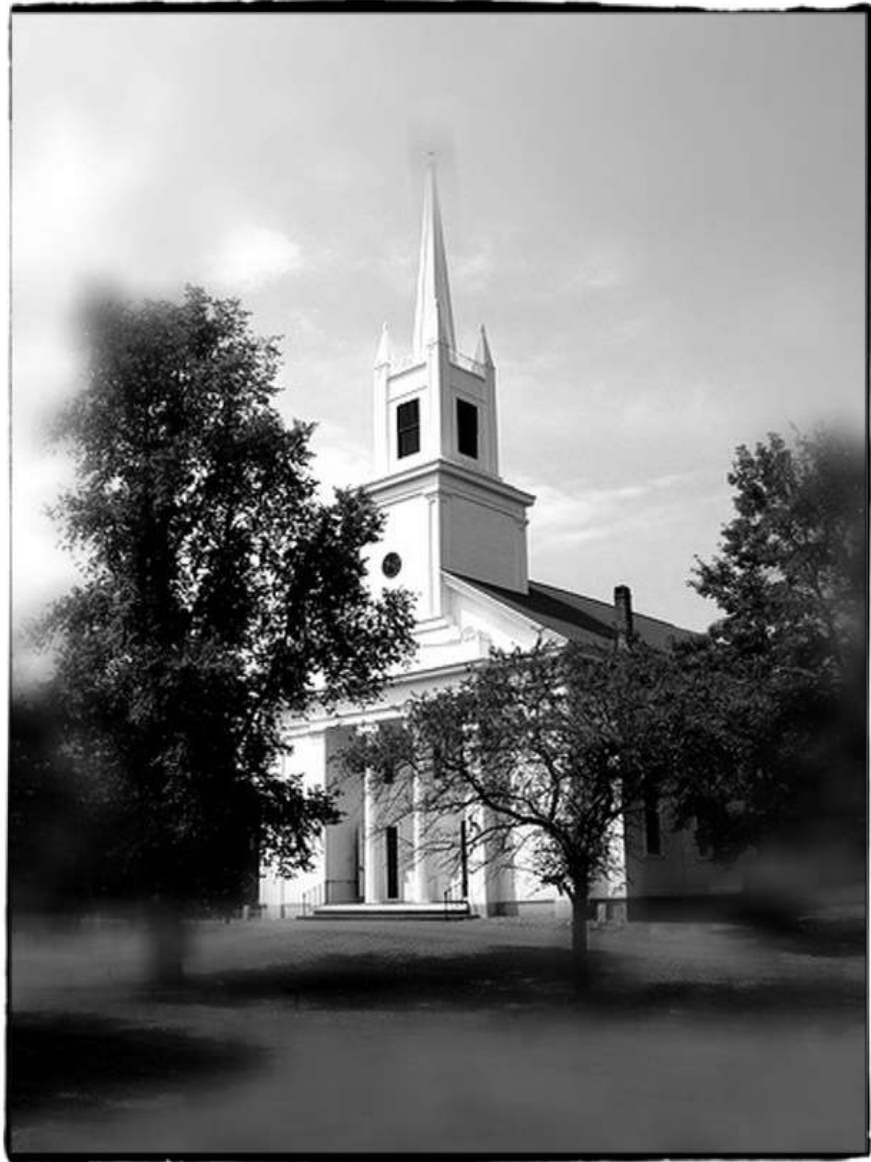


The Congregational Church *of* Topsfield

*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of
the United Church of Christ*



**ORDER OF WORSHIP
CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24TH, 2021
10 p.m.**

PRELUDE	Christmas Medley	arr. by Robert Lau
WORDS OF WELCOME		
CAROL #234 UMH	“O Come All Ye Faithful” verse 1 page 7	ADESTE FIDELES
THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE		The Warner Family
READING 1	Luke 1: 26-33 Pew Bible page 52	Cathy Szymanski
CAROL #106 NCH	“My Heart Sings Out With Joyful Praise” verse 1 page 8	MARIA LOVSANG
READING 2	Luke 1: 46-55 Pew Bible pages 52-53	Kristin Palace
CAROL #250 UMH	“Once In Royal David’s City” verse 1 page 9	IRBY
READING 3	Luke 2: 1-7 Pew Bible page 53	Ed Jelinek
ANTHEM	A Christmas Carol Chancel Choir	Charles Ives
MISSION & OUTREACH CHRISTMAS OFFERING VIDEO	"More Than a Safe Place to Sleep"	Lazarus House
THE OFFERTORY	What Child Is This	GREENSLEEVES
†THE DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION 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 *You may substitute God/Her **You may substitute Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost		
READING 4	Luke 2: 8-14 Pew Bible pages 53-54	John Szymanski
HOMILY	“Do Not Be Afraid”	Rev. Martin Riekert
CAROL #238 UMH	“Angels We Have Heard On High” verse 1 page 10	GLORIA

READING 5

Luke 2: 15-20
Pew Bible page 54

Sheryl Knutsen

ANTHEM

In Silent Night
Chancel Choir

Mitchell Southall

READING 6

John 1: 1-5
Pew Bible pages 84-85

Bruce Jones

CAROL #246 UMH

“Joy to the World” verse 1
page 11

ANTIOCH

CANDLE LIGHTING

*The congregational shall stand and remain in the pews
for the lighting of the candles.*

*Participants on Zoom are invited to prepare and supply
their own candles and light them at this time in the service

CAROL #239 UMH

“Silent Night” verses 1-3
page 12

STILLE NACHT

†*Those Who Are Able Please Stand*

BENEDICTION

*Please extinguish your candles before leaving your pew
and drop them off in the baskets on your way out to the exits.*

POSTLUDE

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

arr. Edward Broughton



Scripture Readings (NSRV)

Luke 1:26-33

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Luke 1:46-55

46 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, 48 for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. 50 His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. 51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. 52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; 53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. 54 He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, 55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Luke 2:1-7

¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Luke 2:8-14

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Luke 2:15-20

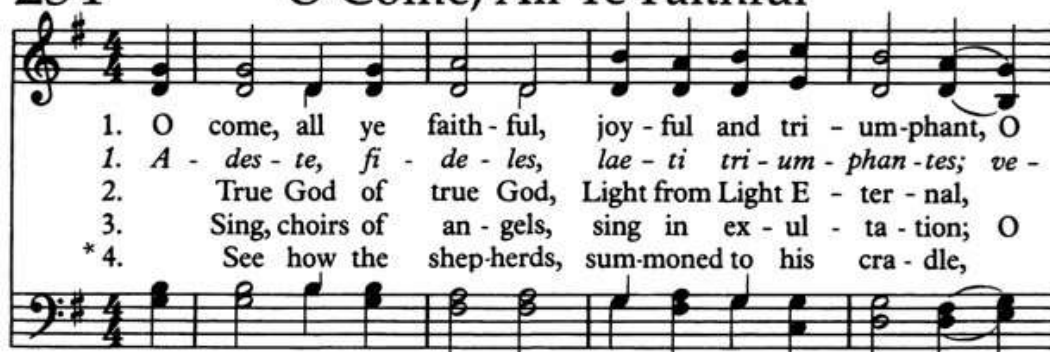
¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

