



Christ Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Creating Beloved Community

Christmas Eve Service

7:00 p.m.

December 24, 2019



CHORAL PRELUDE 'Down to Earth' No. 168
(*Congregation is invited to join on the chorus*)

JUNIOR RINGERS 'Winter's Grace' Traditional,
arr. Bill Ingram

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 'Once in Royal David's City' No. 165
First verse soloists: Levi Swisher Rosa & Phoenix Pelote
Please rise and join on verse 2 and 3

2. Christ came down to earth from heaven, love incarnate for us all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, the scorned, the lowly, lived on earth, our Savior holy.

3. Jesus is our childhood's pattern; day by day like us he grew,
he was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew.
Thus he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Holy One, the season of Word made flesh is here!

All: The Word is knocking; the Word awaits with bated breath; the Word is ready to dwell within us.

Leader: The light shines in the darkness,

All: and the darkness did not overcome it.

Leader: Receive our worship this night, that we may follow you, the living Word. Amen

*CAROL 'O Come, All Ye Faithful' verses 1 and 2 No. 148

1. 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, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CAROL 'Angels We Have Heard On High' No. 155

1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

3. Come to Bethlehem and see Christ, who comes in lowly birth. Come adore on bended knee Jesus, joy of heav'n and earth. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

4. See within a manger laid, Christ, whom choirs of angels praise; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

How amazing is your love, great God!

You are not distant from us

in some faraway heaven;

you have come close to us in a child born of simple parents

and cradled in a borrowed bed of straw.

As this bread is broken and this cup is shared,

pull us closer to your loving heart.

Teach us new ways of living.

Help us to walk in his great light.

Amen.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*RECEIVING AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE

God is with us! May the peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you!

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, 'Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!' Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings, mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We praise you, God among us, therefore with the angels we sing:

The musical score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system has a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra! Mi Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My". The second system continues with: "co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res Señ - or! heart knows how to say to you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!". Chord symbols (C, G7, Am, F, G) are placed above the treble staff.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

The body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. **AMEN.**

The blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation. **AMEN.**

Tonight we will receive communion by coming forward down the center aisle.

Our table does not belong to this church or denomination, it is the table Christ has set.

All are welcome – no exceptions.

If you cannot come forward but would like to receive communion, please signal a deacon and we will come to you.

Take a piece of bread or a gluten-free cracker and eat it, then take a small cup of grape juice and drink it. There are people on either side with trays to receive your empty cups. Return by the side aisle. Come for all things are ready.

COMMUNION MUSIC

‘O Holy Night’

Adolphe C. Adam,

Karl Koza, soloist

arr. Jay Althouse

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining; It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope--the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming, with glowing hearts by his cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, here came the Wise Men from Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger, in all our trials born to be our Friend.
He knows our need-- to our weakness is no stranger. Behold your King, before him lowly bend!

Behold your King, before him lowly bend!

COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Loving God, we thank you that you have come into our lives. We are grateful that you act with saving power to make all things new. We thank you for pouring out your life into the human person of Jesus, and for the continual rebirth of Christ in our human hearts. Touched by your Word made flesh, we pray that we will live out your love on this earth. Teach us new ways of living. Help us to walk in the great light. Amen.

SHARING THE LIGHT

We will move into a large circle around the edge of the sanctuary. Once there we will pass the light of candles. We ask that everyone be careful with the candles, and that the unlit candle be tipped toward the candle that is already lit as we share the light. We will sing Silent Night, then extinguish them after the benediction.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

CAROL

'Silent Night'

No. 145

1. Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child,
holy infant so tender and mild
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia – Christ the savior is
born! Christ, the Savior is born.

3. Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light,
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Christ the Savior is born, Christ, the Savior is born.

Repeat verse 1

BENEDICTION (*please extinguish your candle at the end of the benediction*)

CAROL

'Joy to the World'

No. 143

1. 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
haven and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ; while fields and flood,
rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat,
the sounding joy.

3. 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.



Participating in today's service are:

Rev. Patricia Hayes, Senior Minister

Rev. Fred Hayes

Ann-Marie Illsley, Acting Associate Minister

Murray Kidd, Music Director

Sylvia Berry, Organist

David Wilcox, Sign Language

Loren Stott, Sign Language

Christ Congregational Church Wind Ensemble:

Angela Colby

Nicholas Colby

Ronan Cords

Xander Cords

Owen Kidd

Sharon Quesnel

Serenity Young-Ferguson

We welcome everyone to worship with us every Sunday at 9:55 a.m. Check our website for activities, www.brocktonucc.org.