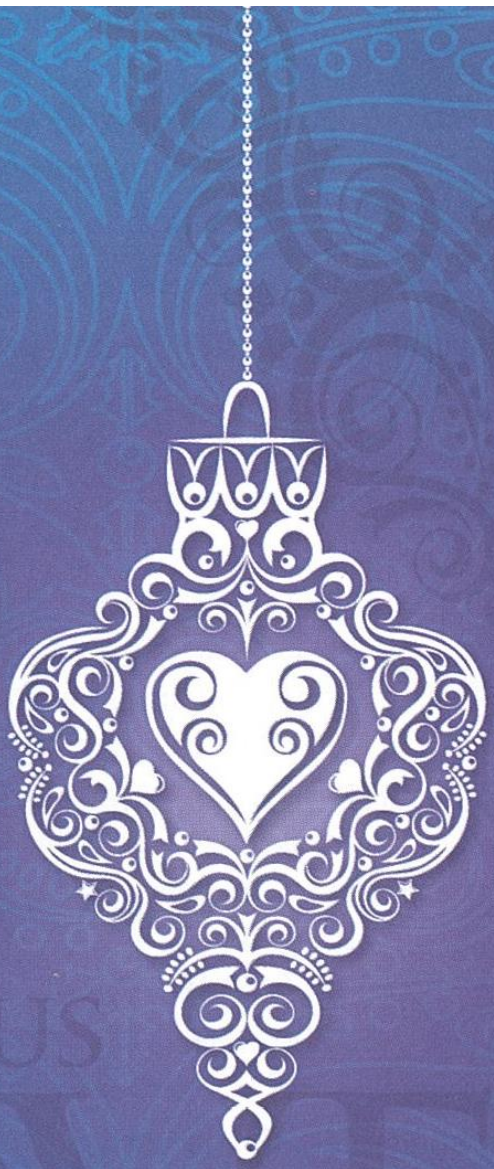


WONDROUS

LOVE

What great love...

lavished on us

1 John 3:1

Morning Worship

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020 9:00 & 11:00 AM

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

*If it is comfortable for you to do so, please stand

APPROACH TO GOD

Let us keep silence as we prepare for worship.

TOWER CHIMES

(9:00) Jim Stone

(11:00) Norma MacKinley-Smith

MEDITATION "It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than Christmas, when its mighty Founder was a child Himself." Charles Dickens

KANTATE 147 – Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben J. S. Bach

Cantata 147 – Heart and Mouth and Deed and Life *(1685 – 1750)*

INTROIT ***I. CORO (Chorus)***

Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben	Heart and mouth and deed and life
Muß von Christo Zeugnis geben	Must from Christ (their) witness bear
Ohne Furcht und Heuchelei,	Without fear or sham,
Daß er Gott und Heiland sei.	That He is God and Savior.

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Luke 1:46-55)

Leader: Our souls magnify the Lord,
People: And our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.
Leader: God has looked with favor on the lowliness of God's servant.
People: God's mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
Leader: God has shown strength with God's arm.
People: God has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
Leader: God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
People: God has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
Leader: Come, for God is doing a new thing!
People: Come, let us worship God!

If comfortable to do so, please join in singing our hymns and sung responses during worship, while wearing your mask.

***HYMN #110** (Verses 1 & 2) *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

*__OPENING PRAYER__ (Unison)
Holy and Gracious God, source of life and miracles, by the power of the Word, You brought the world into being; created us in your own image; established a people as a light to all nations; and called Prophets to speak in your name. That same Word became flesh and dwelt among us in Jesus; our brother, friend and Savior. May your Holy Spirit enliven our worship for the One who set aside his glory to walk humbly show us Your love and save us by it. Emmanuel, God with us, be born again in us today. Amen.

GREETINGS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE

Reader 1: In a world where churches lie empty, doors are shut, and people seem to have no room for religion anymore, God, we call upon you to come.

Reader 2: In a world where so many claim not to believe anymore, we call upon you, El Shaddai, God Almighty, to come.

Reader 1: In this season of Advent, we wait for Your Presence to be felt in our lives again. We await the birth of Jesus, the Savior of All, who comes into our lives in a new way.

