

Order of Worship: Christmas Eve 12/24/16 5 PM

Prelude
Morgen kommt der Weihnachtsmann J.C.F. Bach (1732-95)

Welcome Rev. Will Burhans

A Moment of Silence

Advent Candle Lighting The Kneiss family

***Processional Hymn**
O Come, All Ye Faithful (verses 1, 2 and 4) PH # 132

***Gathering Prayer and Lord's Prayer** Rev. Judy Arnold

**Bright and Shining God, you cast before us splendor
and sparkle and we are dazzled by it; drawn by it to this manger.
Loving and Gentle God, you reach out for us from a rough cradle,
so the softness of your skin, the cling of your fingers surprises us
and we want to linger at your manger. Gathering God, you beckon us to your bedside
and we find ourselves beside Kings and shepherds, waitresses and CEOs,
strangers and friends, saints and sinners. We come tonight to hear again your story,
to remind ourselves that the real power in our world is love; the real greatness, humility.
We come to give praise as you have taught us:
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be
done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us
from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever, amen.**

Solo Robert MacGimsey (1951-2001)
Sweet Little Jesus Boy
Stephen W. Cole, baritone

The Christmas Story
(The congregation is encouraged to join the children and sing the carols
throughout the pageant; words on the insert.)

Luke 1:26-33	What Child is This?
Luke 2:1-5	O Little Town of Bethlehem
Luke 2:6, 7	The Friendly Beasts Away In a Manger
Luke 2:8-14	Angels We Have Heard on High The First Noel Go Tell It on the Mountain
Matthew 2:1-11	We Three Kings

Christmas Offering of Gifts Rev. Judy Arnold
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (see insert)
As the hymn is sung, you are invited to come forward and place your offering
in the basket at the front of the Church, then return to your seat.

Passing The Christmas Light
(The Ministers and Deacons will move down the aisles lighting candles.
Candles should be lit by tilting the unlit candle toward the lighted candle.)

Silent Night

All Sing:

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,
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.

Closing Prayer Rev. Will Burhans

***Closing Hymn** PH #130
Joy to the World!

***Benediction** Rev. Judy Arnold & Rev. Will Burhans

Passing the Peace of Christ
(Please offer "peace" or "The peace of Christ" to your neighbor as you depart)

Postlude J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her

Today's Worship Service

We thank Jeffrey Mead and Jane Ring Frank for their accompaniment this evening.

Sanctuary Flowers

Today's Chancel and Narthex flowers are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of David Richardson Jr. and Sarah Miller by Sybil & Buck Richardson.

Meet Our Church

First Congregational Church in Winchester, UCC, *An Open and Affirming Congregation*
21 Church Street, Winchester, MA 01890 781-729-9180 www.fcc-winchester.org

We are a Christ-centered, nurturing community: growing in faith, serving in love, welcoming all with joy.

The Congregation, Ministers To The World
Rev. William Burhans, Lead Pastor
Rev. Ms. Judith B. Arnold, Associate Pastor
Ms. Kathleen Zagata, RN, MS, CS, Minister of Congregational Health & Wellness
Ms. Jane Ring Frank, Minister of Music & Worship Arts
Mr. Ben Pulaski, Minister of Faith Formation: Children & Youth
Mr. Jeffrey Mead, Organist
Mr. Bradley Ross, Sexton
Mr. Tyler Campbell, Assistant Sexton
Ms. Sarah Marino, Office Manager
The Rev. Dr. Kenneth Orth, Pastoral Counselor (Affiliate)

Welcome!

We are happy you have joined us today for worship. We hope that in the coming hour of quiet, song, prayer, sacred scripture, and communal gathering, you will awaken more fully to God's presence in your life and the world around us.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located down the stairs as you first enter the front doors of the church.

Accessibility

Listening devices are available in the back of the sanctuary for the hearing impaired. An after-worship coffee hour is held in Chidley Hall on the bottom floor of the church building. An elevator is located out the doors to the right of the front chancel area and down the hall. Please ask a greeter if you need assistance.

Childcare

Children are always welcome in the sanctuary! We appreciate the sounds of little ones among us. If you'd prefer, there is a professionally staffed nursery on the floor beneath the sanctuary. Ask a greeter if you need help finding it.

Family Room

There is also a comfortable room with sofas, chairs, carpet and an audio link to the service for when you need more room to attend to your family. It is located just outside the doors to the right of the front chancel area.

Children (Stepping Stones) and Youth Church School

Classes for children and youth in pre-k through 12th grade are taught during worship. Families begin the worship service together in the sanctuary. Children are then invited to join us at the front (if they are comfortable) for the Time for the Young. Afterwards, the children and youth are led to their classrooms by their teachers.

Get connected!

Please tell us about yourself and/or request a prayer by filling out a Welcome/Prayer Request Card found in each pew and place it in the offering plate when it passes.

We look forward to getting to know you at Coffee Hour, held downstairs immediately following the service. You can also learn more about our community through our website and Facebook page:

www.fcc-winchester.org

[facebook.com/fccwucc](https://www.facebook.com/fccwucc)

Text FCCW to 22828 to join our email list



We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and
mountain, Following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

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 the angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

What Child is This?

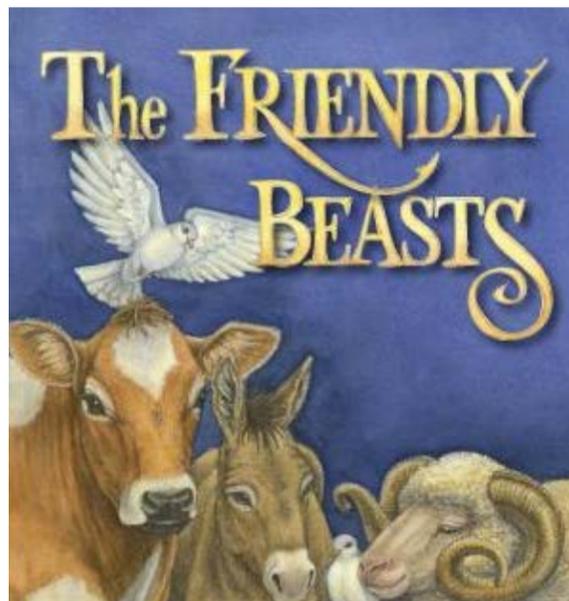
What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.



O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.



The Friendly Beasts

Jesus, our brother, strong and good,
Was humbly born in a stable rude,
And the friendly beasts around him stood;
Jesus, our brother, strong and good.

“I,” said the donkey, shaggy and brown,
“I carried his mother uphill and down,
I carried his mother to Bethlehem town;”
“I,” said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

“I,” said the cow, all white and red,
“I gave him my manger for his bed,
I gave him my hay to pillow his head;”
“I,” said the cow, all white and red.

Away In a Manger

Away in a manger,
no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus
laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky
looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus,
asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing,
the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus,
no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus,
look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle
till morning is nigh.



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 excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee,
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
In fields where they
lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night
that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

Go Tell It On the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
There shown a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain...