

Welcome, All Worshipers

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life’s journey,  
you are welcome here.

“Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt, we may. Herein all the children of God may unite, notwithstanding these small differences.” ~John Wesley

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(\* ) indicates when those who are able will stand.  
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Prelude

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BILL DEMPSEY, LAY READER  
(Please complete the Friendship Book as it is passed during announcements; then pass it toward the center aisle.)

\*OPENING HYMN: #132 JOY TO THE WORLD VERSES 1-3  
*This selection is in the Public Domain.*

Call to Worship – Advent Candle Lighting Service -- Please Refer to Insert

Reception of New Members -- Please Refer to Insert

\*The Gloria Patri (sung)  
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. Words: Anonymous, 4<sup>th</sup> Century.  
*Music: Henry Greatorex. This selection is in the public domain.*

SCRIPTURE: ISAIAH 35:1-10

ANTHEM CHOIR

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE DEBORAH BUTLER

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 11:2-11

SERMON: WHAT MAKES GREATNESS REV. JON GOUGEON

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (DEBTS AND DEBTORS)

\*HYMN: #119 MY SOUL GIVES GLORY TO MY GOD VERSES 1,2,5  
*ONE LICENSE #A-73984*

(PLEASE BE SEATED.)

SHARING OF TITHES AND OFFERING

MINISTER: LET US GIVE AS EACH IS ABLE FROM THE FULLNESS OF OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD.

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW.  
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW.  
PRAISE GOD ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST.  
PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN.

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION (ALL): ALL GOOD GIFTS ARE FROM GOD.  
WE SHARE FROM OUR ABUNDANCE WITH GRATITUDE. MAY WE GIVE WITH PASSION FOR JUSTICE, AND WITH GOD’S LOVE GUIDING OUR PATHS. AMEN.

\*CLOSING HYMN: #117 LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, O MIGHTY GATES VERSES 1-4  
*This selection is in the Public Domain*

\*BENEDICTION  
Minister: Let us join together and read responsively:  
All: Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.  
Minister: And the blessing God who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, be with you now and forever. Amen.  
\*UNISON RESPONSE: And God will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God’s hand. Amen. Words/music by Michael Joncas. Copyright 1979 OCP. Permission to reprint/stream obtained from One License #A-739847.

Postlude

OUR APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS  
WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP MINISTRY

Lay Reader: **Bill Dempsey**  
Altar Guild: **Vicky Lindsay**  
Ushers: **Lill Banas** and **Boris Gerber**  
Advent Candle Lighters: **Jim & Patty McNeil**

Live Stream Operators: **Jay Kettler**  
and **Lynn Borke**  
Greeter: **Ann Diamond**  
Counter: **Ashley Wedge**

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 11, 2022

## This Week's Calendar

Sunday	December 11	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
		11:30 a.m.	Christmas Luncheon
Monday	December 12	5:30 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday	December 15	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice

### Announcements:

- ❖ It's time once again for our Christmas Fund Offering for *Veterans of the Cross*. Kindly return the enclosed envelope with your donation to the church office, or by mail, or at a Sunday worship service. Thank you, Missions Committee.
- ❖ Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will begin at 6:40 with scripture and music followed by lessons and carols at 7:00.
- ❖ There will be no Christmas Day (Sunday) worship service this year.
- ❖ Feed A Family Needs - Jello (orange or strawberry), canned corn, carrots or mixed veggies (no green beans needed), and cereals (any kind).
- ❖ Please take a few moments to sign the many care letters in the middle hallway. We have prepared 16 letters for those who are ill or home-bound, as well as a care letter for Pastor Jon and his family.

*SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVE-STREAMED AND RECORDED -- Our Sunday worship services are live-streamed, shown on the Internet, as they are happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday services may be seen as part of the live-stream and recording.*

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A unisex handicap-accessible restroom is located through the doors to your left as you exit the sanctuary.  
A ladies' room is near the Lockwood Street entrance. A men's room is in the middle hallway.  
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*We welcome people as they are,  
share Jesus as He is, and serve  
our community and the world in love.*



*Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case, Pastor Emeritus*  
Organist & Choir Director: *Kat Tomaszewski*

Office Administrator: *Judy Suszek*

Treasurer: *Denise Fusina*

Custodian: *Mike LaMarre*

Office hours: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Monday – Thursday

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