John 1:1-5

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

234

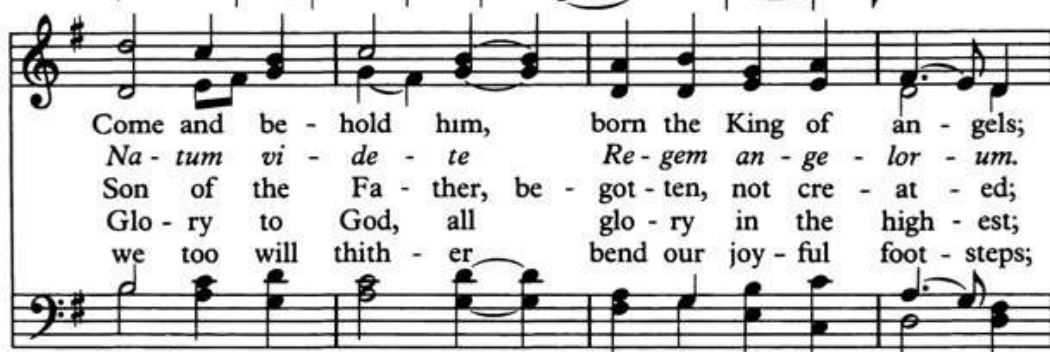
O Come, All Ye Faithful



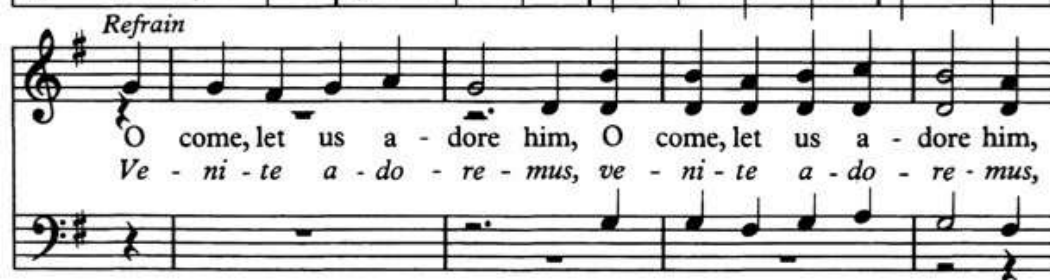
1. O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O
 1. A-des-te, fi-de-les, lae-ti tri-um-phan-tes; ve-
 2. True God of true God, Light from Light E-ter-nal,
 3. Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion; O
 * 4. See how the shep-herds, sum-moned to his cra-dle,



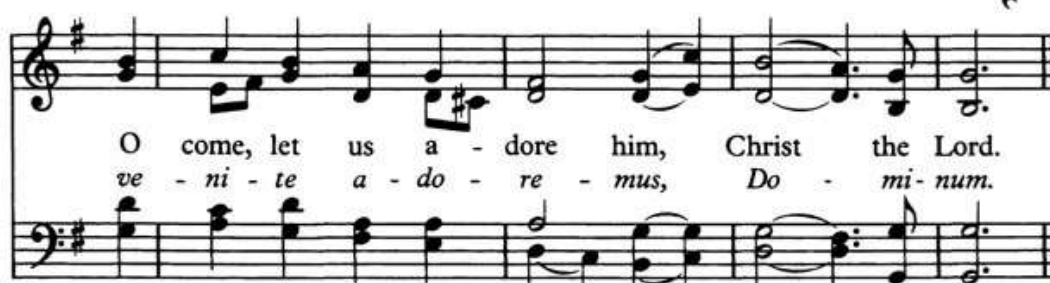
come ye, O come ye, to Beth-le-hem.
 ni-te, ve-ni-te in Beth-le-hem.
 lo, he shuns not the Vir-gin's womb;
 sing, all ye cit-i-zens of heaven a-bove!
 leav-ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;



Come and be-hold him, born the King of an-gels;
 Na-tum vi-de-te Re-gem an-ge-lor-um.
 Son of the Fa-ther, be-got-ten, not cre-at-ed;
 Glo-ry to God, all glo-ry in the high-est;
 we too will thith-er bend our joy-ful foot-steps;



Refrain
 O come, let us a-dore him, O come, let us a-dore him,
 Ve-ni-te a-do-re-mus, ve-ni-te a-do-re-mus,

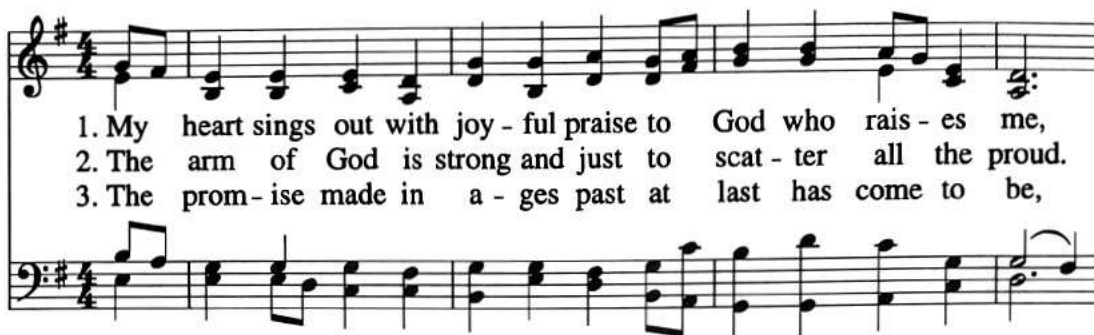


O come, let us a-dore him, Christ the Lord.
 ve-ni-te a-do-re-mus, Do-mi-num.