Reader 2: Come, Messiah, Come, and Save Us

Light the fourth (purple) candle

Prayer: Dear God, we pray that our faith may be renewed once again, and may we relive the wonder of your love in our lives. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM ***II. Rezitativo*** TENOR

Gebenedeiter Mund!	Blessed mouth!
Maria macht ihr Innerstes der Seelen	Maria makes the most innerpart of her soul
Durch Dank und Rühmen kund;	through thanks and praises known;
Sie fänget bei sich an,	She begins with herself,
Des Heilands Wunder zu erzählen,	the Savior's miracles to declare,
Was er an ihr als seiner Magd getan.	what He to her as His handmaiden has done.
O menschliches Geschlecht,	O human gender
Des Satans und der Sünden Knecht,	of Satan and sin, (their) slave,
Du bist befreit	You are now free!
Durch Christi tröstendes Erscheinen	Through Christ's comforting appearance
Von dieser Last und Dienstbarkeit!	from this load and easement!
Jedoch dein Mund	However, your mouth
und dein verstockt Gemüte	and your obstinate mind
Verwschweigt, verleugnet solche Güte;	remains still, denies such good;
Doch wisse, daß dich nach der Schrift	but know, that to you, according to Scripture
Ein allzuscharfes Urteil trifft!	a very harsh judgement will come upon you!

III. Aria MEZZO SOPRANO

Schäme dich, o Seele nicht,	Shame you not, o soul!
Deinen Heiland zu bekennen,	Your Savior to recognize
Soll er dich die seine nennen	should he call you His own
Vor des Vaters Angesicht!	before the Father's face!
Doch wer ihn auf dieser Erden	But those who Him on this Earth
Zu verleugnen sich nicht scheut,	deny him without being shy,
Soll von ihm verleugnet werden,	shall from Him also be denied
Wenn er kommt zur Herrlichkeit.	when he comes to glory.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS **Psalm 121**

A Song of Ascents.
I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.

The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.

Luke 1:26-31

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

GRATIA TIBI *Thanks Be to Thee* T. Tallis
(1505 – 1585)

ANTHEM ***IV. Rezitativo*** BASS

Verstockung kann Gewaltige veblenden,	Obstinancy can blind the mighty,
Bis sie des Höchsten Arm	Until they by the Highest Arm
vom Stuhle stößt;	are from the chair pushed down;
Doch dieser Arm erhebt,	But this Arm raises,
Obschon vor ihm der Erde Kreis erbebt,	although from Him the entire earth quakes,
Hingegen die Elenden,	whereas the wretched,
So er erlöst.	He then redeems.
O hochbeglückte Christen,	Oh highly happy Christians,
Auf, machet euch bereit,	rise, make yourselves ready,
Itzt ist die angenehme Zeit,	It is now the pleasant time,
Itzt ist der Tag des Heils:	It is now the day of salvation:
der Heiland heißt	the Savior is called
Euch Leib und Geist	your body and spirit
Mit Glaubensgaben rüsten,	with gifts of faith to armor,
Auf, ruft zu ihm in brünstigem Verlangen,	Rise, call to Him in ardent desire,
Um ihn im Glauben zu empfangen!	To Him in faith, to be received!

V. Aria SOPRANO

Bereite dir, Jesu,	Prepare yourself, Jesus,
noch itzo die Bahn,	still now the way
Mein Heiland, erwähle	My Savior, choose
Die gläubende Seele	the believing soul
Und siehe mit Augen	And see with eyes
der Gnade mich an!	of mercy upon me!

SERMON "Believing in Things" Rev. Dr. Andrew W. Armstrong

ANTHEM ***VI. CORO (Chorus)***

Wohl mir, dass ich Jesum habe	Well for me that I have my Jesus
O wie feste halt ich ihn	o how tightly I hold onto Him
Dass er mir mein Herze labe	that he loves my heart
Wenn ich krank und traurig bin	when I am ill and sad
Jesum hab' ich der mich liebet	Jesus have I, who loves me
Und sich mir zu eigen giebet	and offers Himself for me
Ach drum lass ich Jesum nicht	Ah, therefor I will not leave Jesus
Wenn mir gleich mein Herze bricht	when my heart is about to break

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

CENTERING PRAYER (Unison)
Most High God and Lord of all, you chose Mary to become the mother of your Son Jesus Christ. Through your Holy Spirit you call us to follow in his way. Make us aware of the poverty of our own hearts, that we, like Mary may be open to you, to love you and serve you as we minister to others in Christ's name. Amen.

