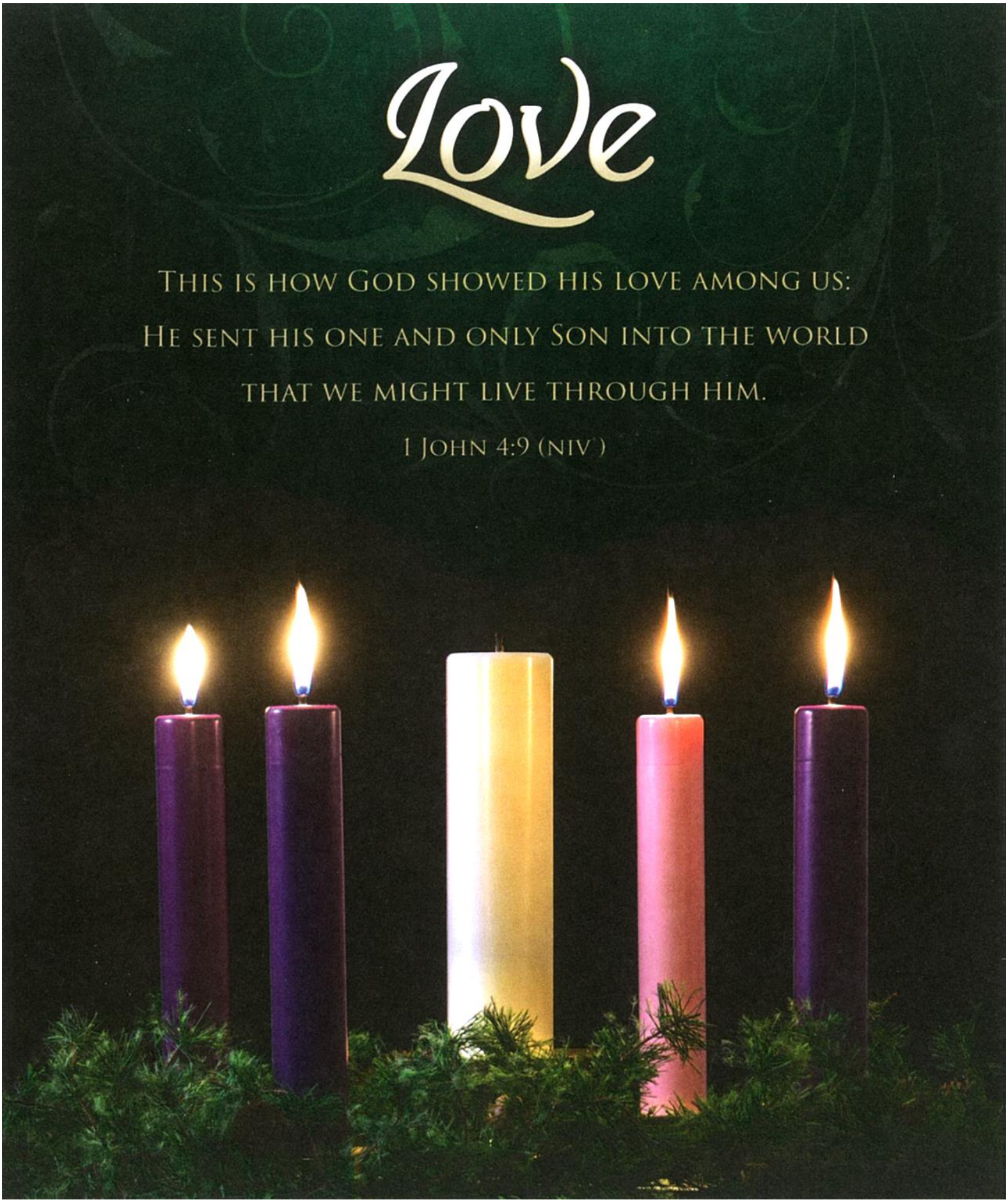
Love

This is how God showed his love among us:
He sent his one and only Son into the world
that we might live through him.

