

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
WINTER PARK



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

*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*

DECEMBER 21, 2025

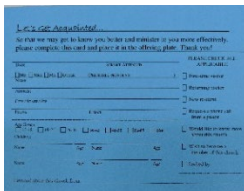
# WELCOME

***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](http://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](http://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**

Rev. Shawn Garvey

**INTROIT**

"Angels Sing"  
*Please refrain from Applauding*

Chancel Choir

✱ **RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Garvey

**People:** "God loves us just as we are, and we give thanks and whisper amen."

✱ **OPENING HYMN**

"Joy to the World"

✱ **OPENING PRAYER**

✱ **LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE**

The Candle of Love

✱ **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"***

*Age four years through kindergarten may leave for Sunday school in the LIBRARY. Grades 1-5 and 6-12 may leave for Sunday school in the UPSTAIRS Fellowship Hall. Childcare for infants through 3 years old is available in the PARLOR located at the back of Fellowship Hall. Please check your child out with the teacher. Children are only released to the 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**

Isaiah 7:10-16

Rev. Garvey

**Minister:** This is the Word of God.

**People:** **Thanks be to God**

**ANTHEM**

"My Heart Is Always Wandering"

Chancel Choir

*Tveit*

*Please Refrain from Applauding*

**GOSPEL**

Matthew 1:18-25

Rev. Garvey

**Minister:** This is the Word of God.

**People:** **Thanks be to God**

## MESSAGE

"Emmanuel"

Rev. Shawn Garvey

*For Matthew, the story of Jesus is the story of God being with us in full, human form. Anyone who encounters Jesus, is impacted by him, transformed by him, healed by him, challenged by him....all of ways in which Jesus makes an imprint upon people....is really being impacted by God. We are almost ready to welcome God With Us: Emmanuel. How have you found it true in your journey of faith that God is, truly, with us?*

## *Responding to God's Word*

CALL TO PRAYER/JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Garvey

SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYERS

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

Offertory

"O Come, Divine Messiah"

*Léon Roques*

\*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

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Garvey



## *Christmas Eve Services -* *Wednesday December 24*

**Join us as we celebrate the joy of Christ's birth!**

- **5:00 PM – Family Service: A festive, child-friendly service for all ages**
- **11:00 PM – Lessons & Carols: A beautiful, traditional service of scripture and song**



# Christmas Flowers



Thank you to all who contributed to the Christmas Flower Fund!

The flowers that decorate our Sanctuary today are given...

## *In loving memory of:*

- ❖ Bob Leventhal, beloved husband and father to Lynn and Rob
- ❖ George Sprinkel, George and Lilian Sprinkel, Tom, Marietta and Marion Clark from Sarah Sprinkel
- ❖ Their parents, Gerrie Sell and William and Florence Landram from Skip and Penny Sell
- ❖ Fire victims and grieving families of the deadly fire in Hong Kong on 11/26/2025 by Ngan Ling Lung
- ❖ The William Wick Family, Robert Throm Sr., and Robert Throm, Jr. from Susan Throm-White
- ❖ Their loving grandmother and great grandmother, Evelyn Lewis and their dear friend, John Wilding by Cari, Brian and Caroline Rotenberger
- ❖ Dick and Catharine Baldwin, Mozelle and Maynard Baldwin, and Edgar and Beulah Baldwin – given by Richard O. Baldwin
- ❖ In memory of Kitty Nixon from Revd Ryan Sirmons
- ❖ My Mom, Nancy Slage by Donna Guber
- ❖ My parents, Montell and Dorothy Clites by Donna Borko
- ❖ My parents, Frank and Rosemary Heinzman and my niece, Christina Steele by Linda Peters
- ❖ My parents, Hartley "Tex" and Lone "Tony" Graves for their legacy of a loving family by Debbie Graves
- ❖ Bob and Connie Dolph by the Vincent family

