED IN HER IS FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT. SHE WILL BEAR A SON, AND YOU ARE TO NAME HIM JESUS, FOR HE WILL SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS." MATTHEW 1:20-21  
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(\* ) INDICATES WHEN THOSE WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND.

### PRELUDE

### WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FRIENDSHIP BOOK AS IT IS PASSED DURING ANNOUNCEMENTS; THEN PASS IT TOWARD THE CENTER AISLE.)

### READING OUR MISSION STATEMENT (INSERT)

### \*OPENING HYMN: THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS (INSERT)

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)

LORI MAYER, LAY READER

LEADER: IF YOU ARE AFRAID TO SEEK PEACE.

**ALL: WE HAVE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.**

LEADER: IF YOU ARE COMFORTABLE AND NEED TO BE DISTURBED.

**ALL: WE HAVE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.**

LEADER: IF YOU ARE CONFUSED AND SEEK UNDERSTANDING.

**ALL: WE HAVE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.**

LEADER: IF YOU ARE RESISTANT TO FOLLOWING GOD'S WAYS.

**ALL: WE HAVE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.**

LEADER: COME NOW, AND LET US WORSHIP THE GOD OF OUR SALVATION.

### \*OPENING PRAYER

**ALL: MERCIFUL GOD, YOU SENT JESUS THROUGH THE WOMB OF MARY TO BE OUR SAVIOR. WE GIVE YOU PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING FOR THE GIFT OF YOUR CHILD. YOU SENT YOUR WORD TO BECOME FLESH AND DWELL AMONG US. WE GLORIFY YOUR HOLY NAME FOR BLESSING US WITH YOUR GRACE AND TRUTH. YOU HAVE SENT THE TRUE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD TO LIGHT OUR PATH TO SALVATION. WE HONOR YOU FOR LEADING US OUT OF DARKNESS. IN THE FULLNESS OF TIME, YOU HAVE SPOKEN TO US BY YOUR SON, JESUS. THANK YOU FOR THIS WORD OF SALVATION. AMEN.**

### \*THE GLORIA PATRI (SUNG)

**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.**

WORDS: ANONYMOUS, 4TH CENTURY. MUSIC: HENRY GREATORIX. THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

### ANTHEM

### SCRIPTURE LESSON: MATTHEW 1:18-25

### SERMON: "A NEW TIME"

REV. DICK HOTCHKIN

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS AND DEBTORS)

### HYMN: #165 LOVE CAME DOWN AT CHRISTMAS (VERSES 1-3)

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI, 1885;ALT.

### SHARING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

LEADER: LET US GIVE AS EACH IS ABLE FROM THE FULLNESS OF OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD.

### OFFERTORY

**\*DOXOLOGY PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW.  
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW.  
PRAISE GOD ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST.  
PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN.**

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION (ALL): ALL GOOD GIFTS ARE FROM GOD.  
WE SHARE OUR GIFTS WITH GRATITUDE. MAY WE GIVE WITH PASSION FOR  
JUSTICE, AND WITH GOD'S LOVE GUIDING OUR PATHS. AMEN.**

### SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### \*CLOSING HYMN: #128 IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER (VERSES 1-4)

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI, 1885; ALT.

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*UNISON RESPONSE:

**AND GOD WILL RAISE YOU UP ON EAGLE'S WINGS, BEAR YOU ON THE BREATH OF DAWN, MAKE YOU TO SHINE LIKE THE SUN, AND HOLD YOU IN THE PALM OF GOD'S HAND. AMEN.**

### POSTLUDE

OUR APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS  
WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP MINISTRY

LAY READER: LORI MAYER  
USHERS: GARY & SANDY JARMUZEWSKI  
FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: JEFF & ANN GEROW  
GREETERS: CRAIG WAAK AND BEVERLY BODEM

ALTAR GUILD: NANCY WEDGE  
COMMUNION: NANCY WEDGE

#### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

|        |           |          |                                   |
|--------|-----------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| SUNDAY | JANUARY 5 | 10:00 AM | WORSHIP SERVICE<br>HOLY COMMUNION |
| MONDAY | JANUARY 6 | 5:30 PM  | WORSHIP COMMITTEE                 |

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ PLEASE PLAN TO STAY AFTER THE SERVICE THIS MORNING TO HELP TAKE DOWN THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS. THANKS!
- ❖ ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE TOMORROW **JANUARY 6**. ANNUAL MEETING IS **JANUARY 26**.
- ❖ WE ARE LOOKING FOR MORE **LAY READERS**. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU CAN HELP ONE OR MORE SUNDAYS A MONTH.
- ❖ PEW ARRANGERS NEEDED: WE ARE IN NEED OF A FEW PEOPLE INTERESTED IN ARRANGING PEWS WEEKLY. SEE NANCY WEDGE FOR MORE INFORMATION.
- ❖ PLEASE CHECK THE CARDS AND CARE LETTERS IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY.
- ❖ CHECK THE **USHER SCHEDULE** IN THE NEWSLETTER. FEEL FREE TO VOLUNTEER IF YOU SEE WHERE IT MAY BE NEEDED.
- ❖ FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: JELLO, PUDDING (ANY FLAVOR), CHICKEN OR TURKEY PACKAGES, CANS OF GRAVY, SPAGHETTIOS, RAVIOLI, PASTA RINGS, KIDS CEREAL (RICE KRISPIES, CAPT. CRUNCH, FRUIT LOOPS), CRANBERRY SAUCE. FEEL FREE TO USE THE BAGS ON THE TABLE IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY FOR YOUR SHOPPING NEEDS.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVE-STREAMED AND RECORDED -- OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVE-STREAMED, SHOWN ON THE INTERNET, AS THEY ARE HAPPENING AND RECORDED FOR VIEWING ONLINE LATER. PEOPLE IN THE SANCTUARY ATTENDING THE SUNDAY SERVICE MAY BE SEEN AS PART OF THE LIVE-STREAM AND RECORDING.

A UNISEX HANDICAP-ACCESSIBLE RESTROOM IS LOCATED THROUGH THE DOORS TO YOUR LEFT AS YOU EXIT THE SANCTUARY. A HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE LADIES RESTROOM IS NEAR THE LOCKWOOD STREET ENTRANCE. A MEN'S ROOM IS IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY.

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 5, 2025

*As an Open and Affirming congregation,  
we welcome people as they are,  
share Jesus as He is, and serve  
our community and the world in love.*



*The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Hotchkin, Transition Minister*  
*The Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case, Pastor Emeritus*  
Organist & Choir Director: *Kat Tomaszewski*  
Office Administrator: *Nancy Ross*  
Treasurer: *Denise Fusina*  
Custodian: *Mike LaMarre*  
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