



*Lisa Greenleaf 2009*

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**First Parish Church, Congregational  
On the Village Green  
Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts**

*Awaken to the Light and Love of God;  
Be a Joyful Beacon to the World*

**First Parish Church, Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
Christmas Eve Celebration  
Saturday, December 24, 2022  
5:00 PM**

**Prelude** In Dolci Jubilo - J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

**Welcome**

**Scripture Luke 2: 13-14**

<sup>13-14</sup> At once the angel was joined by a huge angelic choir singing God's praises:

Glory to God in the heavenly heights,  
Peace to all men and women on earth who please him.

**Call to Worship**

Leader: On this night the angels sing

**All: Heavenly hosts proclaim**

Leader: A gift from God to set us free

**All: Unto us a child is born**

Leader: and He shall be called Wonderful Counselor

**All: Prince of Peace**

Leader: Everlasting Light

**All: Emmanuel. God with us!**

Leader: Joy to the world!

**All: The Lord is come!**

Leader: Let all voices sing His praise! Amen

**Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candles - The Davies Family**

**Hymn** Joy to The World! #130 PH (blue hymnal)

**Opening Prayer** together

Let all the angels sing! Sing out, all you joy-filled experienced angels. Let every voice be heard, sweet, shy, and unsure angels. Let every gurgle and coo be recognized, you new recruits of the heavenly choir! Let all the tired and the doubting raise their voices. Let all the heavy-hearted share their mournful tones. Let all the angels, young and not so young: the wealthy and the wanting: you doers and you watchers: those who laugh and those who cry, sing out. For unto us has been given the gift of light. The gift of joy. The gift of hope. The gift of love. Emmanuel. Amen.

## **Prayer**

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

## **Invitation to the Christmas Offering**

**Meditation** Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas – Hugh Martin (1914-2011) and Ralph Blane (1914-1995)  
Dr. Herman Weiss, piano

## **Sharing of Scripture and presentation of *The Carolers***

**Hymn** The First Nowell #141 PH (blue hymnal)

**Lighting of the Candles** Silent Night, Holy Night

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.

## **Blessing**

Participants in tonight's service are Jeanne Westcott, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Dr. Herman Weiss, Director of Music, Sydney Bartlett, Nancy Peterson, and Betsy Nickless.

The nativity scene on the altar is in celebration of Christmas Eve.

Our Deacons this evening are Janet Groth and John Feuerbach.

Listening devices are available for those in need; they are at the back of the Sanctuary. Feel free to address a Deacon should you need help.

**Learn more about First Parish online:**

Facebook [www.facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/](http://www.facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/)

Instagram [www.instagram.com/fpcmanchesterbythesea/](http://www.instagram.com/fpcmanchesterbythesea/)

Website [www.firstparishchurch.org/](http://www.firstparishchurch.org/)

YouTube Worship Services

*Thank you to all who donated poinsettias or to the Deacon Fund for the Christmas season. If you donated a plant, you are invited to take it with you after this celebration.*

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

*Vincent Terrill*

Susan Martineau

*Carole Schanley*

Darvin Schanley and Family

*Larry Larsen, Slim Proctor, Oleg Pohotsky and Carol Zoppel*

Jolene and Kate Larsen

*Loved ones from Christmas' past*

Paul Driscoll and Nancy Peterson

*Robert W. Graul Jr. and Edith Graul*

Robert Graul

*Robert Sanborn Parker*

Muriel S. Parker

*Larry & Margit Breakiron, Paul & Edith Gudonis*

Lauren and Paul Gudonis

*Shirley & Bob Wilkinson and Robert Parker*

Sue and Jeff Parker

*Nancy Jenkins and Lori Jenkins*

Janis Holley

*Pauline Bzdula & Ted Bzdula*

Paula Bzdula

*All my many loved ones*

Jan Marshall

*Bill & Lois Carhart, Randolph & Martha Farmer, and Jill Benke*

Steve Carhart and Marty Farmer

**IN CELEBRATION OF**

*All Our Loved Ones*

Mary and David Lumsden

*Family and Friends*

Liz Loomis

**IN HONOR OF**

*Our Grandson-to-be, Charlie Stephen*

Steve Carhart and Marty Farmer