1 John 4:9 (NIV)



Morning Worship

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022 9:00 & 11:00 AM

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

APPROACH TO GOD

Let us keep silence as we prepare for worship.

TOWER CHIME (9:00) Dale Neth
(11:00) Jim Stone

MEDITATION "Grace. She takes the blame. She covers the shame. Removes the stain. It could be her name"

Lyric to *"Grace"* by U2

ORATORIO de NOËL

Camille Saint-Saëns
(1835 - 1921)

PRELUDE *Prelude* *(i. Allegretto Pastorale)*

INTROIT *Recitative & Chorus* *(ii. Allegro)*

Et pastores errant	There were shepherds
in regione eadem vigilantes	in that same country abiding in the fields
Et custodientes vigilius noctis	and silently keeping their watch by night
super gregem sum	over the sleeping flocks around them
Et ecce angelus Domini	And beheld the angel of the Lord
stetit juxta illos	standing there beside them
Et claritas Dei circumfulsit illos	And the glory of the Lord shone round about them
Et timuerunt timore magno	And they were afraid and trembled greatly
Et dixit illis angelus:	And said unto them the angel:
Nolite timere, nolite timere	Do not fear, do not fear
Ecce enim evangelize vobis gaudium magnum	Behold I bring tidings of great joy
quod erit omni populo	Which shall be to all people
quia natus est vobis hodie Christus Dominus	For born unto you today is Christ, the Lord
in civitate David	in the city of David
Et hoc vobis signum	And this shall be your sign
Invenietis infantem pannis involutum	Finding an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes
Et positum in præsipio	And lying in a manger
Et subito factus est cum angelo	And suddenly there was with the angel
multitudo militiæ cælestis	a multitude of the heavenly army
laudantium Deum et dicentum	praising God and saying
Gloria in altissimis Deo	Glory unto God in the highest
Et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis	and peace be on earth, good will towards men

(Luke 2:8-14)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Tell stories about the wondrous things our God has done to bring us eternal life.
People: *Sing praises to our God, who has done marvelous things for us!*
Leader: Great and holy is the name of our God.
People: *Shout aloud and sing for joy, People of God.*

***HYMN 116** *Angels We Have Heard on High* GLORIA
(at the end of the order of worship)

***OPENING PRAYER** (Unison)

Faithful God, You chose Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Savior and Friend, Jesus Christ. In this time of worship, fill us with Your grace, that like her, we may understand Your ways, rejoice in Your salvation, and embrace Your will. We pray this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GREETINGS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOLO *Air* *(iii. Andante espressivo)*

Expectans, expectavi Dominum	Patiently have I waited for the Lord
Et intendit mihi	and He heard me
	(Psalm 40:1)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE

Leader: Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.
People: *We light this candle with love.*
Leader: Out of love for the people of God, the Lord speaks through the prophet Isaiah.
Reader: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel."

ANTHEM *Air & Chorus* *(iv. Moderato commodo)*

Domine, ego credidi	Lord, I believe
quia tu es Christus Filius Dei vivi	that you are the Christ, Son of the living God
qui in hunc mundum venisti	that was to come into this world.
	(John 11:27)

LITANY "The Magnificat" **Luke 1:47-55**

Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord,
People: *And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,*
Leader: For he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.
for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed;
People: *For he who is mighty has done great things for me,*
and holy is his name.
Leader: And his mercy is on those who fear him
from generation to generation.
People: *He has shown strength with his arm,*
He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts,
Leader: He has put down the mighty from their thrones,
and exalted those of low degree;
People: *He has filled the hungry with good things,*
and the rich he has sent empty away.
Leader: He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
People: *As He spoke to our fathers,*
to Abraham and to his posterity forever.

ANTHEM *Benedictus* *(v. Allegretto moderato)*

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini,
et illuxit nobis Dominus
Deus Dominus, et illuxit nobis
Deus meus es tu,
et confitebor tibi
et exaltabo te

Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord
and the Lord shine the light upon us
God the Lord shined the light upon us
My God, it is You,
(my) trust is with Thee
and I shall exalt Thee

(Psalm 118:26-28)

Chorus *(vi. Allegro energico)*

Quare fremuerunt gentes
Et populi meditati sunt inania
Quare, quare

Why do the heathen clamor?
And the people imagine foolish things?
Why? Why!?

