



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

December 26, 2021, at ten o'clock

Christmas Sunday

PRELUDE

“Carol Meditation” *Brubeck*

Elaine DeGrood, piano

*HYMN

“Angels From The Realms of Glory”

**Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

***(refrain)* Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King.**

**Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light:**

(refrain)

**Sages, leave your contemplations brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations, you have seen the natal star:**

(refrain)

**Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending, here among us shall appear:**

(refrain)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon, Jeff Provost

Leader: People of God, as we approach the new year together, let us do so rejoicing
in your love!

People: *For God has come to us in Jesus Christ to give us a new spirit!*

Leader: Let us give thanks for his presence that brings peace, unity, compassion and joy.

People: *For through Jesus Christ, God has shown us love, by giving us light for our darkness, and strength for our days. Let us arise and shine, for our light has come!*

*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.*

SOLO

"I Wonder As I Wander" *Hayes*

Shannon Doyle, Soloist

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky
how Jesus the Savior did come for to die
for poor ordinary people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,
with wisemen and farmers and shepherds and all,
but high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
a star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
or all of God's angels in heaven to sing
He surely would have it 'cause he was the King.

OPPORTUNITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Deacon Denise Caron-Quinn

*HYMN

"God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen"

**God Rest ye merry gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ, our Savior, was born on Christmas Day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; o tidings of comfort and joy!**

**Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas doth bring redeeming grace.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; o tidings of comfort and joy!**

PASTORAL PRAYER

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!

OFFERTORY

“I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day” *Marks*

Senior Choir

I heard the bells on Christmas Day, their old familiar carols play;
And wild and sweet the words repeat, of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought, as now this day had come, the belfries of all Christendom
Had rung so long the unbroken song of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head, “There is no peace on earth,” I said.
“For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men.”

Then pealed the bell more loud and deep, “God is not dead, nor doth He sleep.
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth, good will to men.”

*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

**O Lord, the gifts we share today come from hearts filled with love
appreciation. With these gifts and with our spirits, we re-dedicate our lives
to your love and to your service. Receive our gifts and our spirits as they are
intended – in gratitude, thanksgiving, and devotion. Amen.**

So, I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem; also my wisdom remained with me. Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them; I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found pleasure in all my toil, and this was my reward for all my toil. Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had spent in doing it, and again, all was vanity and a chasing after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun.

SERMON

“Small Bites and Simple Pleasures”

Les Miller

*HYMN

“Go Tell It On The Mountain”

**(refrain) Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.**

**While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night.
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.
(refrain)**

**The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed the savior’s birth.
(refrain)**

**Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
(refrain)**

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Christmas Time” *Old Welsh melody, arr. Schaum*

**Glory be to God in heaven, ‘tis Christmas time!
Who for us His Son has given, ‘tis Christmas time!
Loud we raise our happy voices, nature adds harmonious noises
All His world in him rejoices! ‘Tis Christmas Time!**

POSTLUDE

“Theme” From Royal Fireworks Music *G.F. Handel*

*Elaine DeGroot, organ
Steve Perrett, trumpet*

THE 2022 STEWARDSHIP GIVING CAMPAIGN HAS BEGUN Currently, we have **\$416,000 in pledges** so we still have a way to go. If you have not made your pledge for 2022, 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 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 with your pledge information.

USHERING AND GREETING YOU TODAY are Deacons Denise Caron-Quinn, Leah Davis and Jeffrey Earls, under the direction of Deacon Jeff Provost.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR is hosted today by the Fellowship Committee in honor of Les Miller, in Fellowship Hall.

THANKS TO THIS WEEK'S LIVESTREAM DIRECTOR, Parker Whitmore.

WE THANK OUR SENIOR CHOIR SOLOIST Shannon Doyle for today's beautiful music.

THE CAROUSEL THRIFT SHOP will reopen on Tuesday January 4, at 11 a.m.

CHURCH SCHOOL TODAY is not in session but will resume next week on January 2. Childcare for infants through 3 years old will be in Room 5 with Alina Bogatikova and Ellie Nickell.

The Staff of Southport Congregational Church wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Senior Minister – Paul D. Whitmore

Associate Minister – Laura H. Whitmore

Student Minister - Julie Center

Director of Administration – Paul DiPrato

Communications Manager – Jackson Siegel

Church Secretary – Pam Poling

Facilities & Grounds Manager – Tim O'Neill

Music Director – Elaine DeGrood

Youth Choir Director – Phillip Bettencourt

Assistant Youth Choir Director – Marnie Kruse

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Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.