

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BUCKLAND

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church Phone: 625-9440 Pastor's Phone: (413) 634-5451

Rev. Richard T. Fournier, Pastor

Sandy Carter - Organist / Pianist

**December 27, 2020**

**Lessons, Carols, and Candle Lighting**

---

## PRELUDE

**CHORAL INTROIT** "In Excelsis Gloria" - Henry Gauntlett

## CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: This morning we kneel with families all over the earth in the presence of the Most High.

**People: We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light.**

Pastor: As we have been invaded by the Light, let us enlighten.

**People: As we have been found, let us seek out the lost.**

Pastor: As we have been liberated, let us set the captives free.

**All: For unto us a Child is born, the One whom God sends to bring peace and light, freedom and love. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*HYMN** "O Come All Ye Faithful" No. 103 (vs. 1 & 3)

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

O God, Your birth startles us with glory that reaches heaven to earth and enkindles hope that brings earth to heaven. We thank You for choosing our hearts as Your cradle. As we gather this morning empower us to continue the sacred work of love and peace in the world that began with Your Son, the one who taught us to pray, "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."

**THE WORD OF PROPHECY** Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7, 52: 7-10  
Pgs. 555 & 596

**CHOIR ANTHEM** "Prayer at the Manger" - Don Besig

**THE BIRTH OF JESUS** Luke 2: 1-7 Pages 832-833

**\*HYMN** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" No. 121 (vs. 1 & 2)

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

**UNISON PRAYER** (whole congregations)

Dear God, we are thankful for Christ's coming to live among us as one of us. His light and his love continue to touch and heal our lives to this very day. Help us to remember that Christ's presence is ever in us and in all people, making us sisters and brothers together in one family. Amen.

**CHOIR RESPONSE** "We Lift the Light of Christmas Day - K. Bible

**THE ANGELS APPEAR** Luke 2: 8-14 Page 833

**\*HYMN** "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" No. 106 (vs. 1)

**THE SHEPHERDS RESPOND** Luke 2: 15-20 Page 833

**\*HYMN** "The First Noel" No. 108 (vs. 1)

**THE MAGI COMES** Matthew 2: 1-2, 9-11 Pages 783-784

**\*HYMN** "We Three Kings"

We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse a far Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

**HAND BELLS** "Good Christian Friends Rejoice"

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE** - Rev. Rich Fournier

\***HYMN** "Silent Night, Holy Night" No. 117 (vs. 1, 2 &3)

\***BENEDICTION**

\***CHORAL RESPONSE** "A Christmas Prayer" - B. VanHorn

**POSTLUDE**

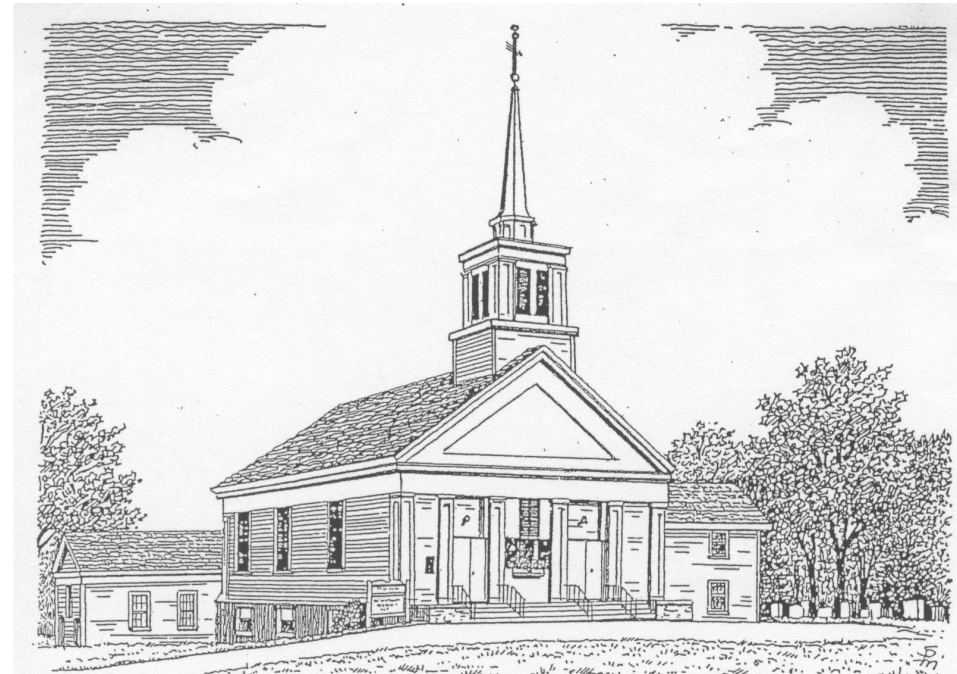
Announcements

Members of the church who get envelopes to put their weekly contributions in for the church can pick up their box of envelopes in the foyer.

Next Sunday, January 3rd, will be a communion Sunday. Because of the COVID we will not be passing around the pieces of bread and grape juice, so we ask that you bring your own if you wish to participate.

A reminder that Committees' and Officers' written reports for the year 2020 are due by Sunday, January 10th. Reports may be left at the church on the table in the entryway, on Willis's porch, or emailed to Judy Willis at [judywillis56@gmail.com](mailto:judywillis56@gmail.com) Copies of reports will be available to members on January 17th. Details are being worked out for the Annual Meeting.

If you have any announcements or prayer requests please call Anita or email them to her by 9:00 P.M. Saturday (413-625-6481 or [CandAupright@hotmail.com](mailto:CandAupright@hotmail.com)). She will type them up and give them to Rich to read from the pulpit so everyone at home on Zoom or worshipping in person can hear them.



# Mary Lyon Church

First Congregational Church of Buckland

P.O. Box 87

Buckland, MA 01338