

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
CHRISTMAS EVE 2018

5:00 pm

Welcome to First Congregational Church. We hope that your worship this evening brings you fulfillment and peace as we gather to kneel in Bethlehem. In an effort to maintain the feeling of peace and serenity during worship, we request that you silence your electronic devices and refrain from photography. May peace and joy be yours now and always.

Prelude *In Dulci Jubilo* 15th C. German
I Saw Three Ships 17th C. English
Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella 17th C. French

Welcome

Bringing in the Light of Christ Sofia Martinez, Vivienne Baylor

Scripture Reading Isaiah 2, 6-7 Steve Hockstra

The Light of Christ

One: So let us light candles.
All: Candles of joy, despite all sadness,
One: Candles of hope where despair keeps watch.
All: Candles of courage for fears ever present,
One: Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
All: Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens.
One: Candles of love to inspire all our living,
All: Candles that will burn all the year long.

Carol O Come, All Ye Faithful *(Please stand)* ADESTE FIDELES

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;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest. **Refrain**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; **Refrain**

Invocation (unison, adapted from A. James) Mary Kate Buchanan
**God of Light, you reveal your very self to us in your son Jesus
Christ, your Word made flesh, who lived among us, full of grace
and truth. Open us to your revelation once again, that we might
know your presence and follow in your light always. Amen.**

Anthem Do You Hear What I Hear? Regney/Shayne

Children's Message

Dee Buchanan, Katie Morgan & Caitlyn Menolasino
(Children please remain seated with family)

Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-7

Carol Hark! The Herald Angels Sing *(Please stand)* MENDELSSOHN

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!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased on earth with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son 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 all souls on earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-14

Anthem Immanuel Michael Card

Scripture Reading Luke 2:15-20

Carol Angels We Have Heard on High *(Please stand)* GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains;
and the mountains, in reply, echo back their joyous strains.
Refrain: *Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
Refrain: *Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing.
Come adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Refrain: *Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Christmas Meditation • Peter Wiley

Christmas Eve Prayer and Lord's Prayer Jeanette Brodersen
**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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us
from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever. Amen.**

Offertory *(Please see back of bulletin for information)*

O Holy Night A. Adam
Heather Carlson, soloist

The Candles of Christmas

*When lighting candles, please tip only the unlit candle and
assist all children with you to keep the candles upright.*

Carol Silent Night *(Please remain seated)* STILLE NACHT

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.

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!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming
grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

The Light Shines in the Darkness *Lifting up of our candles*

Carol Joy to the World! *(Please stand)* ANTIOCH

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 heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns: let earth her songs employ;
let fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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.

Benediction

Postlude *In dulci jubilo, BWV 729* J. S. Bach

*Mary Kate Buchanan - 3rd year student at
Princeton Theological Seminary, Member of FCCH*

*Caitlyn Menolasino - Children's Ministries
Summer Intern 2018 & 2019*

MUSICIANS

*Ken Johnston - violin
Marian Goss - violin
Hannah Moses - cello
FCCH Christmas Choir*

Jon Dodson - Fellowship Hall Worship Leader

Welcome!

We bring greetings to all in the wonder of this season.
Please know you always have a home and are welcome here.

For families with young children, they are always welcome in worship. However,

- If you desire, Infant and Toddler Care is available. Follow signs to the Crib Room on our lower level.
- Also, the Alcove is available to watch our service on live-stream with your child. Follow signs to the Alcove or ask an usher for assistance.

Are you looking for a faith home?

We would love to have you join our church family again for Sunday worship at one of our three services:

- 9:00 am Traditional Service**
Infant and Toddler Care
Pre-K through 5th Sunday School
Middle and High School Sunday School
- 10:30 am Traditional Service**
Infant and Toddler Care
Pre-K through 5th Sunday School
Middle and High School Sunday School
- 11:59 am Casual Thirty Minute Service**
Infant and Toddler Care

Every Sunday, our 10:30 and 11:59 services are also **live-streamed** at www.firstconnect.org and on Facebook.

If you have any questions or would like more information on how to connect with our church family, please contact Rev. Jeanette Brodersen at JBrodersen@hudsonucc.org.

Thank you for worshipping with us Christmas Eve!

Our Christmas Offering:

Christmas is all about the greatest of all gifts given to us: God with us in the Child of Bethlehem. It's no wonder that many of us feel compelled to give with extravagance in this season.

Gifts given this evening will support the many ministries of First Congregational Church, both within and beyond our walls. Thank you for helping to shine the Christmas light of hope here in Hudson, Akron, and beyond.

- TEXT your gift. Text "FCCH" to 73256 and follow the directions to complete your gift.
- Use the envelopes in the pews for your gift and put in the offering plate when it comes around.
- Make your gift using your REALM account on our church website: hudsonucc.org.

Wherever you are on your journey ... you are welcome here.