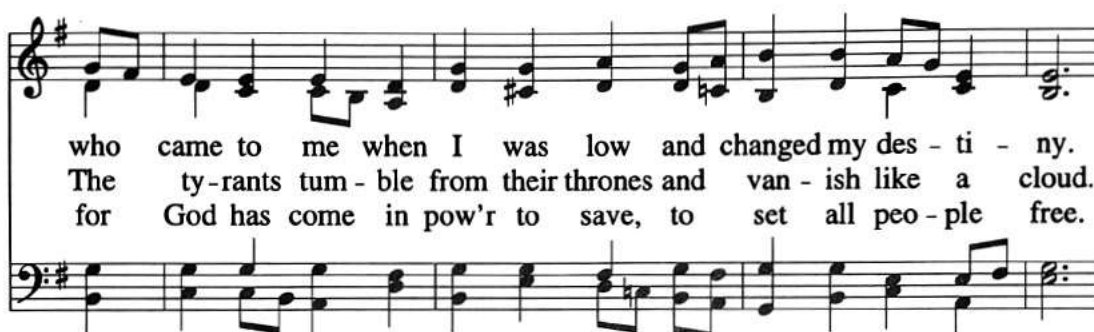
My Heart Sings Out with Joyful Praise

Ruth Duck, 1985

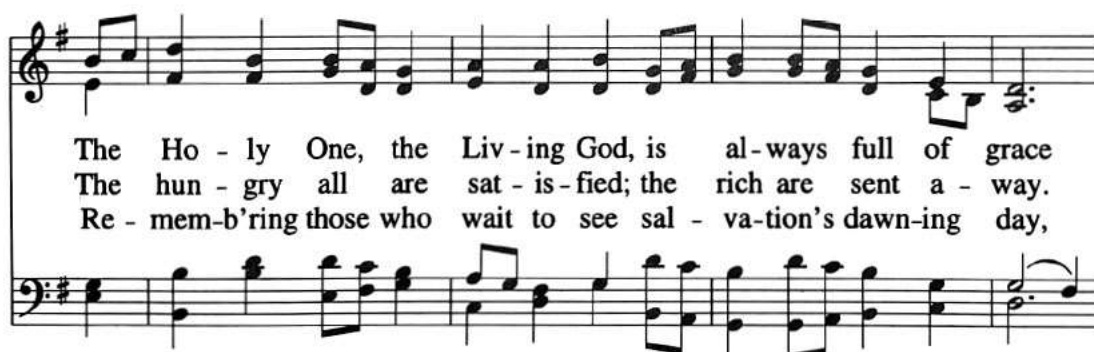
Luke 1:46-55



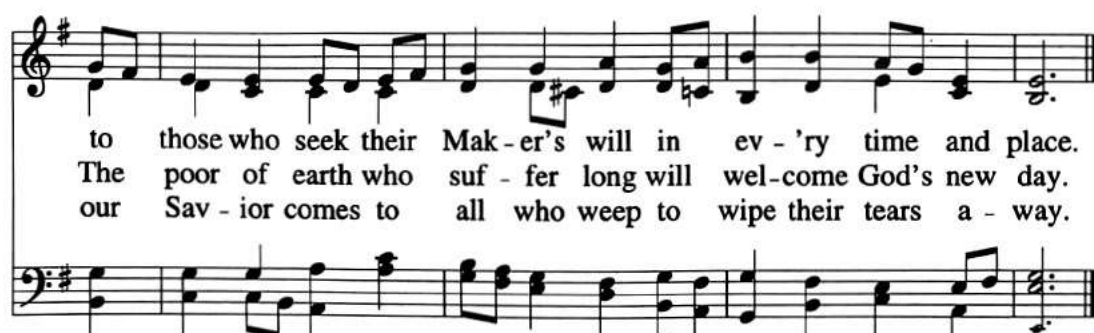
1. My heart sings out with joy - ful praise to God who rais - es me,
 2. The arm of God is strong and just to scat - ter all the proud.
 3. The prom - ise made in a - ges past at last has come to be,



who came to me when I was low and changed my des - ti - ny.
 The ty - rants tum - ble from their thrones and van - ish like a cloud.
 for God has come in pow'r to save, to set all peo - ple free.



The Ho - ly One, the Liv - ing God, is al - ways full of grace
 The hun - gry all are sat - is - fied; the rich are sent a - way.
 Re - mem - b'ring those who wait to see sal - va - tion's dawning day,



to those who seek their Mak - er's will in ev - 'ry time and place.
 The poor of earth who suf - fer long will wel - come God's new day.
 our Sav - ior comes to all who weep to wipe their tears a - way.

