



Second Christian Church of Kittery

North Church of Portsmouth

Worship with Holy Communion for the First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024 - 10:00 AM

Welcome one and all! Whether you are gathering with us on-site or on-line,

*Remember: No matter who you are, no matter who you love,
no matter where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here!*

(* You are invited to stand as you are able)

WE GATHER

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Music

Call to Community †

One: Let us keep watch! Let us hear what God will say to us in these days.

***Many: We need a good word for right now,
but we can't hear God's voice over our own noise.***

The proud and the wealthy don't have the right spirit;
the arrogant will never understand.

***So let us be humble and generous, listening before we speak
and giving more than we receive.***

The Lord is in his holy temple. Let all mortal flesh keep silence before God.

We will keep silent and not be afraid. We will be still and wait for a word.

Rejoice, O daughter Zion. The Lord will come dwell in your midst, and none will be afraid.

Let all living things be silent before our God.

*** Hymn #124**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

*** Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

Holy Spirit, we pray that you will move among us,

that you will undo all the bonds that tie us to despair, to fear, to hopelessness.

We pray you will help us to let go of the structures that do more harm than good.

We pray you will teach us how to hope again.

We wait for you, Spirit of Hope, and for your transforming love.

Move among us we pray. Amen,

*** Words of Grace**

*** Gloria**

Hirst/Effenberger

Glory to you, creating One!

Glory to you, redeeming Son! Glory to you, O Spirit, come!

Meet us now, make us one, glory to you, O God!

The Anthem

Advent Canticle

Lloyd Larson

Our Combined Choirs

We Light the Candle of Hope

Rob and Kathryn Varney

Response (#128, v. 1 only)

*One Candle Is Lit **

CRADLE SONG

*Come surely, Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night,
our hearts long to greet you, as roses, the light.
Salvation, draw near us, our vision engage.
One candle is lit for the hope of the age.*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

A Prayer before the Scripture Reading

*Living God, help us so to hear and ponder your holy Word,
that we may truly understand; and that understanding, we may believe;
and believing, we may follow in faithfulness and obedience,
seeking your honor and glory in all that we do. Amen,*

The Scripture

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 21:25-36

The Message

"Hope that Undoes Us"

Rev. Jennifer Mazur

WE RESPOND

We Share our Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Our Savior

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.*

For the kingdom, and the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen,

An Invitation to Offering

Special Music

*** Response ††**

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God who deep within us sings a song of hope for unseen things,
'til every creature feels its worth and justice reigns in all the earth.*

*** Dedication of Gifts**

Joyous God, Originator of all Gifts,

This day and always, we celebrate the gifts of our hands and hearts.

We share our talents and time, knowing our energy builds the world with love.

*We share our treasures, knowing that all gifts we entrust to your Church will build your
Realm. With joy, we devote our firstfruits to loving you and your children. Amen,*

WE GATHER AT THE TABLE

We are Invited

We Remember

We Bless the Gifts

God of the abundant table, forgive us when we pretend there is not enough room: when we haggle over the guest list and the seating arrangements though you have called us only to set the table. As we wait for Christ to be born among us again, teach us to make more room, not less. May we learn to see Jesus in the least and the last, and may we bring that seat to the head of the table. Bless this bread for our bodies that we might be restored for the work of your kindom; bless this cup for our spirits, that we might be renewed for the work of your word. Amen,

We Share the Gifts

(M. Tirabassi, alt.)

One: The bread we share is blessed and broken. The hope of the world is in your hand.

Many: Sharing hope, we will never be hungry

The fruit of the vine in your hand is blessed and shared
like the overflowing of tears and joy.

Drinking deeply, we will never thirst.

We Give Thanks

God of love and light, we give thanks for this simple yet sacred meal.

With this bread you fill parts of us we did not know were hungry.

With this cup you heal parts of us we did not know were thirsty.

May our love for one another and for your world

grow and be sustained by this meal we have shared.