## *In honor of:*

- ❖ 65 Christmases together for Mary Anne and Bill Tyson
- ❖ Anthony and Amanda Lacerda's 2-year wedding anniversary today
- ❖ Dr. John Sinclair from Chris Olivent
- ❖ My father Emory "Pete" Slage by Donna Guber
- ❖ Stacy and Bob Robinson, Ben and Alex Baldwin, and Evans and Mary Baldwin – given by Richard O. Baldwin
- ❖ Their parents and grandparents, Pam and Joe Luppert and Barbara & David Rotenberger and their dear friend, Donna Borko
- ❖ Our children and grandchildren by Jim and Jeanette Schreiber
- ❖ The Hong Kong Firefighters by Ngan Ling Lung
- ❖ My family, Karen and Bill Leonard and Todd Emerick. My sister at heart, Pam Luppert and the Luppert and Rotenberger families by Donna Borko
- ❖ Her loving Aunt Lisa and Uncle David by Caroline Rotenberger

## Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

ANTIOCH C.M.

Attr. to Georg F. Handel, 1685-1759

Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns: Let men their  
 3 He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,

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

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

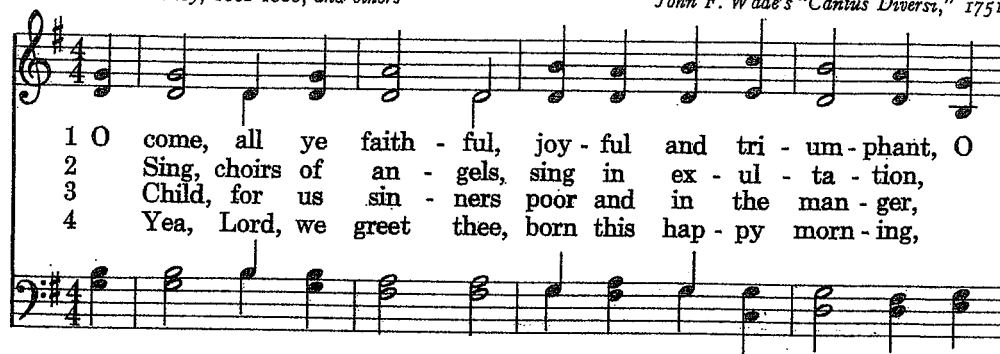
sing, And heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love. A - men.

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

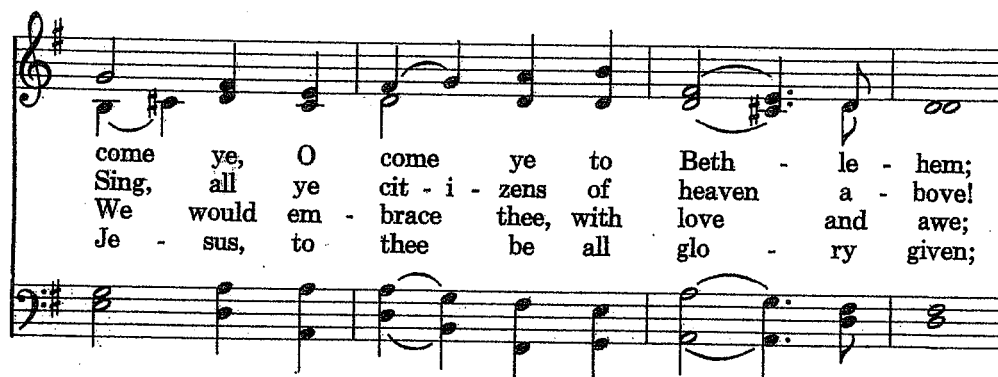
## O Come, All Ye Faithful

Latin: John F. Wade, 1711-1786  
Tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, and others

