

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Rev. Kevin M. Pleas
Online Worship
December 27, 2020

PRELUDE “What Child is This” – arr. Vince Guaraldi Adam Peithmann, piano
Leo LeBlanc, percussionist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Kevin Pleas

INTROIT “Emmanuel, Emmanuel” by Bob McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP

Offered by Cindy Bradley, Administrative Assistant, New Hampshire Conference, UCC

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Holy one, so often we seek to find Christmas in song and scent, in cards and carols, in garland and gifts. Remind us again today, how Love Incarnate was born to a world that was in darkness, unprepared, and had no room left for holy surprise. More importantly, allow us to see that is so often where your love is born. Help us this day to become swaddlers – those who not only care for your precious gift but wrap it tightly so it may travel with us into the normal/not-so-normal days of our lives. We offer these words, and all the words of our worship, in the name of Emanuel, God-with-us. Amen.

HYMN # 148 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

PASTORAL PRAYER Barbara Papagian

TIME OF SILENCE

OUR 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE O Little Town of Bethlehem” vs. 4

SCRIPTURE READING: GALATIANS 4:4-7

Karen Hawver

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE “What’s On Your Mind”

HYMN # 143 “Joy to the World”

CLOSING WORDS

BENEDICTION (Unison)

Offered by The Rev. Gordon Rankin, Conference Minister and The Rev. Dr. David Felton, Bridge Associate Conference Minister, New Hampshire Conference, UCC

POSTLUDE

“Carillon” by Louis Vierne

Please note: In these difficult times, we are holding you all in our thoughts and prayers. For those who are able, we are grateful for your continuing contributions to the stewardship of our church.

Hymn No. 148

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the King of angels; (Refrain)

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

2. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest; (Refrain)

3. Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger, we would embrace thee, with love and awe; who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? (Refrain)

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born for our salvation, Jesus, to thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; (Refrain)

Prayer Response

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” vs. 4

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our God, Emmanuel.

Hymn No. 143

“Joy to the World”

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.