Go with us into the world as we share the gift of hope you bring us. Amen,

WE GO OUT

* Hymn #136

Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming

PLEADING SAVIOR

* A Blessing

Music for Going Out

† Some of this morning's liturgy is adapted for our use from
Calling All Angels: An Advent Study of Fearlessness and Strength
© 2024 Erin Wathen, Westminster John Knox Publishers.

†† by Mary Luti, from *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*, © 2024 The United Church of Christ. Permission granted.

Welcome to worship!

You have been greeted this morning by Adam and Cassie Baran.

Our Ushers are Orville and Priscilla deRochemont. Tom Baran is our Liturgist.

We welcome the Rev. Jenn Mazur and all of our friends from North Church to worship with us while their sanctuary is being remodeled for a new season of ministry!

Please keep your name tag on when you join us downstairs following worship for a time of refreshment and fellowship with hospitality provided by North Church!

Second Christian Church of Kittery - UCC

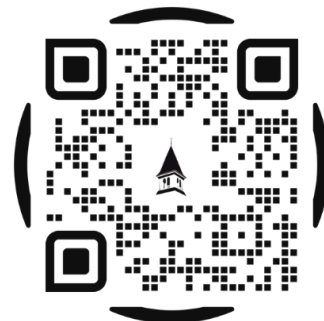
An Open and Affirming Congregation

33 Government St., Kittery, ME 03904

207-439-3903 church@2ccucc.org

Rev. Brad Hirst, Pastor • Mike Effenberger, Music Director • Charles Donnell, Treasurer

Welcoming... Learning... Going Out...



The Week Ahead:

Monday, December 2:

6:00pm Seacoast Gay Men

Tuesday, December 3:

4:00pm **Calling All Angels -**
An Advent Study of Fearlessness and Strength

Wednesday, December 4:

10:00am AA
6:30pm No Choir Rehearsal Tonight!

Thursday, December 5:

2:00pm Prayer Time - *In Person here at the church.*
All are welcome!
6:30pm Church Council Meeting

Friday, December 6:

9:00am Breakfast with Brad at *Kasha's Kitchen*

Saturday, December 7:

10:00am Choir Rehearsal
3:00pm **Kittery Holiday Parade**
4:00pm **Christmas Caroling** in the Foreside!

Sunday, December 8:

10:00am **The Second Sunday of Advent**
Second Sunday Jazz Worship
We light the Candle of Peace
Rev. Brad Hirst, preaching

Our Mission Statement

Second Christian Congregational United Church of Christ
is a God-centered, Christ-formed, Spirit-led,
Open and Affirming gathering of God's People.

It is our mission:

To welcome all people into our community of faith,
To learn together the cost and joy of discipleship, and
To go out into the world to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ,

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

*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.*

*Truly God, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
word of God, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood,
Christ will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.*

*Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.*

*At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, God most high!"*

PICARDY

WORDS: *Liturgy of St. James* (4th century);
tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1864

MUSIC: French carol (17th century);
harm *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

** One Candle Is Lit*

WORDS: Mary Anne Parrot, 1988
MUSIC: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1895
Words © 1995 Chalice Press

Christians All, Your Lord is Coming

*Christians all, your Lord is coming,
drawing near in holy birth.
Ring the bells and sound the trumpets,
let your music fill the earth.
Dance and move to show God's glory;
kneel and pause to hear God's word.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Rise and let your songs be heard.*

*Christians all, your Lord is coming,
calling you to serve in deed.
See the ones who hurt and suffer,
hear the cry and act with speed.
Set all selfish ways behind you.
Purge your hearts of sinful greed.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ in you will meet their need.*

*Christians all, your Lord is coming,
he will rise up from the dead.
Lift the cup of sin forgiven;
bless the host and eat his bread.
Mend the ways where peace is broken,
give yourselves to true shalom.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dwell as one in church and home.*

*Christians all, your Lord is coming,
hope for peace is now at hand.
Let there be no hesitation,
walk in faith where life demands.
Bear the word that God has given;
share the birth that stirs your soul.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ will come and make you whole.*

PLEADING SAVIOR

WORDS: Jim Miller, 1993
MUSIC: Joshua Leavitt's *Christian Lyre*, 1830
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