

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
WINTER PARK



Second Sunday of Advent

God is still speaking,

*"a traditional and nurturing church celebrating God's grace through reason, education,
diversity, inclusion, and social justice"*

We are an Open and Affirming Church

DECEMBER 8, 2024

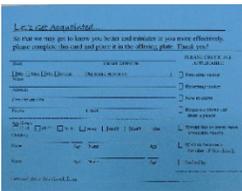
WELCOME

*This is the day that the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice because we are glad to be here!*



Sign the red attendance pad that is located in the pew seat near the center aisle and pass it to the next person.

We want to know that you were here!



Visitors may complete a “Let’s Get Acquainted” card, located in the pew racks, and place the card in the offering plate.

We are here to answer your questions!



SILENCE your technology but still “check-in” and use social media and share our website and portions of our worship that inspire you!



Continue to help us reduce our carbon footprint. If you are not receiving the bulletin via email, and would like to, please contact the church office – 407-647-2416. The bulletin can also be found on our website, fccwp.org. Go to the tab labeled “Bulletin” and locate the appropriate pdf file.



Continue to open up your ‘What’s Happening’ newsletter emails to keep up-to-date on all of the weekly and monthly events. Or visit our website at www.fccwp.org. There is a lot happening in the life of this church and you do not want to miss a thing!



If you have a **prayer need or a joy to share**, please fill out the white prayer request card located in the pew pockets and drop it in the collection plate. We will place your prayer need on our confidential prayer chain. If you wish to have a joy or a need announced in church, permission must be given by calling the church office.



Kindly silence all cell phones during worship

* All who are able to do so comfortably, please stand

Preparing to Hear God's Word

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rev. Shawn Garvey

INTROIT

"Sing We Now of Christmas"

Chancel Choir

arr. Clare Grundman

Please refrain from applauding

* RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Garvey

People: "We call out, 'Pave the way for our God!'"

* OPENING HYMN

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

No. 125

* OPENING PRAYER

* LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

The Candle of Peace

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

All children please come forward for Young Church.

YOUNG CHURCH

Kerry Weisner

"The Lord's Prayer or Prayer of Our Savior"

Age four years through kindergarten may leave for Sunday school in the LIBRARY.

Grades 1-5 and 6-12 may leave for Sunday school in the UPSTAIRSs Fellowship Hall.

Childcare for infants through 3 years old is available in the PARLOR located at the back of Fellowship Hall.

Please check your child out with the teacher. Children are only released to the parent.

** SONG OF SUPPORT

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,

All things wise and wonderful, our dear God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,

God made their glowing colors and made their tiny wings.

HEBREW

Malachi 3:1-4

Rev. Garvey

Minister: This is the Word of God.

People: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

"Jesus, Jesus Rest Your Head"

Soloists:

arr. Gerhard Schroth

Please refrain from applauding

Savanna Huls, Kate Reilly,
Luke Noles, and Luis Grisham

Minister: This is the Word of God.

People: **Thanks be to God**

MESSAGE

"It's for Everyone"

Rev. Shawn Garvey

When Luke says that "all flesh shall see the salvation of God" in this passage, it sets the tone for the rest of the gospel. For Luke, the Good News is indeed meant for everyone; especially the lowly, the forgotten, the voiceless, the meek, and the downtrodden. This is an ethos of God's inclusive spirit that we embody as best we can at our church and in our living...how do you see this inclusivity of the Good News at work in the world around you? How do you see it being more exclusive, and what can you do to truly make it more for everyone?

Responding to God's Word

CALL TO PRAYER/JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Garvey

SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYERS

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

Offertory

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

James Woodman

Please refrain from applauding

*Doxology (Old Hundredth)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that love has done,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev, Garvey

*CLOSING HYMN

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

No. 126

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Garvey



Congratulations!

The red rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of Ann Marie Aviles, daughter of Justin and Christine Aviles and grandson of Donna Guber. Born December 5th, 2024

The Outreach Board is again sponsoring the Angel Tree that benefits the foster children at [Great Oaks Village](#) and the LGBTQ+ youth at the [Zebra Coalition](#). See the digital version of this week's bulletin in your email for the link to sign up to provide gift cards and needed household items or check back after Thanksgiving to find specific children's gift requests. All donations must be received by Sunday, December 15th. Help make Christmas merry for kids struggling without parental support.



The Food Pantry Needs our Help!!



The holidays are here, and children will be home alone. A lot of the items listed below will make it easier for the children to prepare their own meals while their parents are at work.

Next time you go grocery shopping consider donating to the food pantry! Shop the BOGO's and specials!

PULL TOP lids are very helpful for the homeless.
Please only donate items that have not expired.

