

CHRIST
 THE SAVIOR
 IS BORN!

United Church of Christ Norwell

We are a Christ-centered inclusive community called to ministry.

P. O. Box 501, 460 Main Street, Norwell, MA 02061 | (781) 659-2887
 www.uccnorwell.org | email: office@uccnorwell.org

Ministers to the World
 Ministers to the Congregation

Rev. Leanne S. Walt
 Karen Harvey
 Debbie Wheeler
 Emily Mathews
 Jenny Healy
 Bob Caldeira
 Steve Burke
 Scott MacPherson
 Rev. Deborah Spratley

Lead Pastor
 Minister of Music
 Parish Administrator
 Communications Coordinator
 Children's and Family Minister
 Youth Minister
 Director of Finance & Operations
 Facilities Manager
 Pastor, Linden Ponds Community Church

Kim Foster and
 Sonia Kleimola

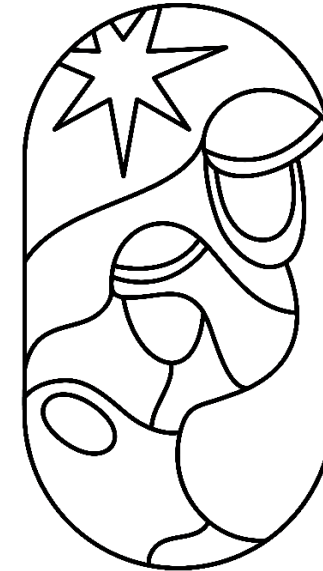
The New Nursery School
 Interim Co-Directors

All the Congregation
 All the Staff

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Christmas Eve



December 24, 2023

9:00 p.m.

United Church of Christ
 460 Main Street
 Norwell, MA 02061

United Church of Christ Norwell

An Open and Affirming Church

December 24, 2023

Christmas Eve Worship

9:00 p.m.

Call of the Bell

Welcome

Rev. Leanne Walt

Prelude

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Lewis Redner;
Arr. Craig Curry

Margo McGowan, clarinet Karen Harvey, piano

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Rev. Leanne Walt

You summon us, Lord,
in the coming of night and in the dawning of the star.

You summon us, Lord,
to the edge of the empire,
to the altar of a poor child's cradle,
to a miracle beyond reason.

All earth is lifted in communion.

All life smiles upon its King.

Hearts still and ears listen
to hear the prophets and the angels sing the good news for
all people:

*For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given,
and the government shall be upon His shoulders.
And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

*Hymn #150

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

Service of the Word

First Lesson

The Angel Visits Mary

Luke 1:26-38
Jean Holley

Sharing the Light #145 *Silent Night* v.1, 3, 4 (seated) *STILLE NACHT*

1. 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.
3. 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.
4. Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King;
Christ, the Savior, is born, Christ, the Savior, is born.

*Hymn

#143 *Joy to the World*

ANTIOCH

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

*Benediction

Postlude

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Arr. Kenneth Varner
Karen Harvey, organ

*Standing to praise God

Please extinguish your candle at the close of the service and
place your candle in the baskets before you leave.

Response *Night of the Father's Love* Pepper Choplin
Sanctuary Choir

Second Lesson *Mary and Elizabeth* Luke 1:39-45
Jack Murray

Response *Lo, How a Rose* Arr. Mary McDonald
Margo McGowan, clarinet Karen Harvey, piano

Third Lesson *The Birth in Bethlehem* Luke 2:1-7
Ava Larson

*Response #148 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* v. 1, 4 *ADESTE FIDELES*

Fourth Lesson *The Shepherds and the Angels* Luke 2:8-14
Owen Lestage

Response *The First Noel* Trevor Manor
Sanctuary Choir

Fifth Lesson *The Shepherds Worship* Luke 2:15-20
Carol Mosel

Response *Good Christians, Now Rejoice* Arr. Joseph Martin
Sanctuary Choir

Sixth Lesson *The Gifts of the Magi* Matthew 2:1-11
Fred Northrop

*Response #172 *We Three Kings* v. 1, 2 *KINGS OF ORIENT*

Meditation *Room at the Inn* Rev. Leanne Walt

Response *Snow Angels* Bob Caldeira
Bob Caldeira, tenor

Call to Offering

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Offertory *Sussex Carol* Arr. Elaine Hagenberg
 Sanctuary Choir

*Christmas Doxology *What Child Is This* GREENSLEEVES

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, rich and poor, to own him,
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

*Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to Communion

Prayer of Consecration

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread, and bless this fruit
of the vine.

**People: Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our
eyes may be opened, and that we may recognize the risen Christ
in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.**

Words of Institution

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

(Grape juice, not wine, is served to all.)

Christmas Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (using "debts/debtors")

The Festival of the Light

Seventh Lesson

The Word Made Flesh

John 1:1-5, 10-14
Rev. Leanne Walt

The Entrance of the Light

Johnny Fitzsimmons

Offertory *Sussex Carol* Arr. Elaine Hagenberg
 Sanctuary Choir

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