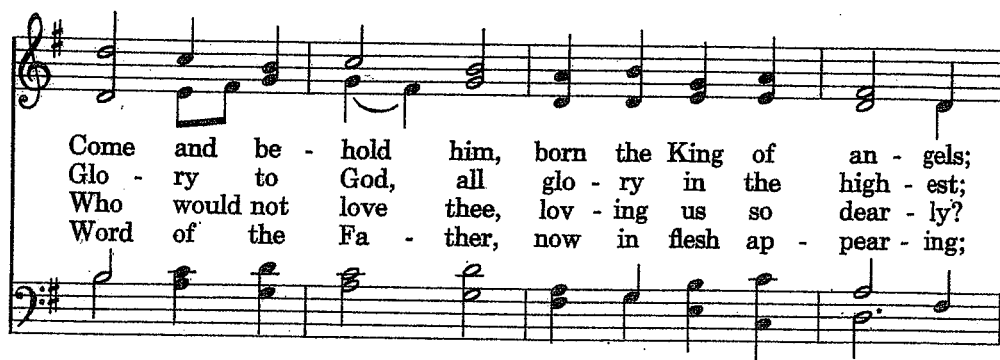
ADESTE FIDELES Irregular  
John F. Wade's "Cantus Diversi," 1751



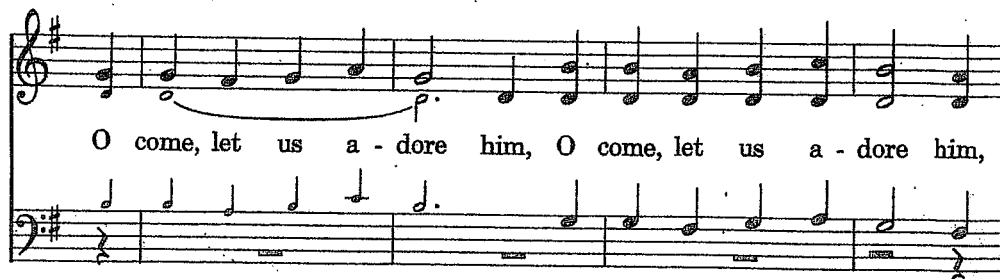
1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
3 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,



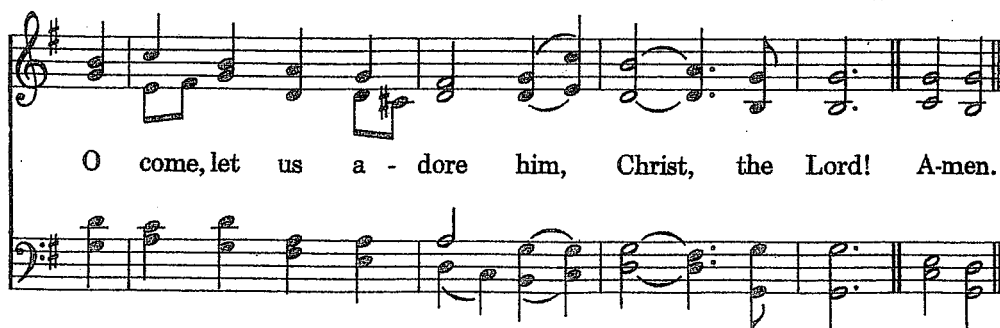
come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove!  
We would em - brace thee, with love and awe;  
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry given;



Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
Who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord! A-men.

# CHURCH GUEST WIFI

PASSWORD:

**LetMeInPlease!**



You can access our weekly bulletin through our website:

[fccwp.org](http://fccwp.org)

Look for the tab labeled "Bulletin"

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

## ❧LOOKING AHEAD❧

**TODAY: Sunday December 21**

**Preliminary Budget Town Hall with Jim Schreiber  
Fellowship Hall after Worship**

***Christmas Eve Services - Wednesday December 24***

**Join us as we celebrate the joy of Christ's birth!**

- **5:00 PM – Family Service: A festive, child-friendly service for all ages**
- **11:00 PM – Lessons & Carols: A beautiful, traditional service of scripture and song**

**Wednesday December 24**

**Church Office closes at 12:00PM**

**Thursday December 25 through Thursday January 1**

**Church Office is Closed**

First Congregational Church • United Church of Christ of Winter Park  
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