

# First Congregational United Church of Christ Sunday December 20, 2020



“Sabbath and its faithful practice of work stoppage is an act of resistance. It declares in bodily ways that we will not participate in the anxiety system that pervades our social environment. We will not be defined by busyness and by acquisitiveness and by pursuit of more – not in our economics, not in our personal relations, nor anywhere else in our lives. Because our life does not consist in commodity.” – Walter Brueggemann , Sabbath as Resistance

Welcome To Our Church Family!

**Prelude Music – “O Sanctissima” arr by Larry Shackley**  
- offered by Shelley Fisher

**Tolling of the Bell**

**Welcome**

**The Lighting of the 4<sup>th</sup> Advent Candle– David Bowen**

**Hymn 184 – “What Child is This?” (vs 1 & 3)**

*(1) What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste,  
haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary! (3) So bring him incense,  
gold and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation  
brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, the  
Virgin sings her lullaby; joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of  
Mary!*

**1<sup>st</sup> Readings – Deuteronomy 6:10-12 & Deuteronomy 8:10-18**

**Special Music – “In the Bleak Midwinter” – Marga Eickholt, cello**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Readings – Luke 1:5-25 & Luke 1:57-80**

**Special Music – “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”**

– Marga Eickholt, cello

**Morning Message – REMEMBER AND RESIST**

– offered by Toby Jones, Pastor

**Hymn #232 – “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” (vs 1-2)**

*(1) Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our God  
to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand. (2) King of kings, yet born  
of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the  
body and the blood, he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly  
food.*

## Offering

Offertory Music – “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

– Marga Eickhold, cello

## The Doxology

## Morning Prayers

### Hymn #179 – “Joy to the World” (vs 1-2)

*(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 heaven, and heaven and nature sing. (2) Joy to the earth! 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.*

## Final Charge & Blessing

Postlude – “On Christmas Night, All Christians Sing” – arr by Lloyd Larson  
- offered by Shelley Fisher



## Special Musical Guest

Marga Eickholt joined the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra in the Fall of 2002 after moving to the area from Saginaw, Michigan where she played in the Saginaw Symphony, later renamed to the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra, from 1976 – 2002.

In her free time she’s found riding her Indian Motorcycle (7500 miles/year) with her sister.

Sunday 12/20	Mon 12/21	Tues. 12/22	Wed. 12/23	Thurs. 12/24	Fri. 12/25	Sat. 12/26	Sunday 12/27
10:30 am live-streamed Worship  www.chxucc.org	6:00 pm Pantry	10:00 am Sabbath Study- Zoom	7:00 pm Sabbath Study- Zoom	Christmas Eve Service	Christmas Day  		10:30 am live-streamed Worship

**Merry Christmas!**  
**From the Staff of First Congregational  
Church, Charlevoix MI**

**Prayer Requests**

Healing	<b>Marv Smith- Covid-19</b> Earl Bennett- Surgery Marilyn Dumbauld- Surgery	Marty and Marge Merz– Covid-19 Rick Wright- Covid-19
Prayers	Nick Jones– Stroke Alice Schad- cognitive difficulties	Covid-19 Patients Teachers, staff and students First Responders & Essential Workers
Joys	<b>Blessing of friendship &amp; each other!</b>	
Grieving	Family & loved ones of Barb Dowty	

***Just a Reminder about the Church Employee Christmas Donations***

Don't forget to send your Christmas donations to our dedicated staff – Larry, Leah, Roger, Shelley, and Toby – by using the church website or via a check, in accordance with the email you received from our Moderator Bill Trubilowicz last week. Thank you for making our great staff's season bright!