(Psalm 2:1 – Acts 4:25)

Gloria Patri, Filio (et) Spiritui Sancto
Sicut erat in principio
et nunc, et semper
et in sæcula sæculorum – Amen.

Glory to the Father, Son (and) Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning
is now, and ever shall be
in the world without end. So mote it be.

(Mozarabic Rite – Synod of Toledo, 7th century)

SCRIPTURE **Matthew 1:18-25**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

TRIO *Trio* *(vii. Andante con moto)*

Tecum principium in die virtutis tuæ	With Thee is the principality in the day of might
in splendoribus sanctorum	In splendor of the holy ones (saints)

The above excerpt from Psalm 109:3, continues with the text
"From the womb before the daystar I begot Thee…"
which reflects the Old Testament scriptural prophecy of Mary's answer to the angel
in her soul magnifying the Lord and rejoicing in God, her Savior in the New Testament Gospel.

***HYMN 131** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* ES IST EIN ROS'

(at the end of the order of worship)

SERMON *"A New Strategy"* Rev. Dr. Andrew W. Armstrong

PASTORAL & 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.

OFFERTORY *Quartet* *(viii. Andantino)*

Alleluia, laudate cœli	Rejoice! Sing praises ye heavens
et exulta terra	and rejoice, earth
qui consulatus est Dominus populum suum	for consolation to His people is the Lord
et pauperum suorum miserebitur	and mercy to all the afflicted

(Isaiah 49:13)

***ADVENT 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 and Holy God, The Christmas story tells us that you became one of us through Mary's Son. You have showed us what You mean when You ask us to love one another. Even more, You have given us the power of Your Holy Spirit to fulfill Your will for our lives. Receive these gifts, as our Christmas pledge to grow in love and understanding of You and Your ways in Jesus' name. Amen.

***HYMN** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELIS

1. O Come all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels

Refrain
O come, let us adore him
O come, let us adore him
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

2. Choir alone – congregation joins on **refrain**

3. See how the shepherds
Summoned to his cradle
Leaving their *flocks*, draw *nigh* with *low - - ly* fear
We too will tither
Bend our joyful footsteps

(refrain)

4. Choir alone – congregation joins on **refrain**

5. Child for us sinners
Poor and in a manger
Fain we embrace thee with awe and love
Who would not love thee
Loving us so dearly?

(refrain)

6. Sing choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above
Glory to God
In the highest

(refrain)

7. Yea, Lord we greet thee
Born this happy morning
Jesu, to thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing

(refrain)

***BENEDICTION**

Please be seated for the final movements of the Oratorio offering.

BENEDICTUS *Quintet* *(ix. Allegretto pastorale)*

POSTLUDE *Chorus* *(x. Maestoso)*

Consurge Filia Sion
Alleluia

Arise, daughter of Zion
Rejoice

(Zephaniah 3:14)

Lauda in nocte
in principio Vigilarum
Alleluia

Praise in the night
at the beginning of the vigil
Rejoice

(Lamentations 2:19)

Egrediatur ut splendor justus Sion
et Salvator ejus ut lampas accendatur

Let the righteous go forth from Sion as brightness
and let her Savior go up as a light

(Isaiah 62:1)

Tollite hostias, et adorate Dominum
in atrio sancto ejus
Lætentur cœli, et exultet terra
a facie Domini quoniam venit
Alleluia

Lift up the offerings, and worship God
in this holy courtyard
Heavens be glad, and earth rejoice
at the face of the Lord who cometh
Rejoice

(Psalm 96:8-13)

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED; OUR SERVICE BEGINS

AV TEAM CAMERA CREW: Craig Neth & Don Smith-Weiss
LICENSING: CCLI (print) 3034682; CCLI (streaming) 20119862;
CCS 12820; OneLicense A-736284

