

# Order of Worship-Hanging of the Greens

## Gathering Music

*Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele*

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

## Welcome

Rev. Judy Arnold

## Silence

## Prelude

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel, vs.1*

James Woodman (b. 1957)

## Advent Candle Lighting

The Skinner family

Choir: O come, o come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.

### Congregation and Choir:

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!***

## \*Processional Hymn

*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

PH #104

(While the greens are being brought forward, the seasonal hangings will be changed to purple, to reflect the liturgical color of Advent. Purple symbolizes two things: 1) The Royalty of the One whose arrival we anticipate and prepare for; and 2) Repentance, which involves turning to the Light and Love of God, which is what we are called to do in order to prepare ourselves for the Christ child's arrival.)

## \*Gathering Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Kathleen Zagata

**God of faithful love, ever resourceful, ever merciful, we draw near to you because you have first drawn near to us. You create the longing in our souls, the love in our hearts, and the faith which delivers our whole being from frustration. May our actions honor you, our words praise you, our thoughts marvel in you, and our spirits utterly adore you. We pray through Christ Jesus, who taught us to pray:  
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.**

## \*Gloria in Excelsis Deo (Glory to God in the Highest!)

PH #116

## The Sanctuary Evergreens

Earl Hannibal

## Anthem

traditional/arr. Rutland Boughton

*The Holly and the Ivy* [1920]

The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown,  
of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown.

The rising of the sun, and the running of the deer,  
the playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom as white as the lily flower,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet Saviour.

The holly bears a berry as red as any blood,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to do us sinners good.

The holly bears a prickle as sharp as any thorn,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on Christmas day in the morn.

The holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to redeem us all.

## The Christmas Poinsettia

Suzy Kahl

## Carol

PH #138

*Silent Night, Holy Night* (verse 1)

## The Christmas Tree

Abby Wilson

## Carol

*O Christmas Tree*

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
How faithful are your branches!  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
How faithful are your branches.  
So green when summer breezes blow;  
Still green amid the winter snow.  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
How faithful are your branches!

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
O tree of green, unchanging.  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
O tree of green, unchanging.  
Since evergreen your stand, we know  
God doth eternal life bestow.  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
O tree of green, unchanging.

## The Crèche Time for the Young

Ben Pulaski

## The Gifts of Christmas

Jon Lawton

## The Offering

*The Song of Saint Nicholas* To the tune of "Jolly Old St. Nicholas"

(During the Song of Saint Nicholas, the children will join St. Nicholas in his procession and will return to sit with their families afterwards)

1. Once upon a long ago  
Very far away,  
In the town of Bethlehem  
Lying in some hay,  
Jesus came for you and me  
Bringing heaven's love  
As a gift for us to have  
From the Lord above.

2. In the town of Myra once  
Also long ago,  
Lived good Bishop Nicholas  
Hair as white as snow.  
Nicholas loved Jesus who  
Loved and helped us all.  
"I will do the same," said he  
"Helping great and small."

3. We should be like Nicholas  
Thankful, good and kind,  
Loving those who need our help,  
All the ones we find.  
Jesus and Saint Nicholas  
Taught us how to give:  
Share but never seek rewards,  
That is how to live!

## Prayers of the People (Morning prayers silent and spoken)

Rev. Judy Arnold

**Scripture**

Isaiah 2:1-5

Liturgist: Bruce Lauterwasser

OT p.631 LP OT p. 591

**An Advent Meditation**

Rev. Will Burhans

**\*Hymn***Wait With Us* (To the tune of "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus")

PH #103

Wait with us, this Holy Advent,  
 Wait for Jesus to appear.  
 Wait for incarnation's moment.  
 May the Spirit soon draw near.

Wait with us with hopeful yearning.  
 Clear the clutter of our days.  
 Free us from our anxious churning;  
 Fill our hearts and lift our gaze.

Wait with us; let peace live in us.  
 Draw us in, and make us whole.  
 Sons and daughters of your promise,  
 Heal our lives and calm our souls.

Wait with us for joy's surprises.  
 Light and gladness all around.  
 God our Wellspring, wonder rises.  
 Spirits primed, let joy astound.

Wait with us for love's fulfillment.  
 Word made flesh, God's gift profound.  
 Lead us to the life abundant,  
 Jesus comes, may grace abound!

