



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

THE SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP

December 5, 2021, at ten o'clock

Second Sunday in Advent

PRELUDE

“The Wexford Carol” *arr. Mark Hayes*

“Coventry Carol” *arr. Schaum*

Rachel Dorset, Handbells & Elaine DeGrood, Piano

*HYMN

“O, Come All Ye Faithful”

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the king of angels;

(chorus) O Come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
(chorus)

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee, with love and awe;
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?
(chorus)

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Julie Center, Student Minister

Leader: In this season of Advent, let us receive God’s grace and joy as our awareness of God becomes unveiled with the birth of every new moment;

People: *In every hour of blessing;*

Leader: In each new heartbeat of hope;

People: *In every day of our lives;*

Leader: This is God's gift, offered to us.

People: *The gift of life, filled with ordinary moments, but made holy by our attention to God's presence and grace.*

Leader: Let us attend now, to the unfolding of God's love, in us and among us.

People: *Let us attend to the dawning of God's hope breaking forth in the world...and to the whispers of God's peace. This is the time for worship.*

*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 *Rev. Laura Whitmore*

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Advent Liturgists – Carol Lasseter-Rice and Neil Rice

Leader: The season of Advent continues. Last Sunday, the frail light of a single candle dared to pierce through the darkness of despair and bring hope into the world.

People: *We live our lives more abundantly when we live a life filled with hope.*

Leader: Today, we light the candle of peace. In the midst of all the struggles of our daily lives, God comes to us to provide tranquility and quietness.

People: *This light, too, must shine through great darkness.*

Leader: Isaiah wrote, "For unto us a child is born, to 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.'"

People: *We pray for the day when there will be no difference between the people of all nations and justice will be granted to all. Amen.*

CHORAL RESPONSE

“Light One Candle”

Junior Choir

Directed by Phillip Bettencourt

(Children may leave through the Fellowship Hall doors to attend Church School)

*HYMN

“It Came Upon The Midnight Clear”

It came up on the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven’s all gracious King.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats o’er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
And ever o’er it Babel sounds, the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way, with painful steps and slow,
Look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Laura Whitmore

ANTHEM

“Still, Still, Still” *arr. Moglebust*

Handbell Choir

CALL TO OFFERING

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

Text: 860-854-1995

\$___Pledge

\$___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!

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, in the midst of so much global anxiety and unrest, your Son, the “Prince of Peace” comes. By what we offer and what we do, may we be bearers of your peace, your healing, your love and your light – and may you bless us in all of our giving and sharing of your will. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-5

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

SERMON

“It’s Not What I Had In Mind, But ...”*Rev. Paul Whitmore*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*(Please take the elements in unison with the Ministers.)***Communion is gluten-free and non-alcoholic so that all may be included.**

*HYMN

“Joy To The World! The Lord Is Come”

Joy to the World! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King;
 Let every heart prepare him room,
 And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
 And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the Earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ!
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
 Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
 The glories of his righteousness,
 And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE “The Lord Bless You And Keep You, Amen” *Rutter**Senior Choir*

POSTLUDE

“Noel Basque ” *Benoit*

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***THE GIVING TREE*** is in Fellowship Hall today! Please take a tag for a gift recipient at Emerge, Inc. (a home for victims of domestic abuse and their children), CIRC (the Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants which provides legal, social and education programming for refugees, immigrants, and survivors of human trafficking) or The Kennedy Center's Autism Project (a support organization for families affected by autism). The tag specifies what gift is needed. You may also sign up online - [click this link](#). Please return wrapped and tagged gifts to the church office by December 12.

***POINSETTIAS AND CHRISTMAS DECORATION DONATIONS*** To make a contribution towards the decorations, or to purchase a poinsettia (\$15), please turn to page 7. **THANK YOU** - your donation of poinsettias will add beauty and meaning to the holiday. Many thanks also to Alisa Ryan and Peggy Moore for the beautiful poinsettia arrangement in the Sanctuary, and thanks to Hedy Mosier for donating the live tree in Fellowship Hall which was decorated by our church staff.

***FOR THOSE WHO REGISTERED FOR THE GINGERBREAD HOUSE*** we will meet in the Youth Room immediately following worship.

***THE 2022 STEWARDSHIP GIVING CAMPAIGN HAS BEGUN*** Our 2022 goal is \$750k in pledges through the participation from as many members and church friends as possible! **Currently, we have \$158,258 in pledges** so we still have a way to go. We ask that you **make your pledge as soon as feasible** to ensure we can fund the current levels of ministry, programs, education, and missions we have incorporated in our preliminary 2022 budget. Should you have any questions concerning pledging, please contact Paul DiPrato, Director of Administration, at (203) 255-1594 or [pdiprato@southportucc.org](mailto:pdiprato@southportucc.org).

