

Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

December 24, 2021

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY WORSHIP



*We respond to God's call by welcoming everyone
regardless of ability, age, ethnicity, race, gender identity,
sexual orientation or socio-economic background.*

*To proclaim in word and deed the love of Christ,
we affirm that all may share in the full life, ministry, fellowship,
responsibilities and blessing of our congregation.*

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.*

Order of Worship

An asterisk () indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

All the carols can be found in The Pilgrim Hymnal (red volume in lower rack).

PRELUDE *Gesu Bambino* Traditional
David Taylor

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsive—Leader; **People**) Halley Kim, *Pastoral Assistant*

This is the night we have waited for.

It is the most beautiful night of the year.

It is the night of shepherds and stable and humble beginnings!

It is the night of our dear Savior's birth!

***OPENING CAROL** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* No. 132, vv. 1,2

AT THE ADVENT WREATH *The Christ Candle* The Ferguson Family

The Arriving One alleviates our despair and offers us new possibilities.

We are hopeful and excited!

The Arriving One quiets our distractions and calls us into new actions.

We are peace-seeking and prepared!

The Arriving One dispels our insecurities and directs us to new depths.

We are joy-filled and eager!

The Arriving One embraces our fullness and guides us toward new living.

We are love-ready and empowered!

The Arriving One repurposes our pain and invites us into new purpose.

We are excited, prepared, eager, and empowered!

We light the Christ candle.

Good news, great joy, all the people!

We are here and whole!

INTERLUDE *O Holy Night* Adam
Jonathan Brader

A CHRISTMAS TABLEAU

THE ANNUNCIATION

Scripture Luke 1:26-31 Pew Bible, p. 931

Christmas Carol *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* No. 120, v.1

THE BIRTH

Scripture Luke 2:1-7 p. 933

Christmas Carol *O Little Town of Bethlehem* No. 134, v. 1

THE SHEPHERDS

Scripture Luke 2:8-14 p. 933

Christmas Carol *The First Noel* No. 141, v. 1

AT THE MANGER

Scripture Luke 2:15-19 p. 933
Christmas Carol *What Child Is This* No. 140, v. 1

THE WISE MEN

Scripture Matthew 2:1-2, 7-11 p. 877
Christmas Carol *We Three Kings of Orient Are* No. 143

(Mark Cereghino, Paul Cereghino, Jonathan Brader)

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS FOR THE MANGER

Halley Kim

All gifts benefit Gateway 180 Homeless Services.

Christmas Carol *Away in a Manger* No. 137, vv. 1,2

***CANDLELIGHT CAROL**

Silent Night, Holy Night No. 138

Children are encouraged to turn on their candle and hold it high during Silent Night.

***BENEDICTION**

Halley Kim

POSTLUDE

Go Tell It on the Mountain J.W Work, Jr.
Leon Burke, organ

THE PARTICIPANTS

ANGELMaggie Hill
SHEPHERDS Trina Hill, Lauren & Laine Gomez, Lizzie & Abby Monaco
READERS Francis & Beatrice Byrne, Sophia Monaco
WISE MEN Mark Cereghino, Paul Cereghino, Jonathan Brader
NATIVITY Luke, Ellie, and Theo Ferguson

*The Christian Education Ministry would like to thank **Rosemary Hensley and Mary Edwards** for securing and working with our participants for this evening!*

Special Thanks to Extra Musicians, Erin Prange, David Taylor, and Jonathan Brader.

*Join us at 9:00 PM for **A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**, featuring special music by guitarist and vocalist Walter Parks.*

*A **Wassail Bowl Reception** will follow in the narthex.*



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