(Written by members of this congregation, the writing of this hymn was made possible  
 by Judith Arnold's sabbatical grant, 2012.)

**Benediction/Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Will Burhans

**Postlude***Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*

J.G. Walther (1684-1748)

## Today's Worship Service

**Sanctuary Flowers**

Today's Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God, and in memory of Osmon and Helen Tilton and Robert and Mabel McIndoe by the Robert McIndoe family.

**THANK YOU** to the youth who participated in today's service: Abby Wilson, Sam Wilson, Ben Wilson, Elizabeth Rozmanith, and Steven Rozmanith. Also a thanks to the high school students who put up and decorated the Christmas Tree.

**November 27, 2016**

The First Sunday of Advent

10:00 Worship Service

## People We Are Praying for...

<u>Names</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Bob Shirley	In his last days
Eddie Burke's dog	Healing of her tendon and her spirits
Family of Harry Huff, Minister of Music, Old South Church	In time of grieving
Dory Cole Ogden, niece of Stephen W. Cole	For healing
Martha George	For healing and courage
Sherman Bull, Laura Bailey's father	Healing from a bike accident
Lucy Sanders	In her job search
Jessica Brand	For healing
Olivia	Healing from trauma
Bruce Lauterwasser	For healing

*Please let the Deacons or Ministry Team know if you have someone to add or remove from this list.*

## Upcoming Events

### The Giving Tree

Please help us make the holidays a little brighter for our neighbors at Germaine Lawrence, Lowell Transitional Living Center, Outdoor Church and the preschool at Woburn Council of Social Concerns. Please visit our website and find the giving tree under the Outreach and Service tab.

**\*Please note the December 11 due date\***

Please contact Cindy Mahoney [cindy33733@aol.com](mailto:cindy33733@aol.com) with any questions.

### Habitat for Humanity Workday Saturday, December 3, at 8AM

Please join us for a build day at our site in Lawrence. All adults and youth age 16 and up are welcome. Please contact Doug Taylor at 617-448-8327 (cell) or [mccall.taylor@verizon.net](mailto:mccall.taylor@verizon.net) or Andrew Beltz at [andrewjbeltz@yahoo.com](mailto:andrewjbeltz@yahoo.com) for more info.

### FCC Monthly Men's Group, Sunday December 4th, 7:30-9 PM, Palmer Room.

All FCC men and their guests are welcome. We discuss matters that are personal and spiritual. Pot-luck beverages or snacks are welcome but not expected. Questions to [chris.noble@yahoo.com](mailto:chris.noble@yahoo.com).

### Women's Advent Gathering Monday Dec. 5 7 PM

What Do You Thirst for This Advent? A question to be explored in scripture and song at the Advent Women's Gathering on Monday, December 5th at 7 pm. Teenage daughters, mothers, sisters and friends are invited to join you for this tradition of fellowship. Details are available on the church website or by calling Christine Tresselt, 617 605-6618 or Wendy Procops, 617-835-9953.

### Advent Visitation Sunday, December 4th. at 11:30AM:

Join members of the Ministry Team, Health Ministry and Deacons to share the Advent message with our elders and lifelong church members at home. After a briefing over lunch, we visit in pairs and return to church by 1:45 pm. If you've never done this, or if this is a highlight of your year, we hope you will take part. For more details, contact Stephen Haggett at [stephenchaggett@verizon.net](mailto:stephenchaggett@verizon.net)

### God's Grace at Work!

We celebrated stewardship on Pledge Sunday, November 13th, and watched a wonderful musical slideshow on Christian Education produced by Ben Pulaski and team. We are very excited to report that we are off to a great start!. To date 80 pledges have been received totaling over \$340,000. That's 65% of our goal of \$525,000.

If you have already pledged, thank you for your generous and joyful giving. If you haven't yet, then please take a moment to fill out a pledge card and mail it to the Church care of Bruce Lauterwasser, Treasurer, or place it in the offering at worship today. Pledge cards and envelopes can be found at the back of the sanctuary when you walk in to church next Sunday. You can also send a confidential email with your pledge amount to [first.congregational@verizon.net](mailto:first.congregational@verizon.net).

Thank you and best wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. The Financial Resources Ministry

## 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](http://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](http://www.fcc-winchester.org)

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

Text FCCW to 22828 to join our email list