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

Angels We Have Heard on High

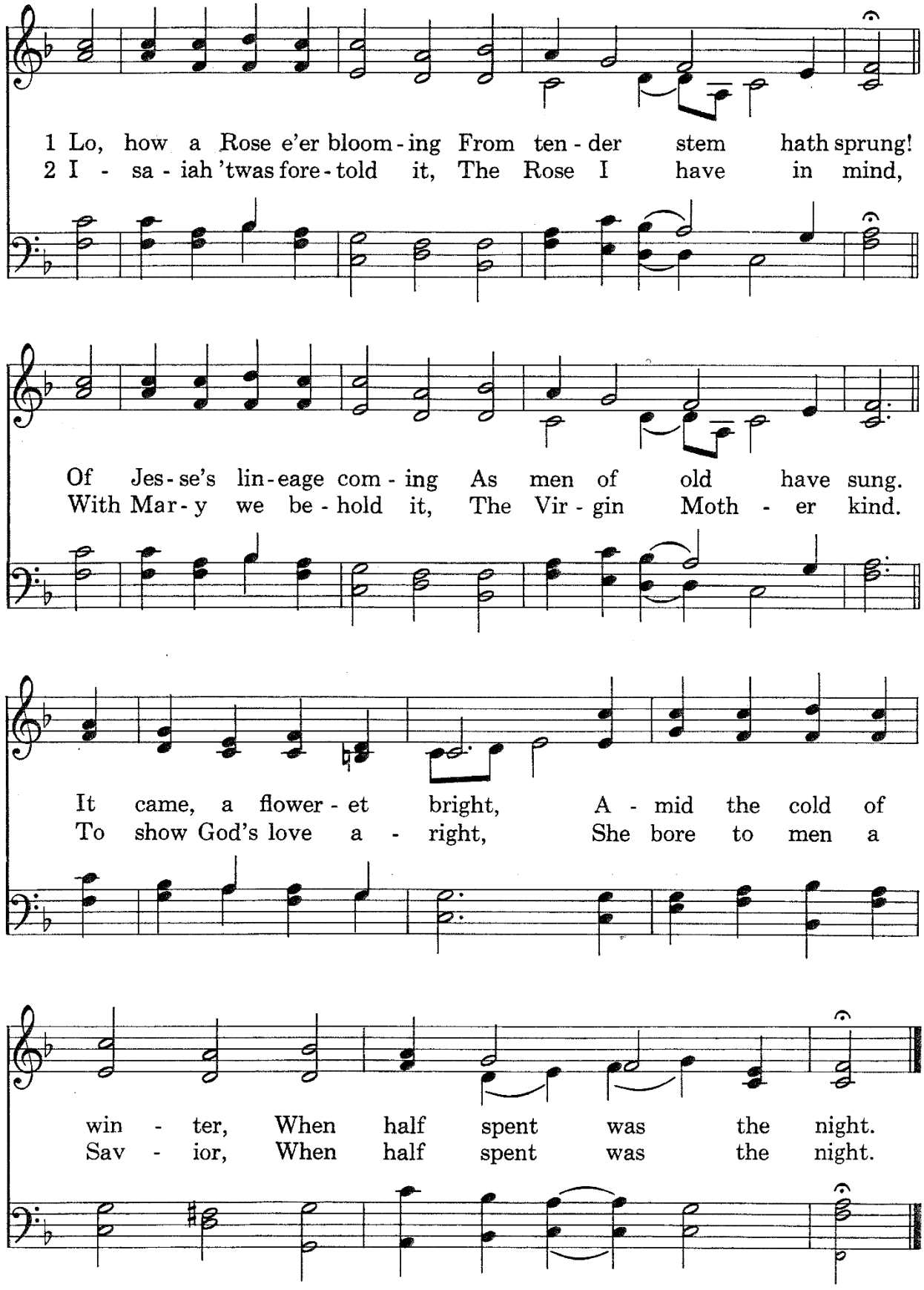
Traditional French Carol

GLORIA 7.7.7.7. *with Refrain*
French Carol Melody

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

German: anon., 15th century
Tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934

