



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST · BOULDER



Children's Christmas Pageant

December 24, 2024 | 4:00 PM

1128 Pine Street Boulder CO 80302 | 303.442.1787 | www.firstcong.net

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE Andrew Todd, organ

WELCOME Rev. Christina Braudaway-Bauman

INTROIT A Christmas Wish
Joyful Noise & Faith Singers

*I wish for you, I wish for me, I wish for all the world to live in harmony.
When I look into the sky at night and see the stars above I wish for peace, I wish for love.*

*I wish for hope, I wish for joy, I wish this Christmastime for every one of us,
That wherever in the world we are we'll see the stars above and wish for peace, and wish for love.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come away, come away, come, come to Bethlehem.
Come adore on bended knee, one whose birth the angels sing.
Come away, come away, come to a place of quietness and peace.
Come with wonder, come with awe. Take your place among cattle and sheep.
Sing with joy, praise God, for the time of promise has come.
Sing the good news of Emmanuel: God with us! The Christ has come!
Come away, come away, come, come to Bethlehem.

*CAROL BOOK 3 O Come, All Ye Faithful

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6; 11:1-4, 6

CAROL O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*please remain seated*)

***O come, O come, Emmanuel ~ And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here ~ Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel ~ Shall come to you, O Israel.***

***O come, Desire of nations bind ~ All peoples in one heart and mind.
Make envy, strife, and quarrels cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel ~ Shall come to you, O Israel.***

From New Century Hymnal, Copyright 1995, Pilgrim Press. Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum 1710, based on ancient antiphons from Advent Vespers. Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851, and others. Alt. St. 2,7, transl. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; alt. . O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. CCLI copy-right license no 11415391 Size C, CCLI streaming license CSPL181210 Size C

LESSON Luke 1:26-38, 46-48 The Birth of Jesus Foretold

LESSON Luke 2:1-7 The Birth of Jesus

*The asterisk is an invitation to rise in body or spirit.

CAROL BOOK 16	What Child is This	
LESSON	Luke 2:8-14 The Angels and the Shepherds	
CAROL BOOK 11	Angels We Have Heard On High verses 1 & 2 <i>Youth Bells will play with the organ first.</i> <i>Join after with your voice verses 1 & 2.</i>	
LESSON	Luke 2:15-20 Shepherds Visit the Baby Jesus	
CAROL BOOK 12	Away in a Manger	
LESSON	Matthew 2:1-12 The Magi Follow A Star	
THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING	<i>Will be taken throughout the following hymn.</i>	The Magi
CAROL BOOK 7	The First Noel	
READING	"First Coming" By Madeleine L'Engle	
*CAROL BOOK 1	Joy to the World	
SCRIPTURE	John 4:7-12	
*CAROL BOOK 5	Hark the Herald Angels Sing	
CHRISTMAS PRAYER (Unison)	<p>Holy Center of this most holy season~ Jesus, child and ruler, all our stars point to your birth; all our wanderings come home to you; all our griefs and delights find a place in the stable where you chose to transform poverty and pain, loneliness and rejection. Your light shines in our lives; your peace embraces our anger, sorrow, and loss; your life opens us to new discovery of our most intimate selves and of our neighbors, however we may find them~ poor as shepherds, as foreign as magi, as thoughtless as innkeepers, as helpless as infants. In your humble birth we discover your everlasting majesty and grace. We welcome you and offer you our thanks and praise, in your glorious name we pray. Amen.</p>	
FINALE	Silent Night Carol Book 4: <i>Please join in on verses 2 & 3</i>	
BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	Andrew Todd, organ	

LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6;11:1-4, 6

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned. A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. A shoot will grow up from the stump of Jesse; a branch will sprout from his roots. The LORD's spirit will rest upon him, a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of planning and strength, a spirit of knowledge and fear of the LORD. He will delight in fearing the LORD. He won't judge by appearances, nor decide by hearsay. He will judge the needy with righteousness, and decide with equity for those who suffer in the land. The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion will feed together, and a little child will lead them.

LESSON

Luke 1:26-38, 46-48 The Birth of Jesus Foretold

God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, to a young woman who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The woman's name was Mary. When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!" She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. He will rule over Jacob's house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom." "How can this be?" "The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God's Son. Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled 'unable to conceive' is now six months pregnant. Nothing is impossible for God." "I am the Lord's servant. Let it be with me just as you have said." My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for God has looked with favor on the lowliness of God's servant. Sing out my soul, Sing of the holiness of God: Who had delighted in a woman, Lifted up the poor, Satisfied the hungry, Given voice to the silent, Grounded the oppressor, Blessed the full-bellied with emptiness, And with the gift of tears, Those who have never wept; Who had desired the darkness of the womb, and inhabited our flesh. Sing out the longing of God, Sing out, my soul.

LESSON

Luke 2:1-7 The Birth of Jesus

In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

LESSON

Luke 2:8-14 The Angels and the Shepherds

Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. The Lord's angel stood before them, the Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified. The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord. This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly host was with the angel praising God. "Glory to God in heaven, and on earth, peace and good will to all peoples."

LESSON

Luke 2:15-20 Shepherds Visit the Baby Jesus

When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go right now to Bethlehem and see what's happened. Let's confirm what the Lord has revealed to us." They went quickly and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw this, they reported what they had been told about this child. Everyone who heard it was amazed at what the shepherds told them. Mary committed these things to memory and considered them carefully. The shepherds returned home, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. Everything happened just as they had been told.

LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12 The Magi Follow A Star

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. They asked, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We've seen his star in the east, and we've come to honor him." When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. They said, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote." Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you've found him, report to me so that I too may go and honor him." When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own countries by another route.