

*Welcome to The Church of the Open Door.  
Our door is open to you at whatever point you are in your journey of faith.*

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## **Donating to First Congregational UCC**

If you are enrolled in automatic contributions, you may still participate in the weekly offering by submitting a Giving Card, found in the pews. Pledge cards are available in the pews and may be placed in the offering plates at any time. Checks can also be mailed to the church.

You are also invited to donate via virtual offering. Please visit our webpage and click “Give” to make your weekly offering, or text FCUCC GIVE to 73256.

## **References to God**

References to God in traditional prayers, readings, and hymns in our worship may sometimes be gender specific. As we pray and sing together, you are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the full inclusiveness of the spirit of God.

## **Land Acknowledgement**

Our church is located on the ancestral homelands of the Menominee Nation. We acknowledge this indigenous community who stewarded this land throughout the generations and pay respect to their elders past and present.

## **Online Streaming and Podcasting**

You can watch a live stream of First Congo services on Facebook.com/1stCongo or at: [www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/livestream](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/livestream).

Video recordings of our live stream services can be found at: [www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/previous-livestream-services/](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/previous-livestream-services/)

Written transcripts of the sermon can be downloaded at: [www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/sermon-transcripts/](http://www.firstcongoappleton.org/worship-with-us/sermon-transcripts/)

## **Upcoming Worship Schedule**

December 26, 2021	First Sunday after Christmas	Rev. Nick Hatch
Livestreaming at 9:30 AM		
Scriptures: Psalm 148		
Music: Dr. Nathan Birkholz, <i>organ</i> ; Congregational Hymn Sing; Kris Glenn, <i>soprano</i>		
Lay Reader: Kris Henke		

# CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

## A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 24, 2021

9:00 PM

Rev. Dr. Stephen P. Savides, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Nicholas J. Hatch, Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries  
Rev. Dr. Laurie Lyter Bright, Pastor for Congregational Care and Mission

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### PRELUDES (selected from the following):

<i>Still, Still, Still</i>	Austrian Folk Melody
<i>What Is This Lovely Fragrance</i>	Traditional French Carol settings by Paul Manz
<i>Stille Nacht (Silent Night)</i>	Austrian Carol
<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</i>	tune by Richard Storrs Willis settings by Gerald Near
<i>He Whom Shepherds Came Praising</i>	14 <sup>th</sup> c. Carol
<i>In Bethlehem is Born to Us a Child</i>	French Song settings by Helmut Walcha

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ and piano* Lori Murphy, *violin*

<i>Gesu Bambino</i>	Michael Murphy, <i>tenor</i>	Petro Yon
<i>Ave Maria</i>	Jack Murphy, <i>tenor</i>	Bach/Gounod
<i>O Holy Night</i>	Cassie Glaeser, <i>soprano</i>	Adolph Adam

### WELCOME AND GREETING

### A CAROL (Congregation stands for stanzas 2 and 3; see next page)

*Once in Royal David's City* H. J. Gauntlett  
arr. David Willcocks

Stanza 1, Heather Hallett, *soprano*; Stanzas 2 and 3, ALL

\* Please rise, in body or in spirit

- \*2. He came down to earth from heaven  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable,  
and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor and mean and lowly  
lived on earth our Savior holy.
- \*3. Not in that poor lowly stable,  
with the oxen standing by,  
we shall see him, but in heaven,  
set at God's right hand on high;  
where like stars his children crowned  
all in white shall wait around.

#### A BIDDING PRAYER

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER (In unison)

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.

#### A CAROL FOR CHOIR

*The Wexford Carol*

Irish Carol  
arr. E. Hagenberg

Sanctuary Choir, with Lori Murphy, *violin*, and John Aaholm, *percussion*

#### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 6:1-8 (OT, p. 778)

*God commissioned Isaiah to be a prophet of the Advent.*

#### RESPONSE

Leader: This is what God has done for us.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

A CAROL #148 (see bulletin, p. 9)

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

ES IST EIN' ROS

SECOND LESSON

*Isaiah foretells Christ's birth and kingdom.*

Isaiah 11:1-9 (OT, p. 784)

RESPONSE

Leader: This is what God has done for us.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