- Children's juice boxes (various flavors)
- Pancake mix and maple syrup
- Boxed cereal
- Canned fruit, vegetables, soup, chili, spaghetti, ravioli
- Canned meals – think Dinty Moore Beef Stew
- Snack pack pudding or jello (shelf stable)
- Microwavable mac and cheese
- Regular jars of spaghetti sauce plus pasta
- Peanut butter and Jelly
- Snack crackers (filled with cheese or peanut butter, etc.)
- Crackers
- Tuna fish
- Fruit cups or applesauce
- Rice and Beans
- Snack packages of dried fruit or nuts (try to avoid peanuts)
- Cookies 😊

If you shop COSTCO – buy a case of microwavable mac 'n cheese, Chef-Boyardee spaghetti or ravioli, canned meals, etc. (Remember, there are a lot of children that prepare their own meals while their parents are working.)

YOUR DONATIONS ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE! Thank you.

WALK *through* BETHLEHEM



Walk Through Bethlehem

Dec. 13th, 2024

This is a special outreach and an all church, hands on community project.



Help Needed:

*Dec. 8th after church pulling sets and supplies

*Dec. 9-13- setting ups sets & final prep

Sign up to play a part:

Shepherds, market musicians, market place vendors, first family, Mary, children sheep & angels, greeters, speaking parts, sanctuary readers, singers, and much more.

Contact Kerry Weisner sunshineday365@aol.com

Angels We Have Heard on High

Luke 2:15

Traditional French carol
 Transl. st. 1-3, "Crown of Jesus Music II," 1862; alt.
 St. 4, "Carols Old and Carols New," Boston, 1916; alt.

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous - strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Christ whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4 See the babe in man - ger laid whom the choirs of an - gels praise;

And the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
 Say what may the tid - ings be, which in - spire your heaven - ly song.
 Come a - dore on bend - ed knee, God, our world now en - ter - ing.
 Mar - y, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

James Montgomery, English journalist, raised a strong voice against injustice in his newspaper Sheffield Iris, in which this hymn was first printed on December 24, 1816. The tune is named for Regent Square Church in London, today a congregation of the United Reformed Church in England and Wales.

Tune: REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7.
 Henry T. Smart, 1867

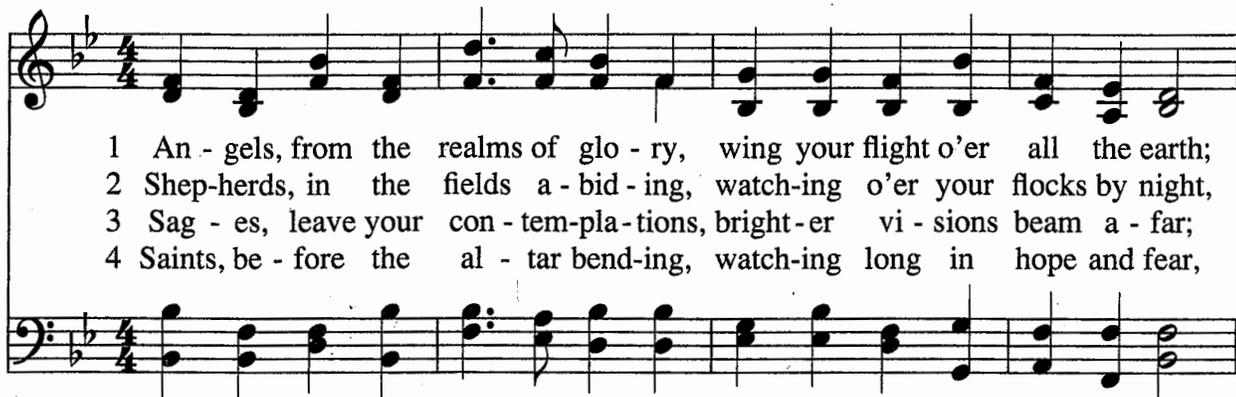
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Angels, from the Realms of Glory

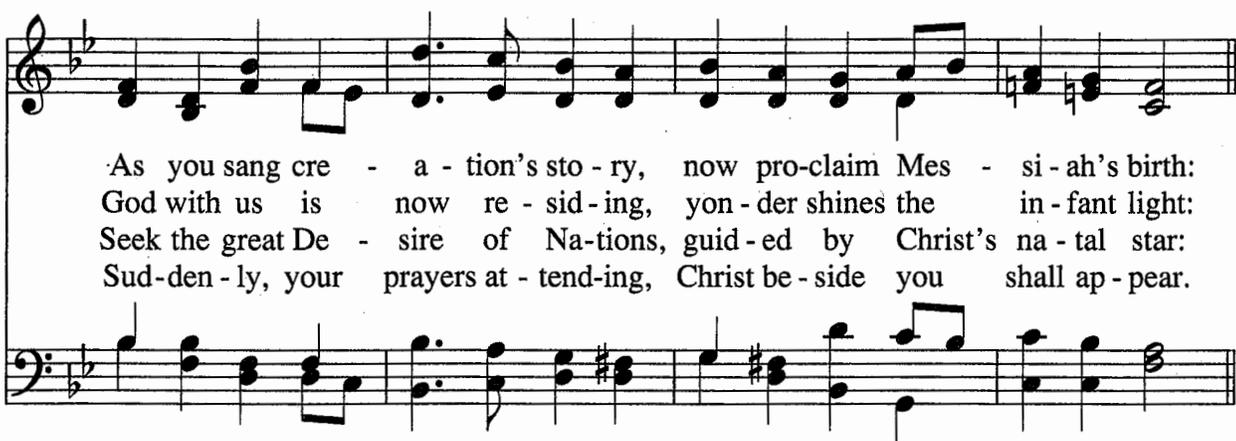
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James Montgomery, 1816; alt.