PRAYER CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYERS and PASTORAL 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.

RESPONSE *VII. Aria* TENOR

Hilf, Jesu, hilf,	Help, Jesus, help
daß ich auch dich bekenne	that I also you recognize
In Wohl und Weh, in Freud und Leid,	in good times and bad, in joy and sorrow
Daß ich dich meinen Heiland nenne	That I you my Savior call
Im Glauben und Gelassenheit,	In faith and serenity,
Daß stets mein Herz	that always my heart
von deiner Liebe brenne.	from Your love (may) burn

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *VIII. Rezitativo* MEZZO SOPRANO

Der höchsten Allmacht Wunderhand	The highest omnipotent hand of wonder
Wirkt im Verborgenen der Erden.	Works in the hidden depths of the earth.
Johannes muß mit Geist erfüllet werden ,	John must with the Spirit be filled,
Ihn zieht der Liebe Band	Him pulls the bands of love
Bereits in seiner Mutter Leibe,	already in his mother's womb,
Daß er den Heiland kennt,	that he knows the Savior
Ob er ihn gleich noch nicht	regardless if he immediately does not
Mit seinem Mund nennt,	with his mouth call
Er wird bewegt, er hüpft und springet,	He will be moved, he jumps and springs,
Indem Elisabeth	as Elizabeth
das Wunderwerk ausspricht,	the miracle utters
Indem Mariae Mund	in that Maria's mouth
der Lippen Opfer bringet.	her lip's sacrifices bring.
Wenn ihr, o Gläubige,	When you, o faithful,
des Fleisches Schwachheit merkt,	the flesh's weakness notice;
Wenn euer Herz in Liebe brennet,	When your hearts in love do burn
Und doch der Mund	and still the mouth
den Heiland nicht bekennet,	the Savior do not confess,
Gott ist es, der euch kräftig stärkt,	God is it, that you powerfully strengthens,
Er will in euch des Geistes Kraft erregen,	He wants in you the Spirit's power to awaken
Ja Dank und Preis auf eure Zunge legen.	Yes, thanks and praise on your tongues shall lay.

IX. Aria

BASS

Ich will von Jesu Wundern singen	I wish of Jesus‘ miracles to sing
Und ihm der Lippen Opfer bringen,	And to Him (my) lip’s sacrifices bring
Er wird nach seiner Liebe Bund	He will according to His love covenant
Das schwache Fleisch,	of the weak flesh
den irdschen Mund	and the earthly mouth
Durch heilges Feuer kräftig zwingen.	Through holy fire powerfully force

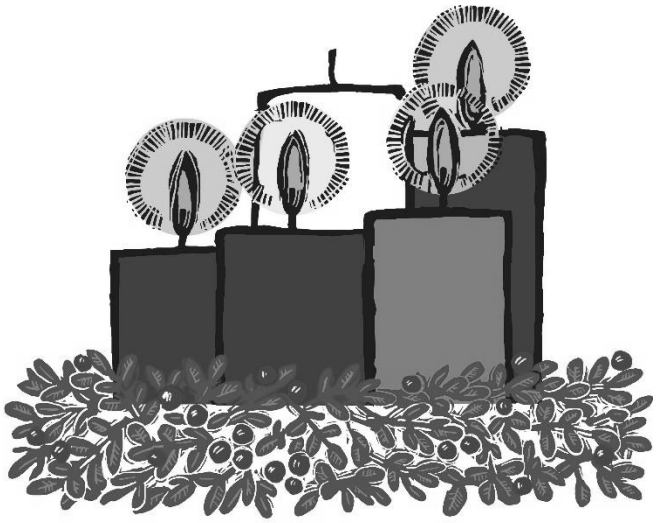
*THE DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDRETH LM

