

Trinitarian Congregational Church, UCC
Christmas Eve 2023, 8:00 p.m.

Welcome

Prelude "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" arr. Gordon Young

Call to Worship

Tonight we light these candles for Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

These candles remind us of the light of the star that shone over Bethlehem for all to see.

God-with-US, Emmanuel,

We open ourselves to this night, to become those who help to shine the light of Christ wherever we are - in our lives, our families, our communities, and our world. Fill us with your peace and light, make the world calm and bright.

Carol No. 132 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

First Lesson Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 (pew bible pg.1072)

Interlude "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" arr. Peter Hunt

Congregational Prayer

Giver of gifts, your light breaks through to the world in love and in flesh. Reclaim our hearts and our lives in the birth of Jesus. We admit that we give presents, yet fail to be present with one another. God, keep us willing and alert, that when you reveal yourself, we may be aware of your presence and receive the renewing and forgiving love that you have for all people. Amen.

Let us remember God's forgiveness for all as we come and share the good news of the angel who says, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord."

Anthem "Chanson Joyeuse de Noël" F. A. Gevaert

Second Lesson Micah 5:2-4 (pew bible pg.1444)

Carol No. 134 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Third Lesson Matthew 1:18-25 (pew bible pg.1497)

Bell Anthem "Sans Day Carol" arr. Kenneth Lowenberg

Christmas Prayer & 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.

Fourth Lesson Luke 2:1-7 (pew bible pg.1591)

Carol No. 117 "Angels, From the Realms of Glory"

Fifth Lesson Luke 2:8-20 (pew bible pg.1591)

Christmas Offering

Bell Offertory "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" arr. Matthew Prins

Prayer of Dedication

Thank you, God of love, for the promise of this season. We are grateful for the generosity aroused in us by the birth of Jesus Christ. May these gifts and our lives represent a new spirit of joyous sharing of your love for all people. Amen.

Sixth Lesson 1 John 4:7-11 (pew bible pg.1902)

Anthem "Rejoice Believers" Jean Brosseau

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Tonight the Advent wreath is completed with the Christ candle in the center. "For unto us is born this day in the city of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord." With the birth of Christ our lives are centered, focused, turned toward God. We light this candle because Christ is the center of our lives.

Dear God, who comes to us in Jesus, on this night as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let the power of Christ come into our hearts that we might find peace with you forever. Amen.

Carol No. 138 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

The Lighting of the Candles

Tolling of the Bell

Blessing

Postlude

A VERY BLESSED AND MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

This evening's service is led by
the Rev. Bernard C. Hinckley,
Pastor of the
Trinitarian Congregational Church.

Participating in tonight's service:
Organist: Ann Sears
Choir and Bell Choir Director: Kristen Bressler
Celtic Harp: Peter Hunt
Tolling of the Bell: Colton Luoma

Please place the candles in the basket by the door as you leave.

Flower & Food Donation Dedications:

Merry Christmas to all our TCC friends & family from Kurt & Karen Bischoff

In memory of our loved ones from Lawrence & Gloria Trecartin

In memory of Connie & Ken Walton from Bob Walton

In holiday remembrance of dearly departed Reilly, Dion, and Giblin family members from Denise Giblin & family

In memory of our loved ones from the Lach family

In celebration of The True Zoo from Rob, Nancy, Alison, and Colin True

In gratitude to our wonderful TCC family from Kristen Bressler

In memory of Don McKenney from Don's loving family

Merry Christmas from Priscilla Wiseman

In memory of Nelson & Betty Smith and Bob & Marie Holman from Pam (Smith) Holman & Scott Holman

Ways to Give:

- Place an offering in the plate near the door of the sanctuary, or
- Give online via our TCC website: www.tccnorton.org/giving,
- Use your mobile device by downloading the free Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app.



10% of tonight's offering will help retired clergy and their spouses by supplementing pensions and health insurance.

TCC News and Events:

Please subscribe to our newsletter: www.tccnorton.org/contact-us/newsletter/

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