

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
WINTER PARK



God is still speaking,

*"a traditional and nurturing church celebrating God's grace through reason, education,
diversity, inclusion, and social justice"*

We are an Open and Affirming Church

JANUARY 4, 2026

Masking is welcomed but not required.

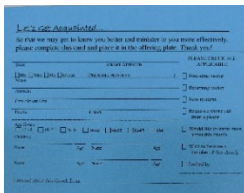
WELCOME

***This is the day that the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice because we are glad to be here!***



Sign the red attendance pad that is located in the pew seat near the center aisle and pass it to the next person.

We want to know that you were here!



Visitors may complete a “Let’s Get Acquainted” card, located in the pew racks, and place the card in the offering plate.

We are here to answer your questions!



SILENCE your technology but still “check-in” and use social media and share our website and portions of our worship that inspire you!



Continue to help us reduce our carbon footprint. If you are not receiving the bulletin via email, and would like to, please contact the church office – 407-647-2416. The bulletin can also be found on our website, fccwp.org. Go to the tab labeled “Bulletin” and locate the appropriate pdf file.



Continue to open up your ‘What’s Happening’ newsletter emails to keep up-to-date on all of the weekly and monthly events. Or visit our website at www.fccwp.org. There is a lot happening in the life of this church and you do not want to miss a thing!



If you have a **prayer need or a joy to share**, please fill out the white prayer request card located in the pew pockets and drop it in the collection plate. We will place your prayer need on our confidential prayer chain. If you wish to have a joy or a need announced in church, permission must be given by calling the church office.



Kindly silence all cell phones during worship

✱ All who are able to do so comfortably, please stand

Preparing to Hear God's Word

PRELUDE
WELCOME
INTROIT

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Rev. Shawn Garvey
Soloist, Kate Reilly

✱ **RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Garvey

People: "God is the source of peace. God nourishes us with abundance."

✱ **OPENING HYMN**

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

✱ **OPENING PRAYER**

✱ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

All children please come forward for Young Church

YOUNG CHURCH

Kerry Weisner

"The Lord's Prayer or Prayer of Our Savior"

All children/youth will remain in church today for Communion Sunday. Childcare is available for infants through 3 yrs. old in the Parlor located at the back of Fellowship Hall. All children must be picked up by a parent.

****SONG OF SUPPORT**

*All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, our dear God made them all.
Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors and made their tiny wings.*

HEBREW

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Rev. Garvey

Minister: This is the Word of God.

People: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

"Both Sides Now"

Joni Mitchell

Soloist, Kate Reilly

GOSPEL

John 1:10-18

Rev. Garvey

Minister: This is the Word of God.

People: Thanks be to God

MESSAGE

"Unaccepted and Unknown"

Rev Shawn Garvey

As beautiful as John's opening words are, they are laced with sorrow. They clearly tell us that the presence that created the world and came into it as Emmanuel was both unknown and unaccepted by the world. Those words were true then for John to have written them, in myriad ways they have been true ever since, and they are most certainly true in our present time. And yet, there are those who DID know and accept him. What can we do in order to be among those who both recognize and accept the presence of The Word in our midst?

Responding to God's Word

CALL TO PRAYER/JOYS AND CONCERNS
SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYERS

Rev. Garvey

A Service for the Spiritual Feast

WORDS OF INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*Unison*)

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior who taught us to pray:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

Offertory

"Huron Carol"

Dennis Bedard

*Doxology (Old Hundredth)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures here below,

Praise God for all that love has done,

Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Garvey

*CLOSING HYMN

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Garvey

NOTICE

TOWN HALL MEETING: January 18, 2025

Immediately following worship

Introduction to the proposed 2026 budget

This is an informational meeting only. *No voting.*

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: January 25, 2025

Immediately following worship

Presentation of the budgets, capital expenditures, board nominations, etc.


This is a voting meeting. **Members only.**

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

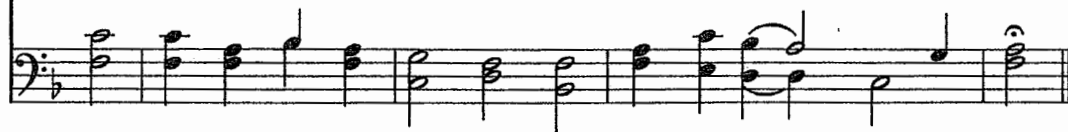

131

German: anon., 15th century
Tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934

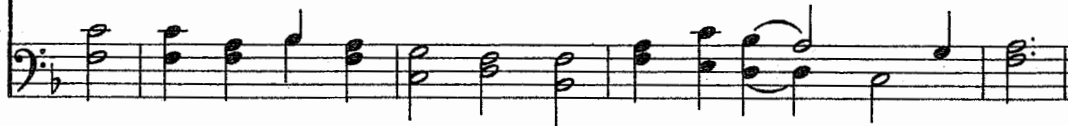

ES IST EIN' ROS' 7.6.7.6.6.7.6.
German: Melody, 16th century
Arr. by Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621



