FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

"WE WELCOME PEOPLE AS THEY ARE, SHARE JESUS AS HE IS, AND SERVE OUR COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD IN LOVE."

CHRISTMAS CHORALE SERVICE

 $6:30\ \mbox{PM} - 7:00\ \mbox{PM}$ Featuring selections by the Bifocal Brass and Caitlin Borke.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE LESSONS AND CAROLS

CHOIR: COME TO THE LIGHT - JOSEPH MARTIN

WELCOME PASTOR DICK HOTCHKIN

CAROL: "O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL" (VERSES 1 AND 2)

THE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH ISAIAH 11:1-9

ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7

CHOIR: "GOD REST YE MERRY GENTLEMEN" MARYANN HUBBARD, FLUTE

THE ANNUNCIATION STORY LUKE 1:26-33, 2:1-5

CAROL: "O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM" (VERSES 1 AND 2)

THE BIRTH IN THE MANGER LUKE 2:6-7

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

LEADER: FOR THOSE WALKING IN DARKNESS, A NEW LIGHT HAS DAWNED.

ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF EVERLASTING HOPE.

LEADER: FOR THOSE LIVING IN FEAR AND DREAD, A NEW LIGHT HAS DAWNED.

ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF EVERLASTING PEACE.

LEADER: FOR THOSE LIVING IN HOPELESSNESS AND DESPAIR, A NEW LIGHT HAS DAWNED.

ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF EVERLASTING JOY.

LEADER: FOR THOSE LIVING IN LONELINESS, A NEW LIGHT HAS DAWNED.

ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF EVERLASTING LOVE.

CAROL: "ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH" HYMNAL #125 (VERSES 1 & 2)

THE ANGEL'S SONG LUKE: 2:8-14

CAROL: "IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR" (VERSES 1 AND 2)

THE SHEPHERD'S RESPONSE LUKE 2:15-20

SPECIAL MUSIC: BIFOCAL BRASS "O HOLY NIGHT"

THE QUEST OF THE WISE MEN MATTHEW 2:1-6

CAROL: "THE FIRST NOEL THE ANGEL DID SAY" (VERSES 1 AND 2)

THE STAR LEADS TO BETHLEHEM MATTHEW 2:7-12

OFFERTORY SPECIAL MUSIC: BIFOCAL BRASS

(DURING THIS SONG A 'FREE-WILL' OFFERING WILL BE COLLECTED)

DOXOLOGY: "HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING" (VERSE 1)

CHRISTMAS PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SILENT NIGHT IN GERMAN DURING THE CANDLE LIGHTING: CAITLIN BORKE

WE WILL NOW PASS OUT LITTLE HAND-HELD CANDLES. WHEN THE FLAME COMES TO YOU, PLEASE DIP THE UN-LIT CANDLE TOWARD THE BURNING FLAME. DO NOT TIP THE 'LIT' CANDLE, LEST THE WAX DRIP. PLEASE BE CAREFUL AND SAFE WHEN HOLDING A LIT CANDLE. THANK YOU.

THE SANCTUARY WILL BE DARKENED AT THIS TIME.

SPREADING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

CAROL: "SILENT NIGHT" (ALL VERSES)

AT THE END OF THIS SONG, THE SANCTUARY LIGHTS WILL COME BACK ON.

LEADER: THE GRADUAL DAWNING OF A NEW DAY, LIKE THE GROWTH OF AN INFANT INTO A CHILD AND THEN INTO AN ADULT, IS GOD'S WAY.

ALL: THE MESSIAH'S ADVENT HAS BEGUN. NOW CHRIST NEEDS TO GROW IN OUR LIVES, AND IN OUR SOCIETY, UNTIL PEACE COMES.

CAROL: "JOY TO THE WORLD"

THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: BIFOCAL BRASS

CANDLES MAY BE PLACED IN THE BASKET ON YOUR WAY OUT.

THANK YOU FOR COMING TO OUR CHRISTMAS EVE "CANDLELIGHT" SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS. WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS... AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR.

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
Transurer: Denise Fusing

Treasurer: Denise Fusina Custodian: Mike LaMarre

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