

# Order of Worship

## Gathering Music

*Meine Seele erhebt den Herrn* (S. 733)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

## Welcome

Rev. Will Burhans

## A Moment of Silence

## Prelude

*Figured Chorale* (Op. 68, #42)

Robert Schumann (1810-56)

## Advent Candle Lighting Candle of Joy

Choir: O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
And order all things, far and nigh  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And cause us in her ways to go.

The Ryan family

## Congregation and Choir:

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

## \*Processional Hymn

*The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

Please see insert

## \*Gathering Prayer and Lord's Prayer

(prayer from Ruth Duck and Maren Tirabassi's "Touch Holiness")

Kathleen Zagata

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, O Promised One. Once again we come to this sacred time and place and await your presence. Give us the patience to seek the meaning of these busy days. Give us the courage to wait in times of pain and trouble.**

**Give us compassion to wait for one another. Give us the faith to wait for the Messiah when we are threatened by the Herods of this world. Give us hope to wait for the Savior even when we cannot hear the angels singing. Give us the love that does not wait when we meet Christ in friend, neighbor, stranger and enemy. It is in Jesus' name we 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.**

## \*An Act of Praise

*Gloria in Excelsis Deo*

PH #116

## Welcoming New Members

The Ryans & the Sansoms

Please see insert

## A Time for the Young

Ben Pulaski

## Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Judy Arnold

## Readings

Luke 1:26-38

"Annunciation"

Readers: Julianne Zimmerman and Taylor Tresselt

Mary: Abby Stewart

Liturgist: Liz Sayre  
NT p. 56, LP NT p. 49  
poem by Denise Levertov

## Anthem

*Ave Maria* [1997]

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,

now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

## Sermon

"Overshadowed"

Rev. Will Burhans

## Quiet Time for Reflection

## Offertory

"Qui sedes ad dextram patris" from *Mass in B-minor*, BWV 232 [1749]

[Who is seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us]

Peter Owens, oboe

J.S. Bach

## \*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below,**

**Praise God above you heavenly host, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

NCH #780

## \*Recessional Hymn

*O How Shall I Receive You*

NCH #102

## Benediction

Rev. Will Burhans

## Passing the Peace of Christ

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

## Postlude

*All Glory, Laud and Honor*

Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

# Today's Worship Service

## Sanctuary Flowers

Today's Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of deceased members and friends of this congregation.

## 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)

**December 11, 2016**

The Third Sunday in Advent  
10:00 Worship Service

## 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

*People We Are Praying for...*

<u>Names</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Maggie Keeler's family	For the death of her aunt, Veronica Nicholas
Family of Jack Pemberton, Nanci Church's father	In their grief
Mary Lynn Bukey, Michelle Stewart's mother	Healing
Bob Shirley	For strength and healing
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
Lucy Sanders	In her job search
Jessica Brand	For healing
Bruce Lauterwasser	For healing

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

**Reception of New Members Ceremony**

Introduction (spoken by the pastor)

Questions to the New Members:

Do you affirm your faith in God-- Creator of our Savior Jesus Christ and our Creator? We Do

Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this Christ-centered, nurturing community, growing in faith, serving in love, and welcoming all with joy? We Do

Question to the Congregation:

And do you, the continuing members of the First Congregational Church, welcome and accept these persons as your fellow members? If so please say, "We do." We Do.

Then let us, together, affirm the covenant of our Congregation:

\*The Covenant (Members and New Members)

We, the members of this Church, covenant and bind ourselves to strive to know the will of God; to walk in the ways of the Lord, made known or to be made known; to exalt the worship of the one true God; to work and pray for the progress of knowledge, the promotion of justice, the reign of peace, and the realization of human community.

Declaration

Now, therefore, we extend to you the right hand of fellowship as our sign of welcome and in declaration that we are one community of faith together.

We welcome into membership this morning along with their children:

Petra and Andrew Sansom          Jennie & Jason Ryan

Please take a moment today and welcome them into our church along with their children: James Ryan, Hazel Ryan, Alex Sansom, and Michaela Sansom.

