

M16 ■ Eagle Nebula

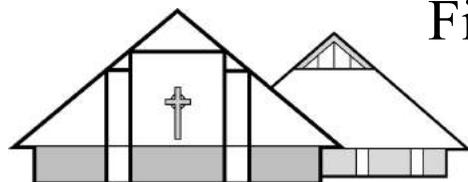
Hubble Space Telescope ■ WFC3/UVIS/IR



Visible



Infrared



First Presbyterian Church

New Haven, Connecticut

Epiphany of the Lord

*“This is the setting out. The leaving of everything behind. Leaving the social milieu. The preconceptions. The definitions. The language. The narrowed field of vision. The expectations. No longer expecting relationships, memories, words or letters to mean what they used to mean. To be, in a word: **Open.**” -Rabbi Lawrence Kushner*

January 7, 2018

10:45 a.m.

Prelude *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star* Buxtehude

Introit *Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow* Spiritual

Call to Worship

Come, let us worship the Christ Child this day!

Star of Wonder, Star of Might, Star of Royal Beauty Bright....

Come, let us offer the gift of our lives this day!

Star of Wonder, Star of Might, Star of Royal Beauty Bright....

Open in us an Epiphany for the transforming of this world!

Star of Wonder, Star of Might, Star of Royal Beauty Bright....

Still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Star of Wonder, Star of Might, Star of Royal Beauty Bright....

*Hymn 151 *We Three Kings of Orient Are* KINGS OF ORIENT

Call to Reconciliation

Silence is kept.

Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God we confess that so often we are given gifts and we discard them. We forget the promises they hold and the love that offered them. We are mindful that in your great love, you have placed many gifts in our hands, to tend and to keep, to care for, to maintain and to plant so that they blossom with your goodness, grace and love. And yet, we have too often chosen silence, security and personal comfort and in doing so have squandered...worst yet...desecrated and destroyed these gifts. Have mercy on us. As we start a new year in faith remind us of the importance of gifts and the need to honor them with the fullness of our lives, even if that means the Cross. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Giver of all Gifts, we give thanks for your goodness and salvation. Giver of all Gifts, keep us mindful and ever-present to your love. Giver of all Gifts, we praise and offer you thanksgiving for....

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*Song of Praise *January Carol*

*The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Before sitting, please greet those around you with words of Christ's peace.)

Words of Welcome

Please sign the black friendship pad and pass to others in your pew.
Children are welcome to participate in the Children in Worship program.

Response *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child* TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson *Isaiah 60-1-6 (p.690)*

Psalm (read responsively) Psalm 29 (contemporary language)

Bravo, God, bravo! Gods and all angels shout, “Encore!”

In awe before the glory, in awe before God’s visible power.

Stand at attention! Dress your best to honor him!

**God thunders across the waters, Brilliant, his voice and his face,
streaming brightness—God, across the flood waters.**

God’s thunder tympanic, God’s thunder symphonic.

God’s thunder smashes cedars, God topples the northern cedars.

The mountain ranges skip like spring colts,

The high ridges jump like wild kid goats.

God’s thunder spits fire. God thunders, the wilderness quakes;

He makes the desert of Kadesh shake.

God’s thunder sets the oak trees dancing

A wild dance, whirling; the pelting rain strips their branches.

We fall to our knees—we call out, “Glory!”

Above the floodwaters is God’s throne from which his power flows,
from which he rules the world.

God makes his people strong. God gives his people peace.

Second Lesson

Matthew 2 (p. 2)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Stars

The Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo

Star Words

Please take a Star Word from the offering plate. This is your Word for 2018. Hang it somewhere that is meaningful for you to remind you that you are part of God’s eternal Creation. Remember that you are called, created and loved by the God of all Creation and that holy gifts are offered to us in all seasons of life. If you would like to take an extra Star Word for someone special in your life who is not here today, please feel free to do so! A year from now, come back to worship ready to share what gifts this Star Word opened up in your life of faith....

*Hymn 131

In the Heavens Shone a Star

KALINGA

*Affirmation of Faith

from the United Church of Canada.

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

The Offering

Offertory

Behold That Star
Bruce Peabody, solo

Spiritual

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

OLD HUNDREDTH

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

**God of wonder, we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and
mercy. Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know
the riches of your love in the Word-made-flesh. Amen.**

* Communion Hymn

I’m a-Going to Eat at the Welcome Table

Spiritual

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you!