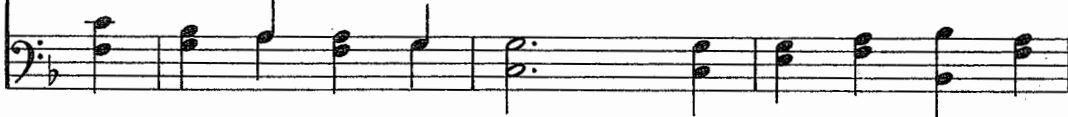

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing From ten-der stem hath sprung!
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore-told it, The Rose I have in mind,


Of Jes-se's lin-eage com-ing As men of old have sung.
With Mar-y we be-hold it, The Vir-gin Moth-er kind.

It came, a flower-et bright, A-mid the cold of
To show God's love a-right, She bore to men a

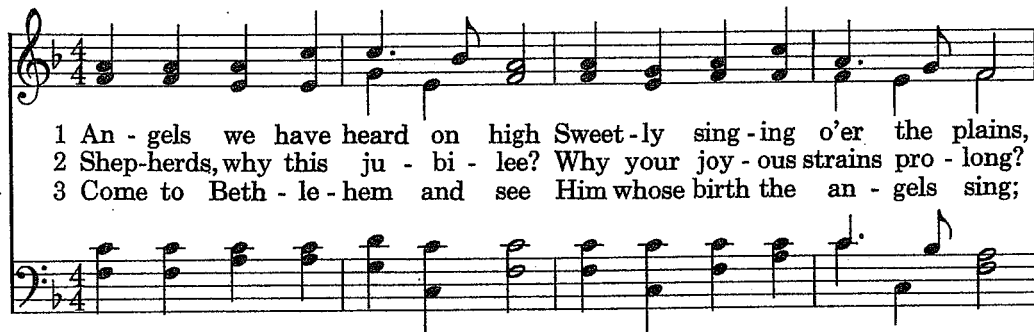
win-ter, When half spent was the night.
Sav-ior, When half spent was the night.



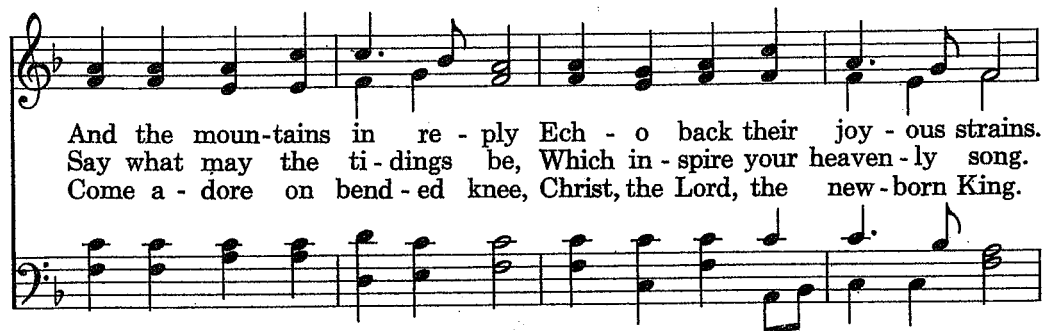
BIRTH

Angels We Have Heard on High

Traditional French Carol

GLORIA 7.7.7.7. with Refrain
French Carol Melody


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 Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun-tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the ti - dings be, Which in - spire your heaven - ly song.
Come a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

REFRAIN



Glo - - - - - ri - a



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



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

CHURCH GUEST WIFI

PASSWORD:

LetMeInPlease!



You can access our weekly bulletin through our website:

fccwp.org

Look for the tab labeled "Bulletin"

Help us reduce our carbon footprint and use your smart technology!

❧LOOKING AHEAD❧

Next Week! Sunday January 11
Christmas Decoration Take Down
After Worship

Sunday January 18
Town Hall Meeting
Sanctuary after Worship

Monday January 19
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Church Office is Closed

Sunday January 25
Annual Congregational Meeting
Sanctuary after Worship

First Congregational Church • United Church of Christ of Winter Park
225 South Interlachen Avenue • Winter Park, Florida 32789-4411
Phone: 407-647-2416 • fccwp@fccwp.org • fccwp.org

Shawn Garvey, Senior Minister
Megan Taylor, Office Administrator
Jacki Churchill, Finance Administrator

Kerry Weisner, Faith Formation Director
John V. Sinclair, Music Director
Chris Olivent, Organist