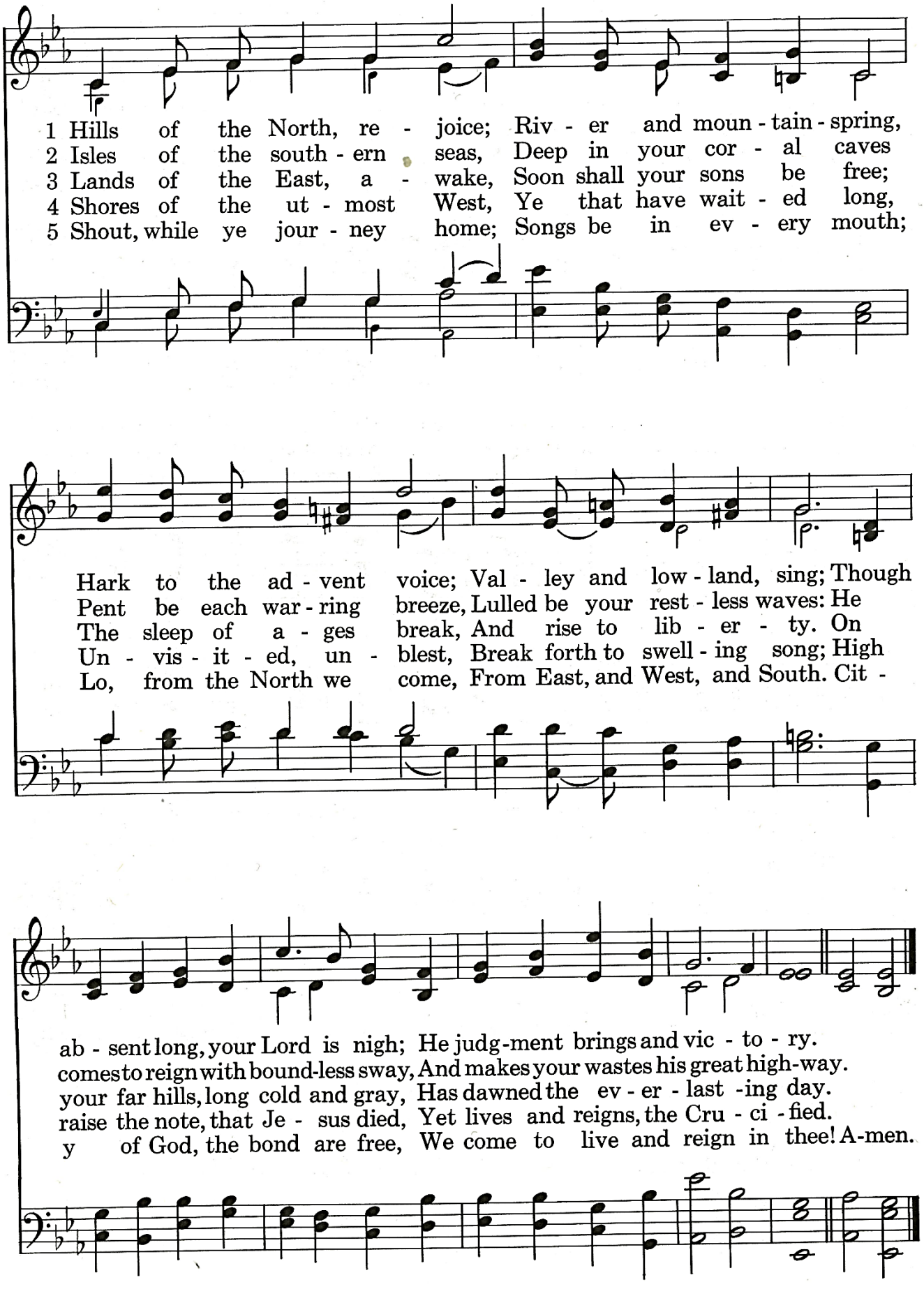
All praise, eternal Christ, to Thee,
Whose advent sets Thy people free;
Once more upon Thy people shine,
and fill the world with love divine. Amen.

