



Southport Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

524 Pequot Avenue

Southport, Connecticut 06890

office@southportucc.org

Rev. Paul Whitmore, Senior Minister

Rev. Laura Whitmore, Associate Minister

SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP

January 9, 2022, at ten o'clock

PRELUDE

“Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming” *Brahms*

“Appalachian Carol” *arr. Whitworth*

Elaine DeGrood, organ

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN *“Angels We Have Heard On High”*

**Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echo back their joyous strains.**

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heavenly song.**

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

**Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee,
Christ, The Lord, the newborn King.**

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Leader: We gather today to thank you, God, for the gift of life and for the love that we are able to share with one another today!

People: Thank you for Your renewing gifts of encouragement, strength, healing and fresh possibilities – the tools for our life!

Leader: With the power and presence of Your Holy Spirit, may we take these gifts and use them to our fullest potential...

People: So we can be people of bold courage, faith, justice and love – and together, we can bring about Your kingdom here on earth.

*THE INVOCATION & LORD'S PRAYER (*Trespases*)

*GLORIA PATRI

*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.*

OPPORTUNITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN

"In The Bleak Midwinter"

(page 5)

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Paul Whitmore

CALL TO OFFERING

To give towards your **2021 Stewardship Pledge Contribution** or make a plate donation, please text as follows:

Text: 860-854-1995

\$ amt Pledge

\$ amt Plate

To give **online**, please visit our website at southportucc.org

To **mail** us your offering or pledge, please send a check to:
Southport Congregational Church, PO Box 366, Southport, CT 06890

Thank you!

Still, still, still, let all the world be still,
 For Mary lays her child in a manger,
 Safe and warm, free from danger,
 Still, still, still, let all the world be still.

Blessed Jesus, born in Bethlehem, sing alleluia, sing alleluia.
 Blessed Jesus, born in Bethlehem.

Joy, joy, joy, my heart is filled with joy.
 The angel choirs rejoice and sing alleluias to the King.
 Joy, joy, joy, my heart is filled with joy.

My heart is filled with joy. Let all the world be still. Let all the world be still.

***DOXOLOGY**

***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.***

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Receive these gifts, O God, as expressions of our gratitude and loving devotion. May they be used to multiply your love among us and all people. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9:2,6,7a

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." And of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end...

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*Joel 2:28-32*

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even upon the menservants and maidservants in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

And I will give portents in the heavens and on the earth...blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. And it shall come to pass that all who call upon the name of the Lord shall be delivered; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

SERMON

**“Triumph? Or Tragedy?”**

*Rev. Paul Whitmore*

\*HYMN

***“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”***

**Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown;  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.**

**Breathe, o breathe thy loving spirit, into every troubled breast;  
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find thy promised rest;  
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.**

**Come almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
Suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love. Amen.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

**“Seek Ye First, Alleluia”**

*Senior Choir*

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God’s righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

**“March of the Three Kings”** *arr. Landon*

*Christina G. Rossetti, 1830-1894, alt.*CRANHAM *Irregular*  
Gustav T. Holst, 1874-1934

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, Frost - y wind made moan,  
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, Nor earth sus - tain;  
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels May have gath - ered there,  
 4 What can I give him, Poor as I am?

Earth stood hard as i - ron, Wa - ter like a stone;  
 Heaven and earth shall flee a - way When he comes to reign;  
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim Throng - ed the air;  
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

Snow had fall - en, snow on snow, Snow on snow,  
 In the bleak mid - win - ter A sta - ble place suf - ficed The  
 But his moth - er on - ly, In her maid - en bliss,  
 If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet

In the bleak mid - win - ter, Long a - go.  
 Lord God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
 Wor - shipped the be - lov - ed With a kiss.  
 what I can I give him - Give my heart.