\*A CAROL (see bulletin, p. 10)

*O Day of Peace*

JERUSALEM

THIRD LESSON

*The Angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will bear the Son of God.*

Luke 1:26-35 (NT, p. 69)

RESPONSE

Leader: This is what God has done for us.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

A CAROL FOR CHOIR

*The Salutation Carol*

Traditional English Carol

FOURTH LESSON

*St. Matthew tells of Christ's Holy birth.*

Matthew 1:18-23 (NT, p. 1)

RESPONSE

Leader: This is what God has done for us.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

\*A CAROL (see bulletin, p. 11)

*Love Has Come*

BRING A TORCH

FIFTH LESSON

*The Christ child is born.*

Luke 2:1-7 (NT, p. 71)

RESPONSE

Leader: This is what God has done for us.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

A DUET

*Virgin's Slumber Song*

Max Reger

Cassie Glaeser, *soprano* Dr. Karen Leigh-Post, *mezzo-soprano*

SIXTH LESSON

John 1:1-14 (NT, p. 111)

*St. John Reveals the Mystery of the Incarnation.*

RESPONSE

Leader: This is what God has done for us.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

A SOLO

*I Sing of a Maiden*

William B. Goldberg  
anon. 15<sup>th</sup> century text

*I sing of a maiden that is makeles (matchless); King of all kings to her son she ches (chose). He came also still there his mother was, as dew in Aprille that falleth on the grass. He came also stille to his mother's bower, as dew in Aprille that falleth on the flower. He came also stille there his mother lay, as dew in Aprille that falleth on the spay. Mother and maiden was never none but she well may such a lady Goddess mother be.*

Dr. Karen Leigh-Post, *mezzo-soprano*

MEDITATION

"The Real World and Colonel Harry Shoup"

Rev. Steve Savides

A CAROL FOR CHOIR

*The Sussex Carol*

Traditional English Carol

Sanctuary Choir with Joel Jicha, *bass*

A CALL FOR THE OFFERING

A MUSICAL OFFERING

*What Child Is This*

GREENSLEEVES

Michael Murphy, *guitar* Lori Murphy, *violin* Jack Murphy, *piano*

(During this time, you are invited to a virtual offering. Please visit our webpage and click "Give" to make your weekly offering, or text FCUCC GIVE to 73256).

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, who promised to send a Redeemer to your people, we confess that we have not trusted your promise but have busied ourselves with activities which obstruct its fulfillment. We give presents but fail to be present with one another. We socialize with friends but fail to welcome the stranger in our midst. We create commotion and refuse to receive your peace. Forgive us, God, for our busyness and our lack of trust. Teach us to wait with expectant patience for the fulfillment of your promise to us. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### \*GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be world without end. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### CALL TO SUPPER

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

(Gluten-free elements are available from an usher.)

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*Still, Still, Still*

arr. Norman Luboff

Sanctuary Choir, with Lori Murphy, *violin*

## UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We give you thanks, O God, that you have come to us through Jesus Christ, both in the midst of time and history in the city of Bethlehem and in the timeless presence of Christ's Spirit, as we receive the gifts of bread and fruit of the vine. Send us out into the world rejoicing, ready to share your love with the people we meet; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## CLOSING CAROL #142 (see next page for stanza text)

*Silent Night*

STILLE NACHT

Stanza 1, sung in German by the Sanctuary Choir with guitar,  
then **Stanzas 1, 2 and 3 sung in English by ALL.**

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.
2. 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!
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.

