

# First Presbyterian Church of New Haven at Worship on Christmas Eve

December 24, 2018

7:30 p.m.

|         |  |   |
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| Prelude | Two Fugues on the Magnificat<br><i>A la venue de Noël</i><br><i>Noël, pour l'amour de Marie</i><br>Christmas Chorales from <i>Orgelbüchlein</i><br>From the Depths of My Heart<br>Rejoice Greatly, O My Soul | Pachelbel<br>Lebegue<br>Lebegue<br>Bach<br>Karg-Elert<br>Karg-Elert |
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Call to Worship/Advent Wreath Lighting

On this holy night, we gather as many –

**As strangers and friends, as the faithful and the wondering,**

We gather as many and as one community.

**We come to seek the light, the hope, the Good News.**

On this holy night, we wait for God to come to us again.

**We light these candles as a sign of our hope, for the light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness does not overwhelm it.**

Let us worship God who comes to us even now.

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| *Carol 133 | <i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i> | ADESTE FIDELES |
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Prayer of Illumination

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| The Beginning |  | John 1: 1-5, 9-14 |
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| Carol 108 | <i>Of the Father's Love Begotten</i> | DIVINUM MYSTERIUM |
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| The Prophecy |  | Isaiah 9: 2-7 |
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| Carol 129 | <i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i> | ES IST EIN'ROS' |
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| A Promise of Peace |  | Isaiah 11: 1-10 |
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| *Carol 123 | <i>It Came Upon A Midnight Clear</i> | CAROL |
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| The Annunciation |  | Luke 1: 26-38 |
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| Carol 122 | <i>Silent Night</i> | STILLE NACHT |
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| The Magnificat |  | Luke 1: 39-56 |
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| Carol 144 | <i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i><br>Duet, Beth Aura Miller and Jenny Davis | Darke |
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| The Birth of Jesus |  | Luke 2: 1-7 |
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| *Carol 114 | <i>Away in a Manger</i> | CRADLE SONG |
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| The Proclamation |  | Luke 2: 8-20 |
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| Carol 147 | <i>The First Nowell</i> | THE FIRST NOWELL |
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| Homily | <i>Good News of Great Joy</i> | The Rev. J.C. Cadwallader |
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| *Carol 119 | <i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i> | MENDELSSOHN |
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Response to the Good News

**Let the love that shaped earth and heaven  
dwell within us this Christmas.**

**Let the love that created humanity and  
let the love that overcomes suffering and hatred  
dwell within us this Christmas.**

**Let the love that causes us to rejoice with loved ones and  
let the love that forgives and renews  
dwell within us this Christmas.**

**Let the love that brings reconciliation after separation and  
let the love that brings the blessing of peace  
dwell within us this Christmas.**

**And may we share that peace with all people near and far. Amen.**

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| The Christmas Joy Offering<br>Offertory | <i>In dulci jubilo</i> | Dupré |
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\*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

Benediction

Please extinguish candles following the Benediction.

Postlude

*Noël Suisse*

Daquin

\*Those who prefer to do so may remain seated.

\*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. Amen.**

The Christmas Prayer

The Sharing of the Christmas Light

\*Carol

*Joy to the World*

ANTIOCH

**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.**

**Joy to the earth, 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.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground,  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.**

**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.**

**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of New Haven.** It is a joy to gather to worship God on this wonderful night. Following worship, you are invited to gather in the Owens Community Building for refreshments. If you are visiting with us this evening we hope you will return to First Presbyterian Church, where we take seriously our commitment to the justice and compassion of Jesus Christ. We are a people who reflect the diversity of our city, and who find the goodness and wonder of God in that diversity. Join us on Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m.

**Participating in worship leadership tonight:**

Reading the Christmas story this evening are (in order): Daniel McCloskey, Phillip Phiri, Scott Funston, Caty Poole, Bruce Gordon, Rev. Adele Crawford.

Ushers: Lynn Autry, Sadako Ohki, Charles McEnally

Christmas Reception Hosts: Community Life and Outreach Committee (CLOC)

**Nursery care is provided** this evening in the Owens Community Building nursery, the building across the breezeway. Infants and children are also welcome in the service and encouraged to participate fully in worship. A rocking chair is available also in the Copeland Room reception area.

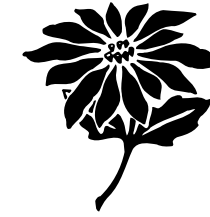
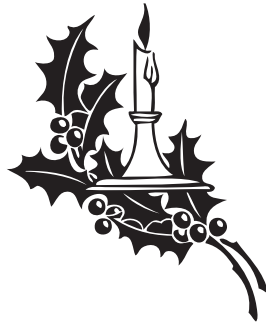
**You are invited to share the light of Christ through the Christmas candles.** For your safety, please tilt your unlit candle toward the upright lit candle during the singing of “Joy to the World.” All are asked to assist children sitting nearby, and to keep a special watch on the candles children hold. Please extinguish all candles after the benediction. We go forth to let the light of Christ shine in our hearts.

**Christmas Joy Offering:** This year's Christmas Joy offering will be received during the worship service. The Offering supports racial ethnic education at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges, where students develop their gifts and find their calling. It also helps families of active and retired church workers meet unexpected needs through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions. As we celebrate the good news of great joy—that a Savior has been born to us—may our gifts bear joyful witness to God's uncontainable love

**Anticipate the New Year, with all its hope and promises, on Sunday, December 30th.**

The Reverend Arthur Shippee will lead us at 10:45 a.m. for our regular worship. Join friends in offering your prayers for a new year.

**The carol, "Silent Night", is two hundred years old tonight!** It was originally sung at the December 24, 1818 midnight mass in the small village of Oberndorf, in what is now Austria. The lyrics were written by a young priest, Father Joseph Mohr, and the music was composed by Francis Xavier Gruber, an organist and school master from France.



**The Christmas Poinsettias decorating the sanctuary have been given:**

In memory of our parents by Joanne and Gerald Anderson.

In memory of Stewart Fritts and Rodney Wells by Joan Wells and family.

In memory of Gordon Ambach by Lucy Ambach.

In memory of Sue and Fred Mussmann by Betsy and Scott Mussmann.

In thanksgiving for Our Church Family by Beth Aura and David Miller.

In thanksgiving for Sarah McPharlin by Mark, Jenn, Riley and Molly.

In memory of Newton Schenck and Sally Schenck Crooks/Merrill, by Anne Schenck.

In memory of Kathy Milligan, by her friends.

In memory of DeeDee and John Krick by Ruth, Terry and Anna Phillips.



**The Paper Nativity** on the walls of the Sanctuary was created by Paula Thomaz Swanson.

### **The Session of First Presbyterian Church**

|               |                                     |                                      |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Class of 2018 | John Dinkler<br>Robert Williams     | Phillip Phiri<br>James Duncan        |
| Class of 2019 | Lucy Ambach<br>Fiona Scott Morton   | Rona Johnston<br>Mary Porterfield    |
| Class of 2020 | Sue Balakrishnan<br>Jennifer Herbst | Jennifer Ballew<br>Timothy McConnell |
| 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 [office@fpcnh.org](mailto:office@fpcnh.org) 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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First Presbyterian Church of New Haven  
704 Whitney Avenue  
New Haven, Connecticut 06511

phone: (203) 562-5664  
[www.fpcnh.org](http://www.fpcnh.org)

[office@fpcnh.org](mailto:office@fpcnh.org)