Christmas Eve 2018

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Peter Wiley Senior Pastor
The Rev. Jeanette Brodersen..... Associate Pastor
The Rev. Steve Hockstra Associate Pastor
Callie Baylor Director of Youth Ministries
Dee Buchanan Director of Children's Ministries
Katie Morgan Associate Director of Children's Ministries
Jen Barden Coordinator of Young Families
Dr. Tom Scott Director of Music Ministries
Charlotte Beers Plank Organist
Kathy Yeakley Director of Health Ministries
Sue Wimer Director of First Serve & Outreach
Emily Lopick Director of Stewardship & Communication
Diana Finkes Business Manager
Lora Eureka Office Manager
Laurie Berendsen Office Associate
Amy Baldwin Office Associate
Bill Schmidt Facilities Manager
Laurence Frese Custodial Manager

Adjunct Clergy:

The Rev. Dr. Richard Clewell, Adjunct Minister
The Rev. Jonathan Dodson, Chaplain, Laurel Lake Retirement Community
The Rev. Dr. Janet Ross, Mission for Haiti and Amistad Chapel

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
47 Aurora Street, Hudson, OH 44236
PHONE: (330) 650-4048
WEBSITE: hudsonucc.org

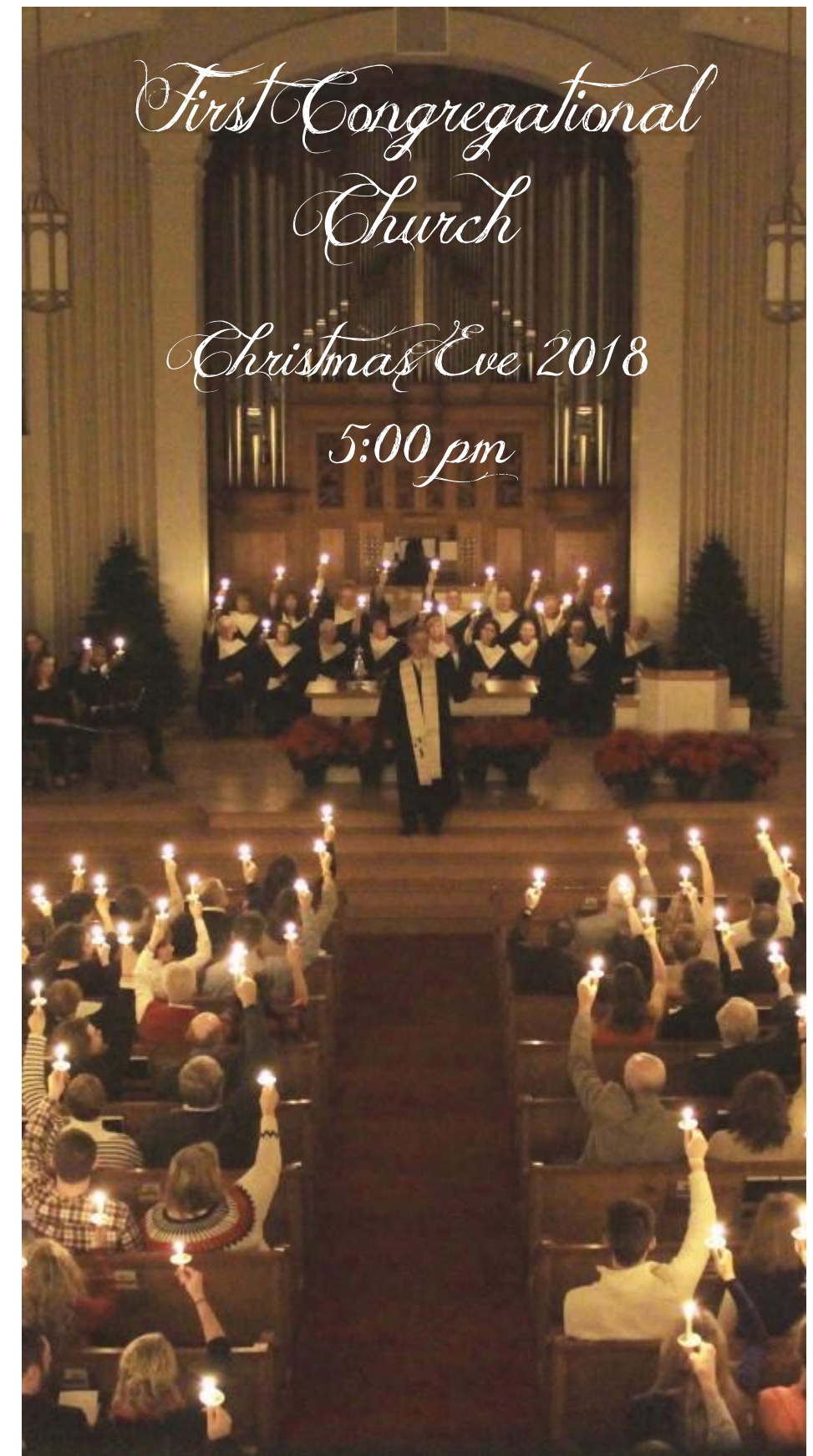
CHILDREN'S CENTER Childcare & Preschool
PHONE : (330) 342-3977



"First Congregational Church of Hudson"



Scan this QR code to be directed to the Church website. There you will find information on our programs for adults, youth and children as well as music, missions, health care ministry and much more.



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

December 24, 2018