#### THE BENEDICTION

\*SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #132

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES  
arr. Willcocks

#### POSTLUDE

*In dulci jubilo (In Sweet Rejoicing), BWV 729*

14<sup>th</sup> c. Melody  
setting by J. S. Bach

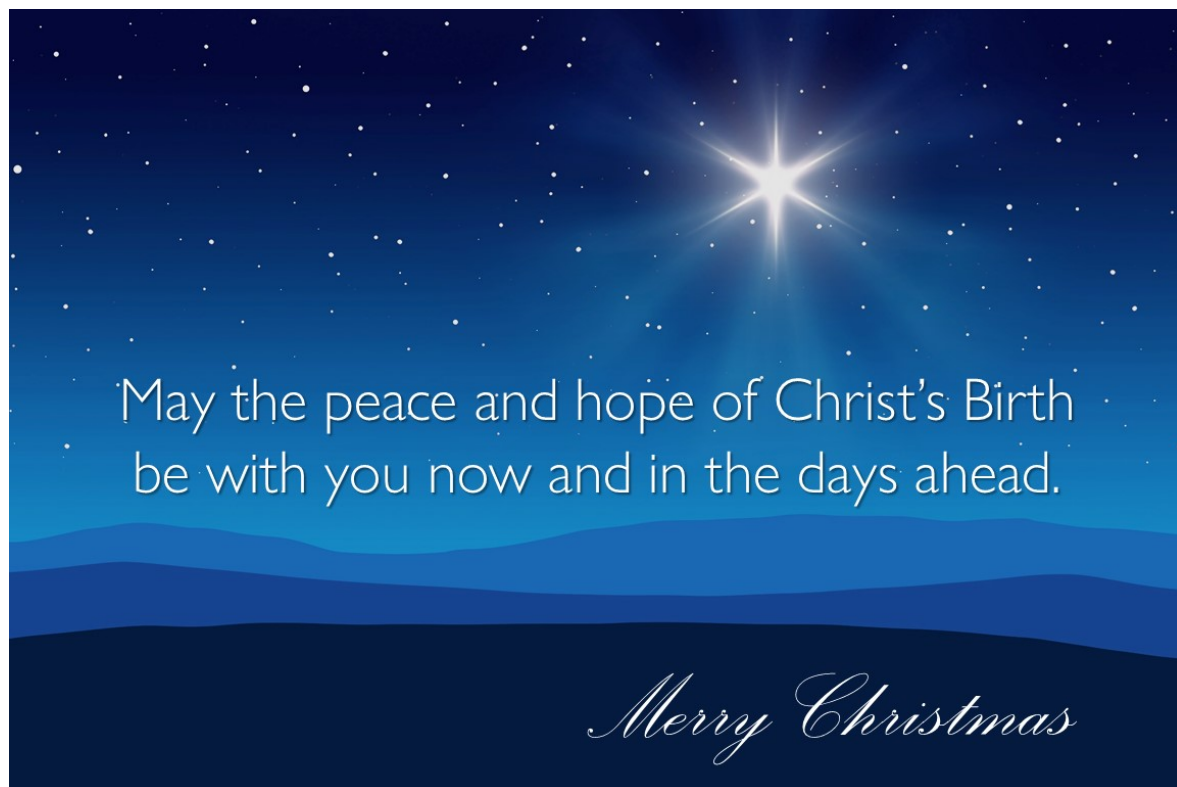
**Thank you to tonight's lay readers, Dave Frederick and Elliott Niblock!**

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## TONIGHT'S MUSICIANS

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *organ and piano*; Sanctuary Choir; Lori Murphy, *violin*; Michael Murphy, *guitar, tenor*; John Aaholm, *percussion*; Cassie Glaeser, *soprano*; Dr. Karen Leigh-Post, *mezzo-soprano*; Jack Murphy, *tenor*; Joel Jicha, *bass*; Heather Hallett, *soprano*; John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*.

*Note to our families:* Our First Congregational Children's Choir (grades 2–6) rehearses on Wednesdays from 4:30–5:15 PM (masked and distanced), resuming on Wednesday, January 5, 2022. Youth Handbells (gr. 7–12) also resume rehearsing that evening at 5:45 PM. For new registrations, please contact **John Albrecht** at [jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org](mailto:jalbrecht@firstcongoappleton.org) or call the church office at (920) 733-7393. Thank you!





1. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten-der stem hath sprung!  
 2. I - sa-iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;  
 (1.) *Es ist ein' Ros' ent-sprun-gen aus ein-er Wur-zel zart,*

Of Jes-se's lin-eage com-ing by faith-ful proph-ets sung.  
 with Mar-y we be-hold it, the vir-gin moth-er kind.  
*als uns die Al-ten sun-gen: von Jes-se kam die Art*

It came, a flower-et bright, a - mid the cold of  
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to us a  
*und hat ein Blüm-lein bracht mit-ten im kal-ten*

win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 sav - ior, when half spent was the night.  
*Win - ter wohl zu der hal - ben Nacht.*

WORDS: German: anon., 15th century; tr. Theodore Baker, 1894, alt.

