



*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of The United Church of Christ*



**Order of Worship for
December 12, 2021, 10:30am
“A Jazz Christmas”**

**Welcome to Worship at Center Church!
We are delighted that you are with us today.**

Welcome to the Sarah Hanahan Jazz Quartet!

SARAH HANAHAN JAZZ QUARTET

Sarah Hanahan - Saxophone

Matt DeChamplain - Piano

Matt Dwonszyk - Bass

Bruce Hanahan - Drums

SOLOISTS

Caroline Christopher - Soprano

Davis Martin - Tenor

Stewart Battle - Baritone



ANNOUNCEMENTS

After church today, the children of Center Church and their leaders will **rehearse the Christmas Tableau** in the Meetinghouse. They will gather from 12:00 - 1:00 PM.

Poinsettia Memorials

If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia in memoriam this season, please send your donation of \$15.00 per flower to the Center Church office with the memo Poinsettia Memorial included.

Center Church's next **Congregational Conversation** was originally scheduled for today, December 12th. The church is currently working with Claire Bamberg to reschedule this conversation for a Sunday in January 2022. Stay tuned for more information as this vital event is rescheduled!

On **Sunday December 19th**, we celebrate **Christmas Sunday** including the **Christmas Tableau**. Join us for this celebratory tradition of the story of Christ's birth!

On **Friday December 24th**, we will gather for the **Christmas Eve Service**. The service will start at a **NEW TIME of 4:00 PM** this year and feature the traditional service of lessons and carols ending with the singing of Silent Night in candlelight. Be there!

On **Sunday January 2nd**, the **15th annual Messiah Community Sing** at Center Church takes place. This popular Hartford area event brings together as many as 100 singers from the region to sing the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah with outstanding area soloists singing the arias and recitatives. This is a free event/concert. Singers arrive at 3:00 PM and seated by 3:30 PM, the event begins at 4:00 PM.

You're Invited to Larry's Christmas Movies!

Wednesday, Dec. 15, 7:00 pm - "Miracle on 34th Street"

Thursday, Dec. 16, 7:00 pm - "Jingle, Jangle: A Christmas Journey"

Friday, Dec. 17, 7:00 pm - "The Man Who Invented Christmas"

Saturday, Dec. 18, 6:00 pm - "The Grinch"

Sunday, Dec. 19, Noon - "Polar Express" *Hot cocoa and a free book for all of the kids!*

Sunday, Dec. 19, 7:00 pm - "A Christmas Carol"

Monday, Dec. 20, 7:00 pm - "The Preacher's Wife"

All movies will be shown in the Center Church Parlor, 60 Gold Street, Hartford

Masks are required for all attendees

Soft drinks provided. Bring other beverages & snacks if you'd like.

Call Larry at 860-997-3573 for additional information!

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“Wouldn’t it be wonderful if Advent came filled with angels and alleluias? Wouldn’t it be incredible if we were greeted on these December mornings with a hovering of heavenly hosts tuning their harps and brushing up on their fa-la-las?” - Ann Weems, Kneeling in Bethlehem

*Please rise in body or spirit.

PRELUDE: *Do You Hear What I Hear?*

Arr. H Simeone
Sarah Hanahan Jazz Quartet

WELCOME

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

If attending in person, we encourage you to greet each other verbally or by a friendly wave of peace.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

Ruth Fortune, David Reynolds,
Jean-Luc Fortune Reynolds & Elle Fortune Reynolds

MUSIC: *Oh Come, Advent*

Caroline Christopher, Soloist

THE GOSPEL: Luke 3:10, 15-18

Reader 1: And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.”

Reader 2: As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying,

Reader 1: “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Reader 2: When confusion claims us. When we feel unable to do anything right, the Holy invites us to be faithful, that we may find Joy. (Light candle of Joy)

Where in the world do we find Joy these days?