*__PRAYER OF DEDICATION__ (Unison)

Gracious God, source of goodness and love; in gratitude for who you are and all that you have given us, we bring our offerings, and labor to bless the world. May our love for others be in Word and in Deed for the sake of healing and hope in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



***HYMN #106** *Hills of the North, Rejoice* LITTLE CORNARD



DISMISSAL

Kindly be seated after the Benedictus and remain seated for the Postlude. After the Postlude, ushers will dismiss the congregation row by row.
We ask you to exit through the rear sanctuary door closest to your pew section.
Those in need of handicap accessibility are welcome to use the link and elevator.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *X. CORO (Chorus)*

Jesus bleibet meine Freude	Jesus, remains my joy
Meines Herzens Trost und Saft	my heart's comfort and essence
Jesus wehret allem Leide	Jesus, fights away all suffering
Er ist meines Lebenskraft	He is my life's strength
Meiner Augen Lust und Sonne	My eye's desire and sun
Meiner Seele Schatz und Wonne	My soul's treasure and joy
Darum lass ich Jesum nicht	So I will not leave Jesus
Aus dem Herzen und Gesicht	out of heart and face

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED; OUR SERVICE BEGINS

DEACON OF THE DAY: Bill McIntyre
HYMNS: Pilgrim Hymnal, CCLI#3034682

****

The flowers in the pulpit this morning are
given in memory of Craig Hutchinson, by his family.

****

PLEASE USE THE VARIOUS CARDS IN THE PEW RACKS TO HELP KEEP THE STAFF INFORMED OF YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS.

****

HEARING AIDS AND LARGE PRINT OF HYMNS AND PRAYERS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

****

Have you remembered First Church in your will?

<u>Masks must be worn at all times inside the building.</u>
Social distancing practices are expected of the attendees for indoor worship.

The church office is closed at this time. The staff is available to take your phone calls between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday-Friday.

Worship Services this Week

Christmas Eve - December 24

4:00 PM: Families and Children of all ages*

Music: Mary Bliss, cello

Cyndi Bliss, piano

6:00 PM: Contemplative Christmas

Music: Mark A. Cleveland, bass-baritone

8:00 PM: Service of Lessons and Carols

Nicole Plummer, mezzo soprano

11:00 PM: Service of Lessons and Carols*

Music: Staff Singer Quartet

Doors open 40 minutes prior to each service.
Enter through the courtyard entrance.

**(4PM and 11PM services will be live streamed online as well)*

December 27 - First Sunday after Christmas

10:00am only: Worship

Music: Brianne Biastoff, mezzo soprano

Our nursery is closed and there will be no childcare provided for the services.

The First Church of Nashua *together with*
First Music Concert Series *present a* ***4th Advent Worship Service***
Oratorio offering in celebration of Christ's birth:

CHRISTMAS AT FIRST

CANTATA 147

(Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben)

(Heart and Mouth and Deed and Life)

Johann Sebastian BACH

(1685 - 1750)

•

Janet Poisson, *soprano*
Mauri Tetrault, *mezzo soprano*
Timothy Ayres-Kerr, *tenor*
Mark Andrew Cleveland, *bass*

•

MUDDY BROOK CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Elliott Markow, *violin 1 (concertmaster)*
Katharina Radlberger, *violin 2*
Elaine Leisinger, *viola*
Velleda Miragais, *cello*
Carolyn Fryer, *contrabass*

Cheryl Bishkoff, *oboe; oboe d'amore; oboe di caccia*
Kyoko Hida-Battaglia, *oboe; oboe di caccia*

Mary-Lynne Bohn, *trumpet*

Joseph R. Olefirowicz, *conductor & organ continuo*

MUSIC AT FIRST
STAFF SINGERS (and guests)
of THE FIRST CHURCH

Joseph R. Olefirowicz, CAGO – Minister of Music

SOPRANO

Susan Cobb
Nicole Plummer
Janet Poisson +

ALTO

Brianne Biastoff +
Mauri Tetrault

TENOR

Timothy Ayres-Kerr +
Craig Plummer

BASS

Mark Andrew Cleveland
Nicholas White

+ Chancel Choir Staff Singer

SINGING DURING COVID-19

All choirs of the Music at First Ministry are currently out of session.
This affects nearly 80 participants ages Pre-K through late adult.

