

Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018

10:00 A.M.

Blue

Prelude *Voluntary* – by Samuel Jackson; *Praeludium* – by Simon Sechter
He Shall Feed His Flock – by George F. Handel

Ringing of the Bell

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tom & Chris Kovarik

Welcome and Informal Moments

Choral Introit

*Call to Worship

L: As we continue to journey toward Christmas, we are continually reminded of the gifts found in Jesus.

P: On this Advent journey, we encounter anew God's hope, peace, joy, and love.

L: We come to worship our Compassionate God who sees our needs and the needs of the world. In the coming gift of Jesus, we find peace to face all that life holds.

P: Longing for peace, we await the celebrations to come. Come, let us worship.

*Opening Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

No. 114

Unison Prayer of Confession and Lord's Prayer

Holy God, as we strive to live in your peace, we acknowledge that we fall short. When our thoughts, words, and deeds breed chaos and division rather than harmony and unity, heal our hearts and the wounds that we have created. Forgive us our sins, and renew within us a spirit of peace to share with the world. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying, "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.”

Words of Assurance

Anthem *Advent* – by David W. Davenport

Scripture Luke 1:67-80 Linda Adams, reader

Time for Children

Children’s Choir - *Silent Night*
(*The children are dismissed to Church School until 11:00am.*)

*Hymn *Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming* No. 148

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer

Prayer Response

Invitation to Offering

Offertory *Orgelstück* – by A. Kehrer

***Doxology** **No. 44**

***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***

(As our morning offerings are brought forward, so too are the non-perishable food offerings from the basket in the Narthex for St. Philip's Food Pantry.)

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Good and Gracious God, bless the offerings that we place before you. May the gifts in the plates and in the pews help create a just and peace-filled world. May our offerings to the Christmas Fund bring peace of mind to all who will be helped through them. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

Sermon “Prepare the Way” Rev. Josh Fitterling

*Closing Hymn *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* No. 121

*Benediction

*Congregational Benediction *Go Now In Peace (in the back of the hymnal)*

Postlude *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* – arr. John Carter



*All who are able may stand.
All are invited to join us after worship for coffee
and refreshments.

Those Serving You Today
Bell Ringer: Brad Adler
Ushers: John Ross & Becky Lenz
Flowers: Ron Sanchez
Coffee Hour Servers: Trustees

Announcements

If you have a **prayer request**, please enter it in the book at the rear of the sanctuary. The book will be brought forward during the first hymn.

Today: Second Sunday of Advent
Family Worship
Christmas Fund Offering

Dec. 10: Game Night 6pm

Dec. 11: Healthy Kids Play Group 10am-12pm

Dec. 12: Organ Society 9:30 am

Dec. 13: Chase Point Worship Service 10:30am
Choir Rehearsal 4:00 pm

Dec. 14: FCCW Crew works on Habitat Wiscasset house

Dec. 15: Organ Society Cookie Prep
Choir Cantata Rehearsal

Dec. 16: Third Sunday of Advent
Worship and Church School 10am
Choir Sunday

Dec. 19: Blue Christmas 6pm in Fellowship Hall

Virtual Advent Calendar

It's not too late to sign up for our Virtual Advent Calendar! Through Dec. 24th, you will receive a special message daily from Rev. Josh with a little note and a suggestion of something to do that day as we seek to share the hope, peace, joy, and love that we celebrate each Advent season. To participate, sign up on our website (<http://uccwicasset.org>) or request a print copy from the office.

Special Thanks to:
Green Acre Christmas Tree Farm
for the donation of our Sanctuary Christmas Tree!

Ron Sanchez & Tom Cramer
**for donating and decorating our
Fellowship Hall Christmas Tree!**

Christmas Fund Offering Today

Today we will be collecting the special Christmas Fund Offering which is one of the four Special Mission Offerings of the UCC. The Christmas Fund provides UCC congregations an opportunity to reach out in kindheartedness to those who have faithfully shepherded our Church and who now find themselves facing unexpected financial needs. This is a way for lay people to be the Church to those who have done Christ's work on earth so faithfully.

Fellowship Hall Tree Decorations

Last year, everyone was invited to bring in a special decoration from home to create our own Fellowship and Church Family Tree! The ornaments that remained last year have been added to our tree with plenty of room for more, as we represent the many hearts of our community that celebrate this Christmas season together! Bring your ornament any time! Ornaments may be taken home after the December 30th Service of Lessons and Carols.

Dec. 14, FCCW Crew works on Habitat Wiscasset House

Volunteers from First Congregational Church will be working on the new Habitat for Humanity home on Federal Street on Friday, Dec. 14. The current work crew volunteers are Ed Peele, Deane Attwood, Brian Adams, and Steve Hatt. If anyone else wants to volunteer, or provide lunch for the work crew, please contact Steve Hatt, at stevehatt@roadrunner.com, or call Steve at 882-6712.

Christmas Music Sunday—Dec. 16, 10am

Join us for this special music Sunday as our talented and dedicated choir, under the direction of Linda Adams, presents “Christmas PRESENCE” by Pepper Choplin. This Christmas Cantata brings us into the spirit of the season, as we journey toward the celebration of Christ’s birth.

Organ Society Cookie Sale—Dec. 16th

The Organ Society’s Annual Cookie Sale will be after worship on Dec. 16. If you can donate cookies for the sale, please bring them to the church by 9:30 am on Saturday, Dec. 15. These will be great additions to your holiday festivities, so come prepared to buy!

Blue Christmas Worship—Dec. 19, 6pm, Fellowship Hall

As we approach the darkest night of the year, we acknowledge that the Christmas season can be a challenging one for many who have experienced loss in their lives. Join us for this special service as we make a place for our grief and sorrow, light candles, read scripture, sing, pray and reflect this holiday season.

And a Thank you to FCCW

Dear First Congregational Church,

Thank you for the use of Fellowship Hall for the annual Wiscasset Tree Lighting. This event ushers in the holiday season, for our beautiful coastal town. I feel blessed to have been a part of this joyous occasion for many years.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and a healthy New Year!

Always,
Norman Gordon



Minister: *Rev. Josh Fitterling*
Music Director: *Ms. Linda Adams*
Church School Teacher & Coordinator: *Ms. Colleen Crowley*
Office Administrator: *Ms. Janet Leonard*
Sexton *Ms. Mary McKinney*
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