# Upcoming Events

**Cookie Walk Today, 11:30 AM, Chidley Hall**

**Join us in Chidley Hall** after the service for our annual Cookie Walk orchestrated by our Rite 13 class. We ask for a small donation that the class will decide who to give the money to and you get to go around with an empty tray to choose a variety of cookies that many members of the church baked. The Rite 13 class will serve and wrap your plate for you. Enjoy a plate full of different cookies to share with your family and friends!

**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 96 pledges have been received totaling over \$431,000. That's 82% 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. Thank you . The Financial Resources Ministry

**Service of Light**

Join us for a time of prayer, candle lighting & music on Thursday, December 22 at 7 pm in the Sanctuary. Designed to move from darkness to hope, the service opens us to God's quiet presence. Come in the face of life's challenges, anxieties, and fears. Come when grief or loss disrupts life. Come to remember those whom we hold dear. Come during the rush of the holidays. Invite a friend or loved one facing difficulties. For a ride call by Dec 20: Health Ministry Office at 781-729-9180 ext:106.

**Second Wednesday Bible Study**

We are reading through some of the letters of Paul. We started with Galatians and are now on Ephesians. This is new territory for most of us and at a level everyone would be able to participate in. Each month's gathering is self-contained so come when you can. This month we will read some of the Christmas story as a closing just to get us in the mood. Come join us. We meet in the Health Ministry office from 7:00 to 8:30. This month the Second Wednesday is December 14.

**Purchase a Holiday Poinsettia**

You are invited to donate a chancel Christmas plant as a memorial or as a gift. Families will distribute plants to our shut-ins following the worship service on Sunday, December 18th

This year plants will cost \$20.00. All orders are due by TODAY, 12/11/16

I wish to purchase \_\_\_\_ plant(s), which will be

In \_\_memory / \_\_ honor (please check one) of

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Donor \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with a check payable to First Congregational Church, to the church office, or place it in an offering plate in an envelope marked "Christmas plants".

We would appreciate your help in delivery of the plants to homebound members of our parish by coming forward and picking up a plant and a card immediately after the service on December 18th



**Home for the Holidays: Welcoming All College Students**

On Wednesday Night, December 28 at 6:00 PM, join Ben, Rev. Judy and Kathleen for a Communion Service in Ripley Chapel. This event is specifically for our college students (freshmen/women through PhDs) home for the holidays. Following a Communion Service, we will move to the Forum Room for pizza and some catching up with each other. RSVP to Judy - jarnoldfccw@verizon.net or text 781-820-2410- just so we can have a head count for the pizza. The evening begins at 6:00, pizza probably around 6:30 and we'll end no later than 7:30. Hope you can join us.

Ben Pulaski, Rev. Judy Arnold, Kathleen Zagata

**A Christmas Tradition of Joy!**

Spread Christmas Joy by delivering poinsettias to members of our faith community at home or in local care center. This simple act of Christian Love makes a wonderful family tradition. Plants will be available for delivery after worship service on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> in the front of the sanctuary.

**The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came 123**

1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came, with  
 2. "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be, all  
 3. Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head; "To  
 4. Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born in

wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame; "All  
 gen - er - a - tions praise and hon - or thee, thy  
 me be as it pleas - eth God," she said. "My  
 Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, and

hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Ma - ry," Most  
 son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told." Most  
 soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name." Most  
 Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say: Most

high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!

WORDS: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834 - 1924), alt.  
 MUSIC: Basque carol; harm. Anthony Prower, 1989, adapt.

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE  
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The Basque community struggles to preserve its heritage in the mountainous territory at the border of Spain and France. Here they tell the story of the Annunciation, found in Luke 1:26-38.

Harm. © 1989 Concordia Publishing House

**Sunday, Dec 18** Lessons & Carols 10 AM  
**Thursday, Dec 22** Service of Light 7:00 PM  
**Saturday, Dec 24** Family Candle Lighting & Pageant 5 PM  
**Saturday, Dec 24** Candle Light Service 10 PM  
**Sunday, Dec 25** Christmas Carol sing-a long 10 AM