Making your pledge is easy in 2022! 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 Paul DiPrato at [pdiprato@southportucc.org](mailto:pdiprato@southportucc.org) with your pledge information.



**SANTA COMES TO SOUTHPORT** Thursday, December 9, at 5 p.m. Sing holiday favorites with Paul, Laura and Julie in the center of Southport village.

**THE PARSONAGE CHRISTMAS PARTY** is next Sunday, December 12, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. The Whitmore Family and the Fellowship Committee invite adult members and friends to visit The Parsonage to celebrate the season of Love and Joy!

**MANY THANKS TO JEFFREY EARLS AND HIS SKILLED TEAM OF ARTISTS** for the repair work and painting done on the figures in our Nativity scene, and to Jeff and Traci Provost for the beautiful arrangement.

**WE THANK TODAY'S SENIOR CHOIR, HANDBELL CHOIR AND SOLOISTS** Beau Allen, Shannon Doyle and Leslie Uhl for their beautiful singing, and handbell soloist Rachel Dorset. It is always nice to hear the handbells at Christmas time!

**WE THANK OUR JUNIOR CHOIR**, directed by Phillip Bettencourt, for welcoming Advent with their singing of "Light One Candle of Peace".

**USHERING AND GREETING YOU TODAY** are Deacons Joe Pezzimenti, Denise Caron-Quinn, Katie Traynor and Jeffrey Earls, under the direction of Deacon Oladele Ogunsuyi.

**THANKS TO THIS WEEK'S LIVESTREAM "DREAM TEAM"** Techs Kendall Caron-Quinn and Austin Rasmussen, under the direction of Director Trevor Uhl.

**CHURCH SCHOOL TODAY** Pageant participants will meet with Phillip Bettencourt in the Chapel for the Pageant rehearsal! Children not participating in the Pageant can meet with Beth Santa for a special activity in the Library. Childcare for infants through 3 years old will be in Room 5 with Alina Bogitakova and Kaela Cohen.

**SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP** will meet tonight with Student Minister Julie Center in the Youth Room. **MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP** meets this Tuesday, December 7, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. in the Youth Room.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** meet this Tuesday, December 7, at 5:30 p.m., in the Youth Room, with dinner provided by Clara Grosner and family.

**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, and  
**THE JUNIOR CHOIR** in Room 6, also at 9 a.m.  
**THE TEEN CHOIR** rehearses at 11:30 a.m. in Room 6.



## Christmas Decorations and Poinsettias



### Please Help Us Beautify Our Church For The Christmas season!

Your contributions for our Sanctuary Christmas tree and other decorations, or your donation of poinsettias in honor or in memory of loved ones, will add beauty and meaning to the holiday.

Please return this form or call the church office or email us at [office@southportucc.org](mailto:office@southportucc.org) by **Sunday, December 12.**

There will be a listing of donors in the church bulletins on December 19 and 24.

Please share with us the following information:

Name of the donor, the name of the person being honored or memorialized,  
and the number of plants you would like.

**Each plant is \$15.**

You may take your poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve service ends at 11 p.m.,  
or on Friday, December 31, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Remaining plants will be shared with members of the Congregation.

Please bring cash or send a check for the correct amount, made payable to  
Southport Congregational Church  
to the church office or mail it to  
Southport Congregational Church, P.O. Box 366,

Name of Donor \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of poinsettias at \$15.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution for tree/altar decorations

You can choose from several payment options.

- **Venmo @southport\_congregational.** Please include the name of the person being honored or memorialized, and the number of plants you would like.
- **Pay by text:** Text to (860) 854-1995 and write \$\_\_\_\_Decor, then send an email to [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org) with the name of the person being honored or memorialized, and the number of plants you would like.
- **Pay online - click [HERE](#)** In the drop-down menu select 'Give to Decor'. In the comments field include the name of the person being honored or memorialized, and the number of plants you would like.
- **Cash** – pay at the office and provide form
- **Check** – drop it off at the office or mail to Southport Congregational Church, P.O. Box 366, Southport, CT 06890. Please include the form.

**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 DeGroot  
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"