WORDS: Ruth Duck, 1981, 1985, 1992

MUSIC: Traditional English melody; coll. Lucy Broadwood;
 arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, *The English Hymnal*, 1906

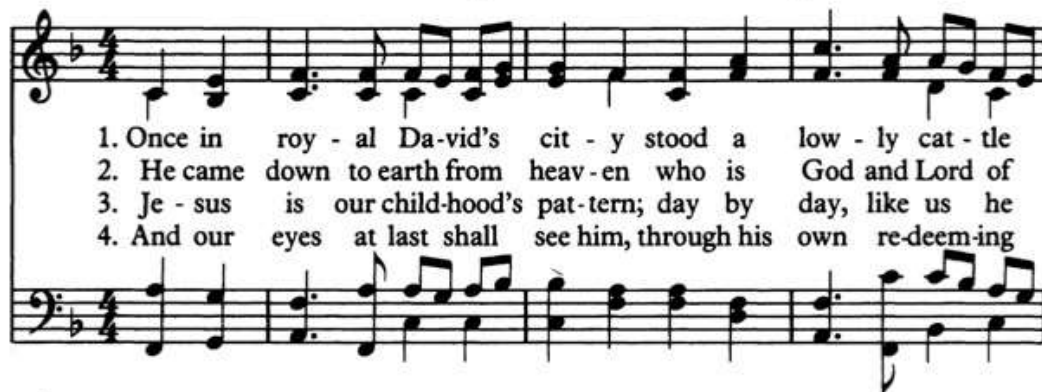
KINGSFOLD
 CMD

As editor of *The English Hymnal*, 1906, Ralph Vaughan Williams introduced a host of traditional English folk tunes he and his contemporaries had rescued from obscurity.

Words © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

Once in Royal David's City


250



1. Once in roy - al Da-vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle
 2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of
 3. Je - sus is our child-hood's pat-tern; day by day, like us he
 4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re-deem-ing



shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 grew; he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and
 love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our



man - ger for his bed; Ma - ry, lov - ing moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall. With the poor, the scorned, the
 smiles like us he knew; and he feel - eth for our
 Lord in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren




mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, and he shar - eth in our glad - ness.
 on to the place where he is gone.


WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848 (Lk. 2:7)
 MUSIC: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849

IRBY
 87.87.77

238 Angels We Have Heard on High



1. An-gels we have heard on high sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep-herds, why this ju-bi-lee? Why your joy-ous strains pro-long?
 3. Come to Beth-le-hem and see Christ whose birth the an-gels sing;




and the moun-tains in re-ply ech-o-ing their joy-ous strains.
 What the glad-some tid-ings be which in-spire your heaven-ly song?
 come, a-dore on bend-ed knee, Christ the Lord, the new-born King.



Glo - - - - - ri - a,



in ex-cel-sis De-o! Glo - - -



ri - a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!

WORDS: Trad. French carol; trans. *Crown of Jesus*, 1862, alt. (Lk. 2:6-20)
 MUSIC: French carol melody; arr. by Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937;
 harm. by Austin C. Lovelace, 1964

Harm. © 1964 Abingdon Press

GLORIA
 77.77 with Refrain

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
 2. Joy to the world, the Sav - ior reigns!
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace,

Let earth re - ceive her King; let
 Let all their songs em - ploy; while
 and makes the na - tions prove the

ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness,

and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 and won - ders of his love, and
 and re - peat the sound - ing na - ture
 and won - ders of his his

heaven and na - ture sing, and
 peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 won - ders of his love, and
 sing,
 joy,
 love,

and re - peat the sound - ing na - ture
 and won - ders of his his

heaven, and heaven, and na - ture sing,
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

sing,
 joy,
 love,

Silent Night, Holy Night

239

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright
 1. *Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft, ein - sam wacht*
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep-herds quake at the sight;
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light;
 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, won-drous star, lend thy light;

round yon vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly in-fant, so ten-der and mild,
nur das trau-te hoch - hei - li - ge Paar, Hold-er Kna-be mit lock - i - gem Haar,
 glo-ries stream from heav-en a-far, heav-en-ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia!
 ra-diant beams from thy ho-ly face with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 with the an - gels let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to our King;

sleep in heav-en - ly peace, sleep in heav-en - ly peace.
schlaf im himm - li - scher Ruh, schlaf im himm - li - scher Ruh.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born!