ES IST EIN' ROS' 7.6.7.6.6.7.6.
German: Melody, 16th century
Arr. by Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621



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

ORATORIO de NOËL

(Christmas Oratorio)

Camille SAINT - SAËNS

(1835 - 1921)

CHANCEL CHOIR of THE FIRST CHURCH

Janet Poisson, *soprano*
Nicole Plummer, *mezzo soprano*
Nmesoma Salome Ogbuani, *mezzo soprano*
Timothy Ayres-Kerr, *tenor*
Mark Andrew Cleveland, *bass*

MUDDY BROOK CHAMBER STRINGS

Katharina Radlberger, *violin 1*
Lynn Basila, *violin 2*
Elaine Leisinger, *viola*
Sandi-Jo Malmon, *cello*
Reginald Lamb, *contrabass*
Emily Richardson, *harp*

Joseph R. Olefirowicz, *conductor & organ*

MUSIC AT FIRST
CHANCEL CHOIR of THE FIRST CHURCH

Joseph R. Olefirowicz, CAGO – Minister of Music

SOPRANO 1
Laura Amrein
Kathryn Bell
Marie Greene
Wendy Greenland
Janet Poisson +
Cindy Whitney

SOPRANO 2
Ellie Freeman
Tara Goodhue
Norma McKinley-Smith
Debbie Nordyke
Permelia Sears

TENOR
Timothy Ayres-Kerr
Zoë Harper +
Charles Morris
Harry Nordyke
Craig Plummer
Scott Taylor

ALTO 1
Brianne Biastoff +
Carol Butler
Adele Langguth
Nicole Plummer
Susan Testa

ALTO 2
Pat Darrin
Janice Edwards
Deborah Kneeland
Nmesoma S. Ogbuani

BASS
Mark A. Cleveland
Ray Crowell
George Gardner
Joseph Glajch
Joshua L. Gore +
Ken Heider
Frank Iovieno
David Sears

+ Chancel Choir Staff Singer

Kathleen McIntyre, *Music Librarian*
Gregory Newton & Kristin Olsen, *Orchestra Contracting*
Mauri Tetrault, *Additional Choral Contracting*
Cynthia Whitney, *Liturgical Apparel Coordinator*

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. Orchestrations by the Minister of Music 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 seven 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*
2020	Johann Sebastian Bach	*Cantata 147*
2021	Anders Öhrwall	*Gaudete*

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PLEASE USE THE VARIOUS CARDS IN THE PEW RACKS TO HELP KEEP THE STAFF INFORMED OF YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS. YOU MAY ALSO SUBMIT PRAYER CONCERNS ONLINE. FIND THE 'PRAYER REQUEST' BUTTON ON THE WORSHIP PAGE FOR ANY PRAYER CONCERNS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH REV. JAMI.

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

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Have you remembered First Church in your will?

Worship Services this Week

Christmas Eve - December 24

5:00 PM: Families and Children of all ages

Music: Chapel Chimers, Ruthenberg Family Singers

7:00 PM: Service of Lessons and Carols

Music: Nicole Plummer, mezzo soprano

11:00 PM: Service of Lessons and Carols

Music: Chancel Choir; John Sinclair, cello

The service will livestream.

December 25 – Christmas Day

10:00 AM only: Worship, Livestream

Music: Catherine Kondi, soprano

No Sunday School/No Childcare

Church Happenings and Outreach

Nursery care is available, today, for our youngest members at both the 9:00 and 11:00 AM services.
The nursery will be closed December 25 and January 1. Nursery care resumes on January 8, 2023 for the 10:00 AM Service.

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Sunday school is on break through January 1, 2023. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 8, 2023.

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The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and Emergency Fund will be received today. 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.

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.

Offering envelopes are available in the pew racks. You may also donate online at: https://www.pbucc.org/christmas-fund-home and click on the "donate" button.