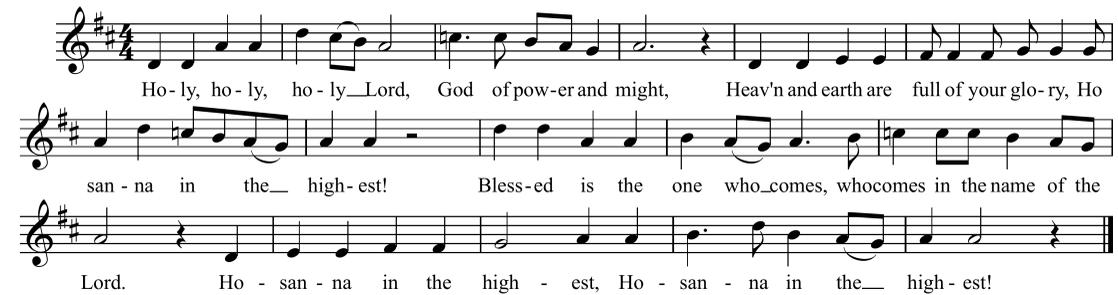
And also with you!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

... With the with the faithful of every time and place, on this Epiphany Sunday your people cry out:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho
san-na in the high-est! Bless-ed is the one who comes, who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est!

The prayer continues ...

Hear us as we now declare the mystery that is our faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

The 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.

The Words of Institution

The Communion of the People

In serving one another, hold the tray for the person sitting beside you.
Hold the bread until all are served and drink from your cup when you receive it.

Please do not return the empty cup to the tray.

(Gluten free bread is in the cup found on the plate with the bread.)

Prayer after Communion

Holy Triune God, we thank you for this meal that proclaims the peace and healing of the nations. We thank you for this meal where a little is enough to change our lives; where a little is more than enough to feed those whose hearts yearn for communion in community. May this bread and fruit of the vine nourish us so that we may grow in the faith and knowledge that in you, we are one. Amen.

*Hymn 131

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

PERSONENT HODIE

*Benediction

Postlude

Fantasy on "Personent hodie"

Stanford

*Those who prefer to do so may remain seated.



Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of New Haven. We are glad you are here. We seek to be a warm and welcoming community of Christian people. If you are new to this congregation, please introduce yourself to others sitting around you, and to the pastor, so that we may welcome you personally. During the Words of Welcome, add your name to the Friendship Pad. Please plan to stay for our Stewardship Lunch following the service.

Participating in worship leadership this morning are:

Liturgist: Andrew McCloskey

Ushers: Martha Smalley, Gary Cline

Communion Servers: Mary Porterfield, Bruce Peabody, Susan Frew, Ken Balakrishnan, Dick Hasbany, and Sadako Ohki.

Flowers: In gratitude for a New Year and new ventures in our church, given by Lucy and Gordon Ambach.

Bulletin Cover: The Pillars of Creation in the Eagle Nebula captured in visible light by Hubble. Stellar nurseries are hidden within the towers of dust and gas.

Credit: NASA/ESA/Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)/J. Hester, P. Scowen (Arizona State U.)

The Psalm 29 translation is a poetic interpretation from *The Message*:

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm+29&version=MSG>

We Welcome The Reverend Shannan Vance-Ocampo to the pulpit this morning. She serves as General Presbyter for the Presbytery of Southern New England. Ordained in 2001, she previously served as Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Rumson, NJ; Pastor at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church; and Transitional Presbyter for Albany Presbytery. In the larger church she serves as the Co-Moderator of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship and as an Elected Member of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board, A Corp. Her husband, Juan Gabriel Ocampo Valle is a native of Bogotá, Colombia and they have one daughter, Sofia Elena who is in 10th grade. Shannan's blogs, sermons and published writings can be found online at <http://srvoconsulting.com>

The Reverend J.C. Cadwallader may be reached at her email: PastorJC@fpcnh.org or the church phone (203) 562-5664. Mondays are her day off.

Congregational Meeting TODAY: The Session has called a congregational meeting for today, following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect elders. No other business may be conducted.

Winter Potluck TODAY: Come join new and old friends for a delightful meal to warm both the body and the spirit. Lunch will be in the Miller Gathering Hall immediately following the Congregational Meeting

Sunday School @ 9:30 a.m. next Sunday: Children and Youth Block 2 classes will continue. The Adult Class will offer the 2nd of a 3-week series on racism, with Rick Ufford Chase leading the discussion

Abraham's Tent is coming very soon! Our church will be hosting 12 men from Columbus House starting Monday, January 15th (Martin Luther King Jr. observance day) until Monday, January 22nd. Sign-up sheets are posted on the white boards in the Miller Gathering Hall. We seek people to host, provide dinner, stay overnight and/or greet the men. Your participation is encouraged and greatly appreciated! Any questions, please contact Brian Gray at brian_gry@yahoo.com.

Volunteers needed! Signup sheets for ushering and Friendship Hour for the beginning of 2018 are on the Welcome Table. Why not partner with someone who's new, or new to you, and sign up as a team?

Food Donations for Needy: Pick up an extra item at the grocery store to help fill the green wheelbarrow in the Copeland Room. At the end of each month the food is delivered to Christian Community Action's emergency food pantry. These are the items most in demand at CCA's food pantry: Top: white (not brown) rice, cereal, canned fruit (fresh fruit on last Sunday of the month), peanut butter and jams/jellies. Secondary: macaroni & cheese, pasta (not whole wheat), tomato sauces, canned/dry beans, ground/instant coffee, sugar, oils for cooking, cake mixes. Note that they do NOT need canned *green* vegetables.