Luke 2:8-20; Matt. 2:1-2, 9-11

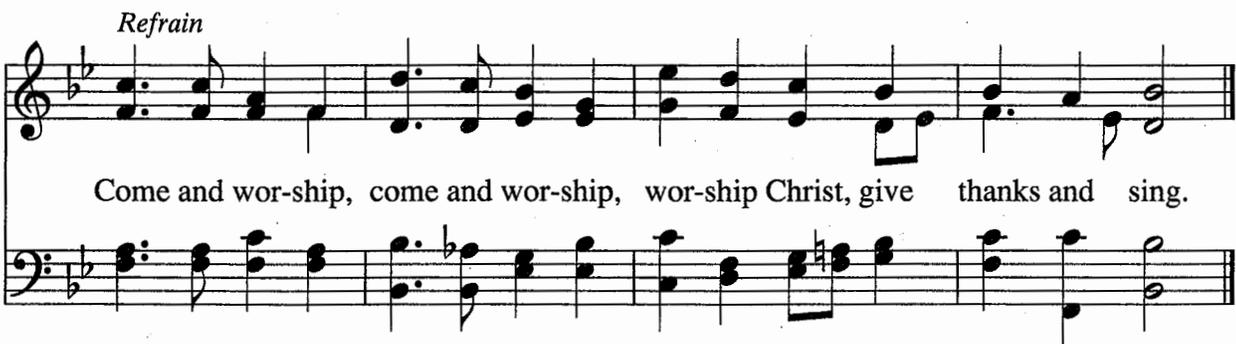


1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 Saints, be - fore the al - tar bend-ing, watch-ing long in hope and fear,



As you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro-claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light:
Seek the great De - sire of Na-tions, guid - ed by Christ's na - tal star:
Sud - den - ly, your prayers at - tend-ing, Christ be - side you shall ap - pear.

Refrain



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, give thanks and sing.

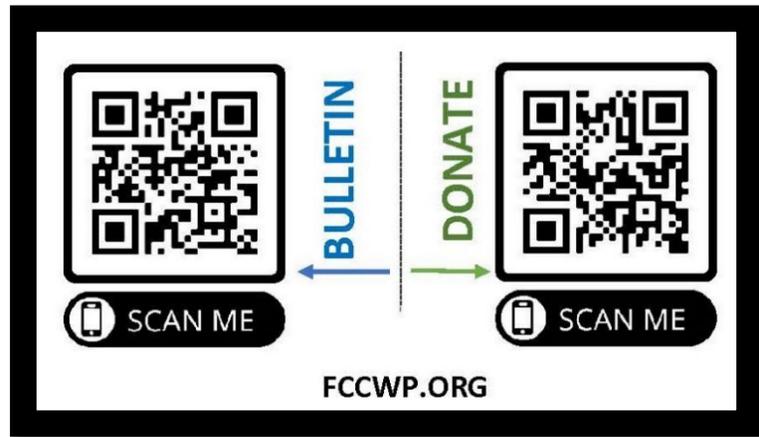
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Henry T. Smart, 1867

CHURCH GUEST WIFI

PASSWORD:

LetMeInPlease!



You can access our weekly bulletin through our website:

fccwp.org

Look for the tab labeled "Bulletin"

Help us reduce our carbon footprint and use your smart technology!

☞LOOKING AHEAD☞

THIS WEEK! December 8th - Friday December 13th

Walk Through Bethlehem Set-Up

Friday December 13th at 7:00PM

Walk Through Bethlehem Event

Sunday December 15th

All Church Celebration

AND

New Member Sunday

Tuesday December 24th

Christmas Eve Services:

Family Service at 5:00PM

Lessons and Carols at 9:00PM

Sunday January 19th after Worship

Town Hall (Budget Review) Meeting

First Congregational Church • United Church of Christ of Winter Park
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Phone: 407-647-2416 • fccwp@fccwp.org • fccwp.org

Shawn Garvey, Senior Minister
Megan Taylor, Office Administrator
Jacki Churchill, Finance Administrator

Kerry Weisner, Faith Formation Director
John V. Sinclair, Music Director
Chris Olivent, Organist