

First Congregational Church
Our Church in Worship

December 29, 2019 10:00 AM

First Sunday After Christmas

PRELUDE *Magnificat* - Scheidemann Adam Peithmann

WELCOME Rev. Kevin Pleas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME OF SILENCE

RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

LEADER: Come, all who await God's coming; there is good news of great joy!

PEOPLE: **God has come among us in a baby of humble birth.**

LEADER: Our salvation has come; let heaven and earth rejoice!

PEOPLE: **Give thanks to God's holy name, for God's light has dawned among us.**

LEADER: Join the multitudes who sing, "Glory to God in the highest."

PEOPLE: **God has redeemed us and calmed our fears; we are God's own, sought out and not forsaken.**

*OPENING HYMN NO. 149 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)

Lord God of the nations, we have seen the star of your glory rising in splendor. The radiance of your incarnate Word pierces the night that covers the earth and signals the dawn of justice and peace. May his brightness illumine our lives and beckon all nations to walk as one in your light. We ask this through Jesus Christ your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, in the splendor of eternal light, God forever and ever. Amen.

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS Barbara Papagian

LEADER: God, in your mercy

PEOPLE: **Hear our prayer**

SILENT MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OUR MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY – To the tune of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

For every benefit, we praise you, God. For every gift received and for each gift we are blessed in giving. For all your goodness, we give thanks to you: the providence which made and nourishes life, the presence which brings meaning in divine and human love, and the promise that gives hope for each new moment. Out of faith and into hope we are led by your love, and for these graces we return our thanks, through the mercies of Jesus Christ. Amen

HYMN SING

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 63:7-9 Sam Knowles

CONVERSATION SERMON Rev. Kevin Pleas

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 150 *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Carillon de Westminster* – Louis Vierne

*You are invited to stand if you wish.

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 63:7-9 (New Revised Standard Version)

Pew Bible: Old Testament page 654

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their savior in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

First Congregational Church



December 29, 2019

**Manchester, New Hampshire
United Church of Christ**

508 Union Street, Manchester, NH * 603-625-5093
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM (9:30 Summer)

You are welcome here!
An Open & Affirming Congregation