BIRTH

**A NEW ADULT EDUCATION SERIES STARTS THIS WEDNESDAY NIGHT ON ZOOM**

Join Rev. Laura Whitmore and Julie Center for an introductory look at how people all over the world have tried to answer the questions: **“How did I get here?”**, **“What is my purpose in the world?”** and **“What is the meaning of life?”** These classes will give you a broad overview of how Hinduism (January 12), Buddhism (January 19), and Islam (January 26) answer these questions for their believers. The class will be from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Zoom links will be sent before each class.

**SIP AND SWAP: HOLIDAY DECORATIONS EXCHANGE** – Join us on Friday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to have some fun and cheer!! Bring any holiday decorations you no longer use, want or need and join us for an evening of lighthearted fun and fellowship while **swapping those decorations for others** that appeal to you! Anything left will be donated to our Carousel Thrift Shop. And **even if you have nothing to swap – just come for the fellowship!** Wine and dessert will be provided.

**THE 2022 STEWARDSHIP GIVING CAMPAIGN IS IN PROCESS.** Currently, we have **\$506,700 in pledges toward our 2022 needs of \$750,000.** If you have made your 2022 pledge - thank you! If not, please make it today! You can do so in 3 ways:

- **ONLINE.** Scan the **QR code** (right) with your phone’s camera and a notification will pop up. Tap on the notification and it will bring you to SCC’s Stewardship Giving Form on our website. You can also navigate to the form from our website [www.southportucc.org](http://www.southportucc.org) where it is found under the “Giving” tab.
- **Paper Form.** Mail or drop off the paper form included in your 2022 Stewardship Giving Packet.
- **Email.** Send an email to Paul DiPrato at [pdiprato@southportucc.org](mailto:pdiprato@southportucc.org) with your pledge information.



**THE 179<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** – All church members are encouraged to attend the 179<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting to be held in Fellowship Hall on February 27 immediately following worship. We will review the past year via the yearly reports prepared by the Officers of the Boards and Committees, to elect new Officers, transact business, adopt the annual budget and make plans for the new year. **Submissions for the Annual Report by Committee Chairs and Officers need to be given to the Church Office as soon as possible, but no later than February 6, 2022.** Reports should be sent via email to Pam ([ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org)). The 2021 Annual Report will be available for your review a few days before the meeting. Please call the office if you would like a copy.

**ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS ARE NEEDED** for January 16, 23 and 30, and throughout February. Please contact Pam ([ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org)) if you would like to donate an arrangement.

**YOUTH SUNDAY – JANUARY 23** This service is always a highlight for our SCC youth. We look forward to hearing our High School Youth Group Co-Presidents, Kieran Heske and Aidan King preach, as well as all of our youth who participate in this special service.

**THE CAROUSEL THRIFT SHOP WILL BE CLOSED THROUGH JANUARY** and will reopen on February 1. Donations will still be accepted on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR** is lovingly hosted today by the Fellowship Committee in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. Thank you, Fellowship Committee!

**USHERING AND GREETING YOU TODAY** are Deacons Denise Caron-Quinn and Katie Traynor.

**THANKS TO THIS WEEK'S LIVESTREAM "DREAM TEAM"** Techs Henry Schott and Ella Conopask.

**WE THANK OUR SENIOR CHOIR** for today's beautiful music.

**CHURCH SCHOOL** will meet today in the Chapel to explore the story of The Three Kings. Childcare for infants through 3 years old will be in Room 5 with Ellie Nickell and Scarlett Rex.

**SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP** will meet tonight at 7 p.m. in the Youth Room.

**CHOIR REHEARSAL SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK:**

\***SENIOR CHOIR** rehearses in Sanctuary, Sundays, 9:00 a.m., and in Music Room, 11:15 a.m.