MUSIC: *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, Cologne, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius, 1609

ES IST EIN' ROS'

76.76.676

Coming from the German Catholic tradition, in which the rose tree is seen as a symbol for Mary or Jesus, this hymn originally had twenty-three stanzas relating the events in Luke 1 and 2 and Matthew 2.

# O Day of Peace



1 O day of peace that dim-ly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,  
2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce de-vour the small;



guide us to jus-tice, truth, and love, de-liv-ered from our self-ish schemes.  
as beasts and cat-tle calm-ly graze, a lit-tle child shall lead them all.



May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en-vy find re-lease,  
Then en-e-mies shall learn to love, all crea-tures find their true ac-cord;



till by God's grace our war-ring world shall see Christ's prom-ised reign of peace.  
the hope of peace shall be ful-filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944  
Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918  
Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

JERUSALEM  
LMD

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# Love Has Come

Capo 3: (D) (Bm7) (Em7) (A)  
 F Dm7 Gm7 C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!  
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.  
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)  
 F Dm7 Gm C7 F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all  
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the  
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)  
 C F Dm F C B<sup>b</sup> F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of  
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her  
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)  
 Gm7 A7 B<sup>b</sup> C Dm C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a  
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she  
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)  
 F C B<sup>b</sup> C F C C7 Fsus F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.  
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."

TEXT: Ken Bible, 1996  
 MUSIC: French melody; arr. Eric T. Myers, 2012  
 Text © 1996 LNWymns.com (admin. Music Services)  
 Music Arr. © 2012 Eric T. Myers

BRING A TORCH  
 9.9.10.9.8

## **Gifts for the 2021 Advent Display**

### **In celebration of:**

First Congo clergy and staff given by Rick and Sue Detienne

### **In honor of:**

Our worship leadership given by Cheryl and Ron Reissmann

All the people who take part in the beautiful music for Christmas  
given by Sharon Radke

### **In loving memory of:**

Alicia Rose Arndt Dorn - best friend, young mother and wife, gone too soon from all  
who still love her, given by Anne Brahe

Dan Benz, given by Gerry Benz

My brother John, given by Faye Binsfeld

Adele & John Bowman, Marion & Elmer Gosse, given by Karen and Dick Gosse

Everett Erstad and John Mendonca, given by Dan, Heidi, Natalie, and Ross Erstad

Jack & Dolores Frederick, Norman & Judy Clay, given by Dave and Carolyn Frederick

Vaughn Gehrt, given by Esther Gehrt

Brandon Groh, given by Ed and Cathy Groh

Clarence & Elaine Hartung, Gerald & Evelyn Desmond  
given by Tony and Luann Desmond

Rev. Harvey Kandler, given by his family

Larry & Dolores Loomis, given by Mike and Linda Loomis

Dick & Joyce Sullivan, Bob & Andy Lacey, given by the Halletts

Evelyn & James P. Vercouteren, given by Beth Vercouteren

Gary Wisneski, given by Sue Wisneski

John Zeiss, given by Phyllis Zeiss

# **The Ministry**

Reverend Dr. Stephen P. Savides, Senior Pastor  
Reverend Nicholas J. Hatch, Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries  
Reverend Dr. Laurie Lyter Bright, Pastor for Congregational Care and Mission  
Reverend John T. McFadden, Pastor Emeritus  
John M. Albrecht, Director for Music Ministries  
Dr. Nathan Birkholz, Organist  
Dianne Droster, Director for Children and Middle School Ministry  
Carolyn Frederick, Office Manager and Administrative Assistant  
Holly Volkman, Administrative Assistant for Communications  
Beck Fritsche, Administrative Assistant  
Siri Witt, Bookkeeper  
Matt Feuerhelm, AV Coordinator  
Bart Forseth, Custodial Supervisor  
Tom Ott, Custodial Assistant  
Pat Metoxen, Custodial Assistant  
Lauren Micke, Weekend Custodial Assistant

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