A Community of Faith, Service and Love
Second Sunday of Christmas

PREFLUDER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP
Leader: For unto us a child is born; for us a Son is given
People: Authority rests on his shoulders, and he shall be called:
Leader: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Father, Everlasting God, Prince of Peace.
People: His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom
Leader: He will establish it, and uphold it with justice and righteousness from this time forward and forever more.
People: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*HYMN #193 Sing We Now of Christmas
Sing we now of Christmas, Noel, sing we here!
Hear our grateful praises to the Babe so dear
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

Angels called to shepherds, “Leave your flocks at rest,
Journey forth to Bethlehem, find the lambkin blest”
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

Bethlehem they found him; Joseph and Mary mild,
Seated by the manger, watching the hold child.
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

From the eastern country came the kings afar,
Bearing gifts to Bethlehem guided by a star.
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

Gold and myrrh they took there, gifts of greatest price,
There was ne’er a place on earth so like paradise.
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

OPENING PRAYER
Almighty God, you filed all the earth with the light of your incarnate Words. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all we do, as we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Lord, have mercy on us, for we are not ready for your coming. We have sinned against you, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts, we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of you Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI (#734)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME

SCRIPTURE:
John 1: 1-18
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He
himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, ‘This was he of whom I said, “He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.”’) From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Sursum Corda
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Preface
Leader: It is indeed good, right and salutary always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise Father Almighty, through Jesus Christ your Son. For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation. Confident that your promise will be fulfilled we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory. And so we join with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven who proclaim your glory with their unending hymn . . .

The Sanctus
All: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might, heaven

and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Communion Prayer

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer After Communion
All: We give you thanks, O Lord, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. Send us into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to love others as you have loved us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*HYMN #196
In the Bleak Midwinter
In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain:
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air
But his mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

PRAYER CONCERNS, PASTORAL PRAYER, 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING
Invitation
Doxology (#34)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #179
Joy to the World

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 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 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.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

WE WELCOME ALL who are worshipping with us in person and via the internet.

Prayer List:
Doctors, Nurses, Hospital staff, all those with COVID 19 and their families, Peggy, Eric, Scott, Darrell, Barbie, Liz, Bonnie Jo

OFFERING
Please mail your offering in weekly/monthly
First Congregational Church
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Pastor: The Rev. John David Heeckt
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