

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 12, 2021 - Third Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT "Advent Introit & Blessing - Rejoice, Rejoice" - J. M. Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: Make a joyful noise unto God all the earth!

People: Serve God with gladness and enter God's presence with singing.

Pastor: Know that it is God who created us, not we ourselves.

People: We are God's people and God is with us and for us forever.

***HYMN** "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come" No. 120 (vs. 1, 2 & 4)

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

In the darkest night, light radiates. In the driest wilderness streams flow. In the most disorienting confusion, truth whispers. In the most turbulent storms, peace endures. No matter what people do, no matter what chaos may come, no matter what problems may threaten, we praise you, O God, that life and light and beauty are not overcome. And we commit ourselves to your call to follow the way, and truth, and life of Christ's Spirit. Amen

***GLORIA PATRI** "Glory Be to the Father" No. 575

FIRST SCRIPTURE Isaiah 35: 1-10 page 578

CHOIR ANTHEM "Advent Joy" - G. Weissel & T. Jarman

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

UNISON PRAYER - (whole congregation)

Dear God, help us to carry Joy in our hearts. A Joy that comes from knowing of your great love for us as shown by the gift of the birth of Jesus. Help us to share the Joy of the good news with others by our words and deeds. Teach us to embrace and appreciate joyful moments that come each day. Amen

CHORAL RESPONSE BY CHOIR "We Lift the Light of Joy" -
Ken Bible & Oliver Holden

PRAYER REQUESTS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S 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 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."

PRAYER RESPONSE "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" No. 585

OFFERTORY "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" - L. Laurenti

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings" No. 572

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3: 7-18 page 834

MESSAGE "A Collage of Characters Headed Toward Christmas" -
Rich Fournier

***HYMN** "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" No. 102

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE** "Share the Light" - J. M. Martin

***POSTLUDE**

*=All who are able, are invited to stand.

Announcements

Pat Clark is in charge of providing flowers for Sunday Morning Worship for the month of December. If anyone would like to provide flowers for some Sunday during December please call Pat at 413-625-2949.

Just a reminder that this month we are collecting peanut butter and jams and jellies for the Hilltown Churches Food Pantry.

HELP WANTED

If you know of someone who might be interested in the job of cleaning the church, please refer them to Judy Willis at 413-625-2649. It takes 1 – 2 hours per week and the rate of pay is currently \$14.00 per hour. Or, if you would like to volunteer, sign up with a friend to make it go faster and have fun. A list of duties will be provided. Please contact Judy Willis if you are interested in the job or volunteering.



Mary Lyon Church

First Congregational Church of Buckland

P.O. Box 87

Buckland, MA 01338