\***THE HANDBELL CHOIR** rehearses on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Music Room

\***THE CHERUB CHOIR** rehearses on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel

\***THE JUNIOR CHOIR** rehearses on Sundays at 9 a.m. in Room 6

\***THE TEEN CHOIR** rehearses on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. in Room 6

**Southport Congregational Church**

P.O. Box 366, 524 Pequot Avenue

Southport, Connecticut 06890

Tel. (203) 255-1594, Fax (203) 255-4706

web site: [www.southportucc.org](http://www.southportucc.org), email: [office@southportucc.org](mailto:office@southportucc.org)

**Senior Minister - Paul D. Whitmore**

**Associate Minister - Rev. Laura H. Whitmore**

**CHURCH STAFF:**

Student Minister – Julie Center

Director of Administration – Paul DiPrato · Communications Manager – Jackson Siegel

Church Secretary - Pam Poling · Bookkeeper - Maria Bogatikova

Investment Manager - Nancy Long · Facilities & Grounds Manager – Tim O’Neill

Director of Music - Elaine DeGrood

Youth Choir Director - Phillip Bettencourt · Assistant Youth Choir Director - Marnie Kruse

Soloists - Beau Allen, Shannon Doyle, Leslie Uhl

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Ryan McClay ◊       | Moderator  |
| Cari Pfeiffer       | Clerk      |
| Joyce Hergenhan     | ALM        |
| Patti Spaght        | ALM        |
| Paul Doocy          | ALM        |
| Sydney King         | ALM        |
| Susan Kunkel        | Carousel   |
| Marjory Palmer      | Deacons    |
| Denise Caron-Quinn  | Deacons    |
| Leah Davis          | Deacons    |
| Beth Santa          | Education  |
| Melissa Ogunsuyi    | Education  |
| Sherry Greer        | Missions   |
| Lisa Doocy          | Missions   |
| Tim Stuart          | Trustee    |
| Kristin Hathaway    | Preschool  |
| Greg Berg           | B&G        |
| Irene Santa         | Music      |
| Carol Lasseter-Rice | Fellowship |
| Bridget Schulten    | Ex Officio |

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

|                    |
|--------------------|
| Paul Doocy ◊       |
| Cindy Jackson      |
| Adrienne MacGuffie |
| Les Miller         |
| Jennifer O’Neill ◊ |
| Dave Stuart        |
| John Traynor       |

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Greg Berg ◊     | - 2022 |
| Devin Santa     | - 2022 |
| Mike Tanguay    | - 2022 |
| Stuart Tilghman | - 2022 |
| Ellen Levinson  | - 2023 |
| Erno Bacso      | - 2024 |
| Ron Manning     | - 2024 |
| Jim Vadas       | - 2024 |

**BED FUND COMMITTEE**

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Oladele Ogunsuyi | Deacons  |
| Bridget Schulten | Chairman |
| Sherry Greer     | Missions |

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Kristin Hathaway         | - 2022 |
| Melissa Ogunsuyi         | - 2022 |
| Jo Anne Parady           | - 2022 |
| Beth Santa ◊             | - 2022 |
| Leslie Uhl               | - 2022 |
| Christina Whittaker Haas | - 2023 |
| Katie Keiser             | - 2023 |
| Erik Mayville            | - 2023 |
| Ellery Malkin            | - 2024 |
| Laura McClay             | - 2024 |
| Cari Pfeiffer            | - 2024 |
| Kassandra Savicki        | - 2024 |

**PRESCHOOL BOARD**

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Laura Amicucci     | Director      |
| Paul DiPrato       | Treasurer     |
| Elinor Biggs       | -2022         |
| Rebecca Mallay     | - 2022        |
| Sharon Keiser      | - 2023        |
| Jess Miller ◊      | - 2023        |
| Leslie Uhl         | - 2023        |
| Barbara Evans      | - 2024        |
| Amy Sperrazza      | - 2024        |
| Kristin Hathaway   | BOCE Rep.     |
| Allie Sherman      | Parent Rep.   |
| Stephani Whittaker | Trustees Rep. |

