

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
December 19, 2021

Those who are able may stand where marked (*).

Ministry of the Acolyte

Gathering Music #170 “Give Thanks”

Welcome, Announcements and Opening Prayer *Mary Menzies*

Prelude “Twas in the Moon of Wintertime” *JoBeth Dudley*

Lighting the fourth Advent Candle **Love!** *Tina Peabody & JoBeth Dudley*

One: Mary and Elizabeth, impossibly with child,
rejoiced in God’s great love, and Mary said:

**All: My soul overflows with praise for you, O God;
my spirit shouts for joy, for you are with me!**

One: Every generation from now on will call me blessed;
for you have done great things for me.

Praise your holy Name!

**All: You are kind to those who tremble before you.
You scatter the proud, bring the mighty low;
but the lowly you lift up, you empower.**

One: You fill the hungry with good things to eat;
but the rich you send empty away.

**All: You remembered your people; you came to our aid;
you have shown us your mercy and kindness!**

One: *(light)* For all who live in poverty, for all who live in fear,
for all who wait in darkness for the coming of this child,

**All: For all who love God’s justice,
for all who hope for peace,
for all who welcome Mary’s Child,
the Living Sign of God’s transforming love.**

*Hymn #249 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

We Lift Up Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer (trespasses)

Special Music “Panis Angelicus” *Franck Jo Beth Dudley*

We Dedicate our Gifts

*Doxology (#815)
Offering Prayer

Scripture: Luke 1:26 – 45 *Mary Menzies*

*Hymn #256 “Love Has Come!”

Sermon “Mary, Full of Grace” *Patricia Whipple*

*Hymn #250 “O Little Town of Bethlehem” *vs. 1-3*

*Benediction

*Response #250 “O Little Town of Bethlehem” *vs. 4*

Postlude

We welcome Patricia Whipple to the pulpit this week.

Lectionary readings for Sunday, December 26, 2021:

1 Samuel 2:18-20 – Psalm 148 - Colossians 3:12-17 - Luke 21:41-52

Please note: Our guest leader, Rev. Brian Muh, may or may not use these texts.

Christmas Fund Offering

Today

Thank you to those of you who have given already!

Stewardship 2022

Stewardship is taking good care of something that belongs to someone else. We recognize that everything we have belongs to God and that He has put it in our care.

Our **Stewardship** campaign may look like **Fundraising** for a non-profit organization, but it is based on a very different dynamic. It is based on our **relationship with God.**

Extra forms are located at the back of the sanctuary.

*Please respond with your pledge TOMORROW, **December 20**. You can drop your completed form in the collection plate on Sunday morning, you can mail it to the church, or you can call or email Pam Nute in the church office and tell her what it will be.*

Thank you to everyone who has given their pledge for 2022

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*Thank you for joining us for worship today!*

*It is our sincere hope that all who gather in this place will know and experience the love, forgiveness, hope, and new life available through Jesus Christ.*

*First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Littleton, New Hampshire  
December 19, 2021*



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| <p>Welcome:</p> <p><b>Patricia Whipple</b></p> <p>Music Director &amp; Organist</p> <p>Dorothy Morton</p> | <p>189 Main Street</p> <p>Littleton, NH 03561</p> <p>603-444-3376, Fax: 603-444-6589</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:fstcong189@gmail.com">fstcong189@gmail.com</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.1stconglittleton.org">www.1stconglittleton.org</a></p> |
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### *Our Mission Statement:*

*As followers of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we are called to provide a loving invitation and welcome to all, to inspire and uplift through the worship of God, to reach out to heal and enrich lives through the Holy Spirit, and to nurture people at various stages of their spiritual growth.*

Online Giving <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YR4H/home>