The "Chancel Choir" which is the usual choir for this project, numbers about 36 singers for this annual project. Each of them not present today, is with us in spirit and sorely missed in these times.

We are very grateful for the opportunity to bring you the finest music to God's praise this morning, in the safest way we can. Blessings to you all!

Gregory Newton & Kristin Olsen, *Orchestra Contracting*
Kathleen McIntyre, *Music Librarian*
Cynthia Whitney, *Liturgical Apparel Coordinator*
John Baxindine, *Music Copyist*

Notes from the Chancel

CHRISTMAS at FIRST

Since 2008, The First Church of Nashua has collaborated with the First Music Concert Series, integrating a major choral work into the fabric of Sunday morning worship during the Advent season.

Christmas at First *offers the unique experience of choral masterworks offered in a vibrant festival service. Rather than a concert performance in one block, the movements of the selected oratorio are interwoven within the fabric of Sunday worship, allowing a time of reflection and inspiration during this joyous season of anticipation. New orchestrations are created for congregational hymns, and select works are presented by the region's finest classical artists, rounding out our corporate worship together. – Soli Deo Gloria!*

Although such major choral events with chamber ensembles or orchestra are reserved for only a few times a year, the nine ensembles of the wider Music Ministry of The First Church grace worship services every week in a rotating schedule. The strong tradition of fine music at The First Church is one of the many ministries that serve our church and wider community. - Since 1685.

PAST OFFERINGS *of* CHRISTMAS *at* FIRST…

2008	Antonio Vivaldi	*Gloria in D Major*
2009	Benjamin Britten	*Ceremony of Carols*
2010	Giovanni B.d. Pergolesi	*Magnificat*
2011	Camille Saint-Saëns	*Oratorio de Noël*
2012	Georg Friedrich Händel	*The Messiah (Part I)*
2013	Anders Öhrwall	*Gaudete*
2014	Johann Sebastian Bach	*Cantata 62*
2015	Nicholas White	*Magnificat*
2016	John Rutter	*Gloria*
2017	Antonio Vivaldi	*Gloria in D Major* (10th Anniversary)
2018	Antonio Vivaldi	*Magnificat*
2019	Daniel Pinkham	*Sinfonia Sacra (Christmas Cantata)*
	Robert Washburn	*Gloria in Excelsis*

Foundations of Christian Formation

Sunday December 20

Confirmation - Today, project proposals and required paperwork are due for Confirmands and Mentors. Thank you for your attention to this important work. Enjoy time interviewing each other on your faith journey and prepare a written reflection for LeeAnne, Fred and Abby.

Advent Boxes- Two are available while they last at the Welcome Center today, and by appointment in the church office. Speak to LeeAnne or Sue.

Advent Packets including Advent Wreath Ceremony Readings to do at home, coloring and activity pages can be downloaded from the church website.

Today we light the Candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Coming to Center, A Contemplative Exercise

We are in a season that may be both underoccupied with enjoyable activities, and overstimulated with news abroad and domestic. Regardless of your experience right now, it is always uplifting to come home to God.

Take several moments to get the wiggles out. Shake them out. Dance them out. Use music if it helps.

Turn off your “wiggle music”. Select something peaceful and instrumental or choose silence.

Take several moments to be silent. Be still. Breathe. Lay down your burdens and lean into God. Stretch your limbs as a tall, tall tree reaching the heavens. Drop gently from the waist touching your shins, the floor. Drop into Down-Dog if it appeals by placing your hands on the floor in front of you gently. Feel your shoulders stretch as they support you.

What tickles your awareness or demands attention? What helps you feel inspired, connected, whole? Stretch some more and let your body be neutral in the child’s pose, sitting or standing. Be still. Listen. Believe.

What bubbles to the surface? What is helpful? What do you want to share? What needs to be released? Let it roll off the tips of your fingers. Quiet your mind. What is God bringing to you now? Be still. Receive God through all of your senses.