**MISSION OUTREACH BOARD**

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Elinor Biggs       | - 2022 |
| Lisa Doocy         | - 2022 |
| Mary Lou McGuire + | - 2022 |
| Linda Murphy       | - 2022 |
| Andrea Pezzimenti  | - 2022 |
| Sherry Greer ◊     | - 2023 |
| Tyler Hathaway     | - 2023 |
| Kirk Jackson       | - 2023 |
| Bob MacGuffie      | - 2023 |
| Liz Waiksnis       | - 2023 |
| Craig Gillespie    | - 2024 |
| Karen Jones        | - 2024 |
| Hedy Mosier        | - 2024 |
| Traci Provost      | - 2024 |
| Peggy Stuart       | - 2024 |
| Leahkay White      | - 2024 |

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Denise Caron-Quinn | - 2022 |
| Leah Davis         | - 2022 |
| Katie Traynor      | - 2022 |
| Andrew Malkin      | - 2023 |
| Marjory Palmer ◊   | - 2023 |
| Jeff Provost       | - 2023 |
| Jeffrey Earls      | - 2024 |
| Ann Lillis         | - 2024 |
| Oladele Ogunsuyi   | - 2024 |
| Tamberlyn Chapman  | - 2025 |
| Sadhana Joliet +   | - 2025 |
| Joe Pezzimenti     | - 2025 |

**MUSIC COMMITTEE**

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Doug Goodman    | - 2022         |
| Dwight Holmberg | - 2022         |
| Laura Wilbur    | - 2022         |
| Irene Santa     | - 2023         |
| Peary Spaght ◊  | - 2023         |
| Jack Ijams      | - 2024         |
| Ruth Merchant   | - 2024         |
| Ed Sanford      | - 2024         |
| Jeff Provost    | Deacon Liaison |

**FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Carol Lasseter-Rice | - 2022 |
| Ann Lillis          | - 2022 |
| Hedy Mosier         | - 2022 |
| Jean Schluter       | - 2022 |
| Robin Marshlow      | - 2023 |
| Traci Provost       | - 2023 |
| Erika Wright        | - 2023 |
| Amy Cawman          | - 2024 |
| Betsy Gillespie     | - 2024 |
| Katie Traynor       | - 2024 |
| Marney White        | - 2024 |

**CARING TEAM**

Tamberlyn Chapman      Deacons

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Jeff Nickell           | - 2022 |
| Tim Stuart ◊           | - 2022 |
| Stephani Whittaker     | - 2022 |
| Jim Biggs              | - 2023 |
| Gary Johnson           | - 2023 |
| Joe Ryan               | - 2023 |
| Dave Stuart            | - 2023 |
| Katia Mead             | - 2024 |
| Bridget Schulten       | - 2024 |
| Trevor Uhl, Treasurer  | - 2022 |
| Greg Berg, B&G Liaison | - 2022 |

**CAROUSEL THRIFT SHOP**

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Doug Goodman    | - 2022 |
| Gloria Miller   | - 2022 |
| Susan Kunkel ◊  | - 2023 |
| Janet Sherwood  | - 2023 |
| Karen Macdonald | - 2024 |
| Les Miller      | - 2024 |
| Nancy Pandolfi  | - 2024 |

**HISTORIAN**

Sally Ijams      - 2022

**LAY DELEGATES**

Les Miller      - 2022

**FLOWER COMMITTEE**

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| Leah Davis | Deacon Liaison |
| Pam Poling | Staff Liaison  |

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Paul Doocy         | Council   |
| Joyce Hergenhan    | Council   |
| Sydney King        | Council   |
| Patti Spaght ◊     | Council   |
| Jeffrey Earls      | Deacons   |
| Ellery Malkin      | Education |
| Elinor Biggs       | Missions  |
| Stephani Whittaker | Trustees  |

◊ Denotes Chairperson

+ Denotes Scribe

◦ Denotes Vice Chair

ALM Denotes "At Large Member"