Youth Escape New Haven-Next Sunday, Jan. 14th, 2-3 p.m.: We had such a good experience in the Crypt that we decided to go to outer space! Whether you attended our outing at Escape New Haven last time or never before, join us for an otherworldly mission right here in town. For Youth, ages 10-18. See Kimberley for more details and RSVP to fristpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com by Monday, January 8th (tomorrow.)

Info on Nominating Committee Slate for Today’s Congregational Meeting: Below are brief background bios for the people who will be presented by the Nominating Committee for congregational approval to serve 3-year terms as Elders on Session.

Sue Balakrishnan and her husband, Ken, came to First Presbyterian Church 24 years ago, after moving from their home state of California. They and their children, Kevin (28), and Anna (25) have called First Pres home ever since. With a background in religious education, Sue quickly engaged in the Christian education at the church, serving as superintendent of Sunday school, and then Director of Christian Education, where she served for many years. Since leaving her position as CE director, Sue served on session as co-chairs of the clock committee, where she remains today. Sue currently works as a Special Education Paraprofessional at East Haven Public Schools.

Jennifer Ballew and her husband, Mark Lanz, were married at the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor in 1998, and first began attending FPCNH in 2002, soon after relocating to New Haven from Michigan. They soon became members and both of their children, Riley and Molly, have been baptized at FPCNH and are active in the church's Youth Group. Jenn has served as an adjunct member of the CLOC committee for several years, taught a unit of youth Sunday School in 2016, and was a member of the 2017 Pastoral Nominating Committee. She earned her PhD in cardiovascular pharmacology in 2000, but left the research world to become a psychiatrist and now specializes in the treatment of addictions.

Jen Herbst and her other half, Scott Funston, have been members at FPCNH since 2012. Jen has led a number of Sunday school classes looking at how Scripture talks about health, law, gender, and taxes and currently serves on the Communications Committee. She teaches at Quinnipiac University’s law and medical schools and writes about the intersection of health, ethics, law, and money. Jen is already an ordained elder, having served on the Session at Ardmore Presbyterian Church in Ardmore, PA and on an Administrative Commission to Arch Street Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, PA.

Tim McConnell joined FPCNH in 1995, married Rose Spielman in 1999, and they have two children Tess (16) and Calum (14) who are members of Temple Beth Sholom in Hamden. Tim has previously served on Session, the Finance, Education, and Nomination Committees, and as Disbursements Treasurer. He works at a Biotech Company, IsoPlexis, in Branford directing grant-funded projects to facilitate new treatments for a variety of diseases. Tim is the son of a Presbyterian minister as well as a grandson and great-grandson of ministers.

In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. (Philippians 4:6)

When you pray, offer prayers for ...

Our country and its leaders.

Church members and friends who seek God’s healing grace, including Ken Haynam, at Benchmark Senior Living in Hamden.

For the family and friends of Grace Pauls, mourning the death of her husband, Robert "Bob" Ritchie, on Tuesday.

For Jeff Miller, brother of David, who is recovering from surgery.

For Nancy Walker’s 3-month old niece, recovering from surgery.

Prayers for those who suffer from gun violence.

Prayers for those who do not have enough to eat.

Prayers for people who are homeless.

James Smit and Patrick Copeland, who are serving in the armed forces.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis.

Prayers for other people and situations in need of our supplications.

This Week

Sunday, January 7	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	10:45 a.m.	Worship & Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Congregational Meeting
	12:10 p.m.	Potluck Lunch
	2:00 p.m.	Presbytery Social Justice Mtg
Tuesday, January 9	6:30 p.m.	Worship Committee
	7:15 p.m.	Mission Committee
Wednesday, January 10	9:00 a.m.	Presbytery COM Mtg
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, January 11	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
Saturday, January 13	9:30 a.m.	Women’s AA
Sunday, January 14	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Friendship Hour

The Session of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2017	Lynn Autry Jane Hindenlang	Candice Gray Bruce Peabody
Class of 2018	Gary Cline Phillip Phiri	John Dinkler Robert Williams
Class of 2019	Lucy Ambach Fiona Scott Morton	Rona Johnston Mary Porterfield
Clerk	Tim McCloskey	
Treasurer	Mike Spicer	

First Presbyterian Church of New Haven is a More Light Congregation and part of Presbyterian Promise. Both organizations are dedicated to the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and questioning individuals.

The Staff of First Presbyterian Church

Pastor:	The Reverend J. C. Cadwallader
Music Director:	Patrick McCreless
Church Administrator:	Martha Smith
Christian Educator:	Kimberley Fais
Nursery Care Provider:	Emily Landino

The church office welcomes your announcements and prayer requests for the bulletin. Please send the copy to firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com by Wednesday before noon to be included in the Sunday Bulletin.

Please remember that parking is available at the Hooker School on Sunday mornings when lawn or street parking is unavailable.

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