

Order of Worship: Christmas Eve 5 PM

Prelude <i>Morgen kommt der Weihnachtsmann</i>	J.C.F. Bach (1732-95)
Welcome	Rev. Will Burhans
Lighting the Christ Candle	The Stewart family
*Processional Hymn <i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i> (verses 1, 2 and 4)	PH # 132
*Gathering Prayer and Lord’s Prayer We come this night seeking a baby and needing a savior – wanting to step out of the dark night and into the light of the stable, to smell the sweet straw, to relax into You. We come eager to release our doubt, hoping to gather up all the pieces of ourselves and be complete and whole before You. We are here, precious one, desiring to show You our best and confess to You our worst; that in laying our souls open to You; we may find our truest selves. As Your children born anew this night, 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.	Rev. Judy Arnold
Song of Preparation <i>Little Drummer Boy</i>	Words & Music by Katherine Kennicott Davis (1892 - 1980) Ethan Kendall, vocal and guitar
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 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Christmas Offering of Gifts A Time for the Young (The children are invited to join Rev. Will down by the Christmas tree.)	Rev. Judy Arnold
Sharing the Christ Light (The Deacons will move down the aisles lighting candles. Candles should be lit by tilting the unlit candle toward the lighted candle.)	
Carol <i>Silent Night</i> 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. (Please repeat verse one.)	
Closing Prayer	Rev. Judy Arnold
*Closing Hymn <i>Joy to the World!</i>	PH #130
*Benediction	
Passing the Peace of Christ (Please offer “peace” or “The peace of Christ” to your neighbor as you depart)	
Postlude <i>Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her (BWV 700)</i>	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Today’s Worship Service

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**
facebook.com/fccwucc Text FCCW to 22828 to join our email list

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
Ms. Sarah Marino, Office Manager Mr. Tyler Campbell, Sexton
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
We now have an inductive hearing loop for those whose hearing aids have Telecoil (ask your audiologist). Listening devices are also available in the back. For our coffee hour in Chidley Hall, 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 are trained caregivers in our a 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 water, sofas, chairs, carpet and a video 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.

Bulletin cover art was designed by Julia Daggett.

Cast

Evangelists—Kyle Roche & Alex Sansom

Narrators— Ethan Kendall & Maire Claire Dubard

Angel— Georgia Keeler

Messenger— Sam Carpini

Joseph— Reed Kendal

Mary— Mabel Carpini

Jesus— Natalie Beltz

Innkeepers—Kyle Plosky and Julian Mallove

Shepherds— Isaac Kneiss, Mark Kuchma, Adam Stewart

Servant— Stephen Cushing

King Herod— Jane Burke

Chief Priest— Jane Dodge

Scribe—Grace Farina

Wisepeople— Shannon Miranda, Lukas Pradel, Sara Stewart

Prophet Isaiah— Theo Farina

Stage Crew— Harry Carpini, Ben Kuchma, Tyler Malcolm, Nathan Keeler

Younger Shepherds, Young Angels and Animals—Stepping Stones Children

A special thanks to **John Crabtree** for running sound,
Tyler Campbell for lighting effects,
Sarah Marino and **Christine Atkins** for the bulletin,
Jeffery Mead for the music accompaniment, **the ministry team**, and all the **adults** and **parents** who made tonight a special evening for everyone.



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.



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.



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.

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...

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!"