Thank God. Know that Jesus knows our struggles, wants our gratitude. God with us.

Church Happenings and Outreach - New/Current

Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and Emergency Fund

"For Such a Time as This" Esther 4:14

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the emergency financial needs of many who serve the church have increased dramatically. In such a time as this, the need for the Christmas Fund is more urgent than ever.

United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need.

We will receive the offering today. For your convenience, offering envelopes are provided in the December newsletter and they may be mailed to the church office. Donations may also be made directly and securely online at: www.christmasfund.org.

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Midweek Devotions - Each Wednesday, through December 23, the First Church Ministry Team will provide a mid-week devotion to help us reclaim our spiritual center and restore our inner calm. Messages are uploaded every Wednesday on Facebook, First Church You Tube Station and www.tfcucc.org. Please like our messages and spread the Word!

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The Stewardship Committee requests that you please return your pledge card as soon as possible. Cards are available at the back of the sanctuary, at the welcome center, by contacting the church office, or by going online at https://tfcucc.org/2021-online-pledge-card/

ACH-Direct Deposit Pledgers, please be sure to submit your 2021 pledge cards to let us know if your transactions remain the same or if there are any changes or updates you wish to make. Contact Dianne Smigliani in the church office if you have any questions.

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Year-End Reminder - All contributions for the 2020 tax year must be in the church office by December 31, 2020 or mailed in letter postmarked December 31, 2020. Contact Dianne Smigliani with any questions.

Church Cancellation Policy - In the event of inclement weather, a power outage, or severe weather advisory, First Church may cancel the 8:30 service or both services. Expect a robocall from Rev. Andy. Visit the church webpage (www.tfcucc.org), or Facebook Page (First Church Nashua UCC) for any cancellation notices or you can also check media outlets WMUR Channel 9, or WZID 95.7 FM under the heading First Church Nashua. The notifications will be announced by 6:00 AM on the Sunday in question.

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Annual Mitten Tree Drive to Start in January - We will collect mittens to benefit the children at three of our neighborhood schools: Mt. Pleasant Elementary, Broad St. Elementary and Adult Learning Center Day Care. We gratefully receive handmade and purchased mittens. All children sizes are needed.

For further information, contact Susan Testa.

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Thank You Project's 6th Annual Water Walk - This year's virtual 3K event will be held **through December 31, 2020.** The organization supports the third Water Well in Nigeria and also provides scholarships to Nigerian students who would not otherwise be able to afford to go to college. Visit the Thank You Project's website for more information about the organization and their mission. Please gather your family and friends and participate in this virtual walk. Take pictures and videos of your walks and share them on your Facebook page for everyone to see.

WORSHIP SERVICE CHANGE

Beginning Sunday, December 27, and continuing through February 28, there will be one worship service at 10:00 AM.

POINSETTIA DONATIONS

GIVEN BY

Ken and Natasha Drew, in celebration of our three wonderful,
young adults, Morgan, Haleigh and Nick
Lee and Claudia Hauenstein, with blessings to our daughters, Sara and Rachel
All of his family, with loving memories of Randy Staradub
LeeAnne Steenhoek, with love and appreciation for the
many Christian Formation Volunteers
Buzz and Leslie Woodard- We love you Mom and Dad!

GIVEN IN HONOR OF

Rose Boyle, by Rev. Jami Boyle
Our eight beautiful grandchildren, by Lloyd and Carol Butler
Our wonderful office volunteers- Bonnie, Dale, Flo, Karen,
Kathryn, and Sue, by the church staff
Richard, Sr. and Richard Giles, Jr., by Mildred Giles
Family and friends, by Fred and Judy McManus
Beve and Pete Tucker, by the Plummer Family
Our wonderful FPF Kids, who are loved and cherished, by the Smigliani Family
Craig P. Hutchinson, by Amanda Stashluk, Craig and family

GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF

All who have come before us
Douglas E. Ayer, by his family
My loving husband, Don, by Cheryl A. Barrett
Maurice and Arlene Barrett, by Doug and Roberta Barrett
Our loved ones: Sandy Labonte, Don and Margaret Maffee,
Barbara and Frank Maffee, and
Andrew and Marie Burnham, by The Burnham Family
Our parents, by Clyde and Betty Collishaw
Frances Crosby, by Mike and Gale Cummings
Paul Messier, by Mike and Gale Cummings
Alma and Ray Cannon, by Pat and Jay Darrin
Leslie and David Ray, by The Dillman Family
Our dear friend, Jane Murray, by Ken and Natasha Drew
Loved ones, by John and Sue Englander
Dick and Rick Giles, by Mildred Giles- We miss you both, terribly
Norman Hall, love you always, by Kathy Hall
My mother, Carol Hallee, and my grandparents King and Halle, by Kristin Hallee
My wife, Doris, by Richard Lustig
Family and Friends, by Bill and Kathie McIntyre
Jamie Mohrmann, by Richard and Joy Mohrmann and Bruce and Richard A.
Liz Goddard, by The Murphy Family
Allison Tucker, by The Plummer Family
My husband, Leon Shattuck and son, David Shattuck, by Suzanne Shattuck
Our father, Dougall Dicks, by The Smigliani Family
Our father, Richard Smigliani, by The Smigliani Family
Fred Spaney, by Lucinda Spaney
Lucille Spaney, by Lucinda Spaney
Gram and Papa and the Polley Girls, by Amanda Stashluk, Craig and family

THE FIRST CHURCH

STAFF

Senior Minister, *Rev. Dr. Andrew W. Armstrong*, aarmstrong@tfcucc.org
Associate Minister for Congregational Care, *Rev. Jami D. Boyle*, jboyle@tfcucc.org
Minister of Music, *Joseph R. Olefirowicz, CAGO*, jolefirowicz@tfcucc.org
Director of Christian Formation, *LeeAnne Steenhoek*, lsteenhoek@tfcucc.org
Church Business and Marketing Manager, *Dianne Smigliani*, dsmigliani@tfcucc.org
Secretary/Receptionist, *Susan T. Englander*, senglander@tfcucc.org
Sexton, *Bruce Lund*

Pastors Emeriti, *Rev. James S. Chaloner and Rev. Dr. Jeffrey C. Evans*

WELCOME

A warm welcome is extended to all who are attending this worship service. A special greeting to those who are visiting or worshiping for the first time. Please sign the guest book in the back of the sanctuary or fill out the **visitor card** found in the pew racks. Fill out the back of the card, and put it in the offering plate or hand it to a minister, Usher or Deacon so we may acknowledge your visit. Join in the time of fellowship, in Chapel Hall, following worship. If you have any questions about the life and ministry of First Church please seek out the individuals wearing colored name tags; they are members of the various boards and committees.

INFORMATION

First Church was gathered on December 16, 1685 as The Church of Christ in Dunstable. On the same day Thomas Weld was ordained and settled as minister of the church. The current building, built in 1894, is the tenth building to house the First Church community. In 1961, the church entered fellowship with the United Church of Christ. We welcome into our membership any who will own the covenant of First Church and seek to continue the ministry of Jesus Christ in the community and world. Those interested in joining the church should contact the church office for information. New members are received during worship in November, February and May. The Sacrament of Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month and the Sacrament of Baptism on the last. First Church is supported almost entirely by pledges. Every member is expected to make a financial pledge according to their ability.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care is available to all in need. Please keep the ministers informed of occasions of sickness, sorrow, and joy. Let the church office know if you or family member or friend is hospitalized.

COMMUNICATIONS

If you have a change of address, phone number, or email address, please let the church office know so that we may keep our records current.

All information for the weekly bulletin must be in the office by noon on Wednesday. All information for the monthly newsletter must be in the office by 4:30 PM on the second Monday of the month.

<u>All use of the building must be scheduled by the Secretary.</u>

The First Church * One Concord Street * Nashua, New Hampshire 03064 * 882-4861

Office Hours: The office is currently closed to visitors.
The staff is available for phone calls, Monday- Friday, 9:00am-noon & 1:00-4:00pm

Visit our web site at www.tfcucc.org
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