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Winter parking reminder - Use caution when parking along the north side of the church building. Heed the posted signs. Falling snow and ice can cause damage to your cars!

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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 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.

++++

Year-End Reminder - All contributions for the 2022 tax year must be in the church office by December 31, 2022 or if mailed, the envelope must be postmarked December 31, 2022. Contact Dianne Smigliani with any questions.

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Pledge Cards - Please return your pledge card as soon as possible.
Cards are available at the back of the sanctuary, at the welcome center, or by scanning the QR Code or online at:
https://tfcucc.org/2023-pledge-card/

Come gather for fellowship and French Toast Casserole (GF available) on ***Sunday, January 15*** *at 11:30 AM in the dining room*. Please sign-up at the welcome center or by calling the church office. Last day to sign up is Sunday January 8. Your Stewardship Committee is sponsoring this brunch. We hope to see you there as we gather with gratitude!

++++

La Romana, DR Mission trip - First Church members will be joining a New England regional team of missionaries to La Romana, DR this February/March. To learn more go to: https://centralmalaromana.org/.

We are gathering supplies for the trip. Beth Raymond is leading this effort and she has set up a table in Fellowship Hall. There is a list of needed items and a donation basket at the table each Sunday. And if you like to donate online, the La Romana Trip does have a Go Fund Me page: La Romana Mission Trip 2023. You may also scan this QR code which will take you to the go fund me page. Find more information in the December Messenger. Thank you for all of your support and encouragement.

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Adult Winter Retreat – January 27-29, 2023 - "Your Life as Pilgrimage"

There are still a couple of spaces available! Rev. Andy will lead a discussion on pilgrimage in our heritage and then help us contemplate our journey. The retreat is held at The Marie Joseph Spiritual Center in Biddeford Pool, Maine. The cost for the weekend is $260.00 per person and includes meals. Scholarships are available. Please register with Sue in the church office.

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Annual Mitten Tree Drive - At the start of the new year we will be collecting mittens to benefit the children at three of our neighborhood schools: Mt. Pleasant Elementary, Broad St. Elementary and Adult Learning Center Day Care. All children sizes are needed. The mittens may be handmade or purchased. Contact Susan Testa or the church office for more information.

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First Church to Host Active Shooter Training: Prevention, Preparedness, and Response – Hosted by The Safe Church Team on Sunday, January 22, from 11:30 AM-1:00 PM in the dining room. This will be held in cooperation with the NH Department of Security and Emergency Management. During this 90-minute session, Steven Cooper and Tayla Jacques will be talking with us about practical things you can do should you find yourself in an active shooter situation as well as useful suggestions for staying safe.

They will have walked through our church in advance to help with exit strategies as well as ideas for the Church as a whole to tighten up our buildings. All this information will be shared with you. Please sign up at the Welcome Center. Seating is limited, so sign up early. We also encourage you to bring your family as well as your friends from outside our church. This could well be a life-saving 90 minutes you will always remember.

GOD IS WITH US!

GIVEN BY

Ken and Tasha Drew, in celebration of Christmas, health and family
Dick and Dot Gillespie, remembering the People of Ukraine
Pam and Mike Hickey, in joyous celebration of Christ's birth
Karen and Ed Mercer, with loving memories of Matthew - love Mom and Dad

GIVEN IN HONOR OF

David Brooks, by Rev. Jami Boyle
Our FPF children - love you all so much!
Our family, by Lloyd and Carol Butler
My family- My children and grandchildren by Carole Chapman
Rose Marie Condon, by Sean Condon
Our Families, by Peter and Janet Conrad
Elanor Good, by Andy Dillman
Our children and grandchildren, by Steve and Sue Haas
Our grandson, Logan Kneeland, by Bruce and Deb Kneeland
All who have passed on, by Sonja Lee
Family and friends, by Fred and Judy McManus
My family, by Patricia Mullin
The Poinsettia Team, by Kay Potfora
The Funeral Reception Team, by Kay Potfora
Rose grandkiddos, by Ron and Pat Rose
Our wonderful FPF Children, with pride and joy, by Dianne and Rich Smigliani
Our parents, by Jack and Caryl Sullivan
The Plummer Family, by Beve Tucker

GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Aunt Irene, Matthew, Ted and Leo, by Ray and Carol Baldwin
My loving husband, Don, by Cheryl Barrett
Maurice and Arlene Barrett, by Douglas and Roberta Barrett
Charles Hanks, by Jennifer Bearden - Merry Christmas, Dad! We miss you lots!
George Borski and Mary and James McComsey, by Nancy Borski
Joe Walter Buck, by Steve and Denise Buck - love you so much!
Arvid and Jean Carlson, by Jean Carlson
Bob Kinville, by Carole Chapman
Mom and Dad, by Debra Courville

Genice MacMaster Lintott and Lucille Lintott Cudhea, by Cameron Cudhea
Frances Crosby, by Mike and Gale Cummings and Jake Crosby
Paul Messier, by Mike and Gale Cummings
Alma and Ray Cannon, by Pat and Jay Darrin
Our family and friends who have gone before us, by the Davis Family
Leslie and David Ray, by Andy and Alison Dillman
Bob Maffee, by Tom, Sharon, Emily and Liz Dion
The one and only Jane Murray, by The Drew Family
Dorothy O'Hava Eaves, by Don and Zenalia Eaves
Virginia Batista and Manuel Cabral, by Zenalia Eaves
Loved ones, by John and Sue Englander
My parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Gardner, by George Gardner
Our parents, by Steve and Sue Haas
William "Bill" Haynes, by Nancy Haynes and family
Helen Brown, by Ken Heider
My parents, Robert and Doris Polley, by Carol Hutchinson
Of my cousin, Susan, by Laurel and Steve Lang
Stephen Kiley, by Sonja Lee
Loved ones, by Mildred and Warren Leuteritz
My wife, Doris, by Richard Lustig
Family and Friends, by Bill and Kathie McIntyre
Joy Mohrmann, by The Mohrmann Family
Liz Goddard, by Beth Murphy
J. Thomas and Elizabeth G. Okonak, by Paul and Jacqueline Okonak
Joseph R. and Ann L. Katusa, by Paul and Jacqueline Okonak
Dr. Berthram O. Igbogbahaka, by Charles and Ijeoma Okorie
Elder Robinson Okorie Sunday, by Charles and Ijeoma Okorie
Ruth Upham, by the Shannon Family
My husband, Leon and son, David, by Suzanne Shattuck
Fred Spaney, Jr., by Lucinda Spaney
Lucille Tolles Spaney, by Lucinda Spaney
Kenneth E. McVicar, by Lucinda Spaney
Ellen Marie Arouchon, by Lucinda Spaney
Randy Staradub, by his family
Charline Daniels, by the Trask/Daniels Family
Gayle Trask, by the Trask/Daniels Family
Melinda Daniels, by the Trask/Daniels Family
Don Trask, by the Trask/Daniels Family
Pete, by Beverly Tucker
Allison, by Beverly Tucker
My parents, Alfred and Lillian Washburn, by Jane Washburn
Nancy Garceau (sister), by Dennis Webster
Elizabeth Webster (mother), by Dennis Webster
May J. Leach (grandmother), by Dennis Webster
Robert Dowst, beloved husband, father, and grandfather, by Leslie Woodard

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
Interim Associate Minister, *Rev. Nancy Haynes*, nhaynes@tfcucc.org
Minister of Music, *Joseph R. Olefirowicz, CAGO,* jolefirowicz@tfcucc.org
Church Business and Marketing Manager, *Dianne Smigliani,* dsmigliani@tfcucc.org
Secretary/Receptionist, *Susan T. Englander,* senglander@tfcucc.org
Sexton, *Steve Buck,* sbuck@tfcucc.org

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.

All use of the building must be scheduled by the Secretary.

THE FIRST CHURCH
NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

One Concord Street * Nashua, New Hampshire 03064 * 603-882-4861
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00am-noon and 1:00-4:00pm
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