WORDS: Joseph Mohr, 1818, alt.; sts. 1, 2, 3 trans. by John F. Young;
 st. 4 trans. anon. (Lk. 2:6-20)
 MUSIC: Franz Gruber, 1818

STILLE NACHT
 Irr.

Congregational Church of Topsfield News and Events



December Birthdays

Eric Gillberg:	12/03
Gerrie Bunker:	12/05
Nancy Nelson:	12/06
Jackson Bridge:	12/07
Nora Hartung:	12/08
Jill Wheeler:	12/09
Robert Barrett:	12/10
Ryland Loyer:	12/10
Charlie Wilkinson:	12/11
Sara Renda:	12/12
Chelsey Bergsten:	12/13
Jeff Nenart:	12/13
Martin Riekert:	12/13
Bruce Daniels:	12/14
Brandon Read:	12/15
Marlena Voss:	12/17
Michael Miller:	12/19
Pam Warren:	12/20
Daniel Cassiday:	12/21
MJ Riekert:	12/21
Gregor Smith:	12/23
Elizabeth Jelinek:	12/27
John Kinhan:	12/27
Claudia Worth:	12/28
Cathy Szymanski:	12/28
Leah Cass:	12/29
Jim Bunker:	12/29
Jack Bridge:	12/30

Congregational Church of Topsfield Parish Care Ministry

Prayer List Contact:

Kim Itz at prayerlisting@topsfieldchurch.org or 978 887-6567.

Healing Scripture:

"And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick" Matthew 14:14

Healing Prayer:

Dear Lord, I ask you to turn this weakness into strength, suffering into compassion, sorrow into joy, and pain into comfort for others. May your servant trust in your goodness and hope in your faithfulness, even in the middle of this suffering. Let him be filled with patience and joy in your presence as he waits for your healing touch.

Please Pray For:

Maria Cecilia Guerra - Sister of José Guerra Karen Burnett - Member of CCOT

Eva - Friend of Irina Günzel-Guerra from Norway

Ken Flewelling - Member of CCOT

Yonel Fortune - BCY Sponsored boy in Haiti through USFCH

Stoney Stonestreet - Member of CCOT

Doug McIlvaine - Member of CCOT

Keith Jacobs - Friend of Jane & Bruce Jones

Kevin Jackson - Friend of Sally Libby

Edward and Memory Matavhunye and their community - President of the UCC in Zimbabwe

Doug Gruber - Brother of Susan Gruber

Sue Denton - Members of CCOT

Susan Gruber - Member of CCOT

Stephen & Judith Carnahan - Friends of Stephen Moore

Barbara Ripley - Mother of Claudia Worth

Paul Rogers - Father of Tony Rogers

Helen Talberth - Member of CCOT

Jane Moyer - Member of CCOT

Tim Sifter - Brother of Sue DiTucci

Ralph & Diana Titus - Members of CCOT

Anne Marie Euglie - Friend of Sandy Whelan

Anna Collins - Granddaughter of Gerrie and Jim Bunker

Sean Enos - Son of neighbor of Jane & Bruce Jones

Wendy Colby - CCOT's beloved communications and office manager

Rich Hopkins - Member of CCOT

Chuck Schwab - Friend of Charles Mathison

Renata Car - Sister of Ilona Vele

Jeanie Smith - Best friend of Sally Libby

John Stein - Brother-in-Law of Susan Warner

David Pike - Brother of Susan Warner

Dawn Gillberg- Member of CCOT

Donna & Bob Klaum - Nancy Prebble Barret's sister and her husband

Joyce Bergsten – Member of CCOT

Brett Hoover - Grandson of Fred & Carole Hoover

Steve Wilson - Friend of Kim & Charlie Itz

Richard Duncan - Neighbor of Jane & Bruce Jones



SERVING THIS EVENING

The Warner Family
Polly Croteau, Carolyn Detato

Advent Wreath Lighters
Altar Guild

Ed Jelinek
Bruce Jones
Sheryl Knutsen
Kristin Palace
Cathy Szymanski
John Szymanski

Reader
Reader
Reader
Reader
Reader
Reader

Barbara Barnes
Jim Barnes
Larry Atkins

Usher
Usher
Usher

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Kim Karchenes: 978 887-2101 ext. 4
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Children & Youth Ministry Assistant
Kim Love
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Communications & Office Manager
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Joyful Noises Preschool
Yvonne Beirne, 978 848-2018
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