INVOCATION

Pastor Donna Cassity

***OPENING CAROL:** *O Come All Ye Faithful*

(Verses 1, 2, & 4)

All carols are printed in the bulletin

(Children continue to Sunday School)

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-38

JAZZ QUARTET: *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:46-55

***CAROL:** *O Come O Come Emmanuel*

(Verses 1 and 2)

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-25

JAZZ QUARTET AND SOPRANO: *Away In A Manger*

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2: 1-7

JAZZ QUARTET AND TENOR: *What Child Is This*

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2: 8-14

***CAROL:** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

(Verses 1 and 2)

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2: 15-20

JAZZ QUARTET AND BARITONE: *Go Tell it On the Mountain*

HOMILY: *A Teenage Pregnancy*

Pastor Donna Cassity

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

JAZZ QUARTET: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

***DOXOLOGY:** *O Come Let Us Adore Him*

The image displays a musical score for a doxology. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

System 1:

Vocal line: O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

Piano line: Accompaniment for the first system.

System 2:

Vocal line: O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord! A-men.

Piano line: Accompaniment for the second system.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CAROL: *Joy to the World*

(Verses 1, 2, 3)

BENEDICTION

PART TWO of "A JAZZ CHRISTMAS"

Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas
Greensleeves
Christmas Time is Here
Charlie Brown Skating
White Christmas

Our thanks to everyone who created today's service. Go in peace!

The Music and the Arts Series at Center Church is made possible through monies received as admission for each event (ticket sales, suggested donations, freewill offerings), and by the generosity of the donors listed below:

MOTIVATOR (\$250 and above)

Sara and Richard Markham
Harold and the late Joyce Buckingham
Robert and Eileen Gilbert
Dr. Ivan Edafiogho
Alvin and Lesley Morgan Thompson
William and Dorothy Wurts
Stewart Battle
Kathryn Lewis

ENCOURAGER (\$175-249)

Chris and Dectora Jeffers

SUPPORTER (\$100-174)

Robin Roy and the late Bruce Bidwell
Isabelle Bohman
Suzanne Gates
The Rev. J. Alan and the late Joan McLean
Timothy Otte
Donald and Shirley Sanders
Rochelle Stackhouse and Gavin Ferriby

SUSTAINER (up to \$99)

Joseph Bradley
Lauren Delch
Melissa DeForge and Marie Ferrantino
Sally Dengenis
Jane Foxall
Van and the late Lucille Parker

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Latin: John F. Wade, 1711-1786
Tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, and others

ADESTE FIDELES Irregular
John F. Wade's "Cantus Diversi," 1751

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
3 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove!
We would em - brace thee, with love and awe;
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry given;

Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;
Who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord! A-men.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

110

Latin: c.9th century

Tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, Sts. 1,2, alt.

Tr. Henry S. Coffin, 1877-1954, Sts. 3,4

VENI EMMANUEL 8.8.8.8.8.8.

Adapted from Plainsong

Thomas Helmore, 1811-1890

In unison

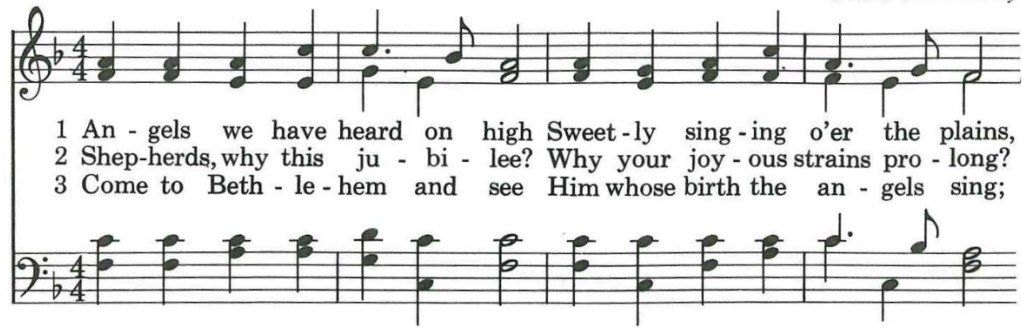
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran-som cap-tive
 2 O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spir-its by thine
 3 O come, thou Wis-dom from on high, And or-der all things,
 4 O come, De-sire of na-tions, bind All peo-ples in one

Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, Un -
 ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom-y clouds of night, And
 far and nigh; To us the path of knowl - edge show, And
 heart and mind; Bid en - vy, strife and quar - rels cease; Fill

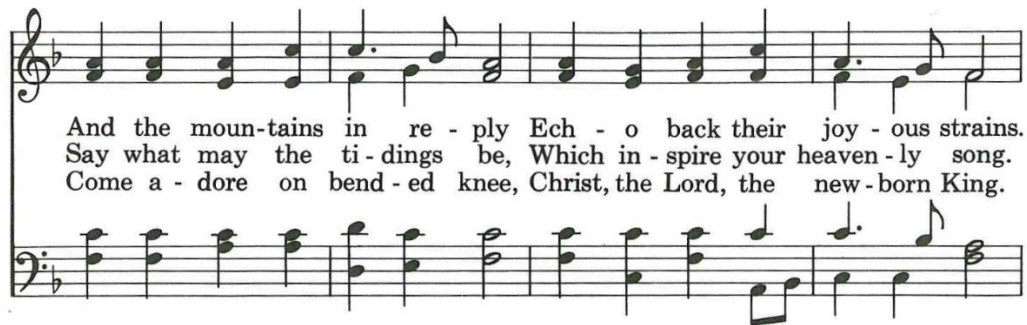
REFRAIN

til the Son of God ap - pear.
 death's dark shad-ows put to flight.
 cause us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 the whole world with heav - en's peace.

man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el! A-men.



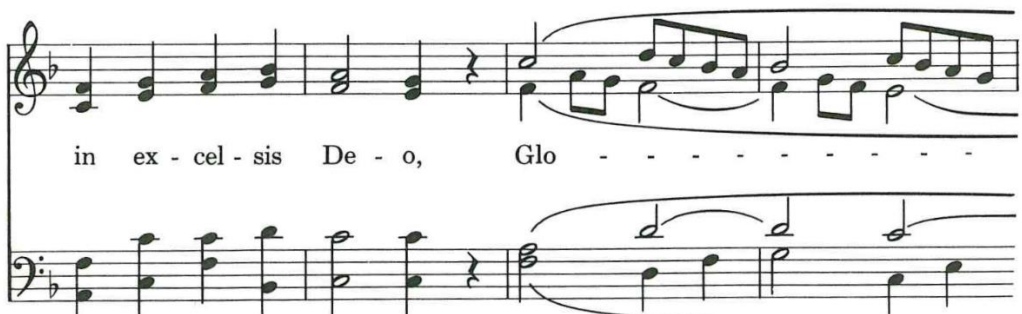
1 An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the ti - dings be, Which in - spire your heaven - ly song.
Come a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.



REFRAIN
Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

ANTIOCH C.M.

Attr. to Georg F. Handel, 1685-1759

Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns: Let men their
 3 He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,

And heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven and na - ture
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his

And heaven and na - ture sing, And
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
 And won - ders of his love, And

sing, And heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love. A - men.

heaven and na - ture sing.
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 won - ders of his love,

Center Church News & Announcements

Subscribe to our E-News newsletter for up-to-date news and happenings at Center

Church: <https://centerchurchhartford.org/>
<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/OzymYij/CenterChurch>

And, don't forget to follow us on FB!



THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN HARTFORD

A member of the United Church of Christ (UCC)

CENTER CHURCH, 60 Gold Street, Hartford, CT 06103

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday, 9:30am to 3:30pm

Library Hours by Appointment

P 860.249.5631 F 860.246.3915 www.centerchurchhartford.org

Bridge Senior Pastor: The Reverend Donna Cassity (ext. 202)

***If you'd like to meet with Pastor Donna,
please schedule a time by calling Emily
in the office at 860-249-5631 ext. 200***

Minister Emeritus: The Reverend J. Alan McLean

Director of Music/Organist: Robert F. Gilbert (ext. 204)

Coordinator for Justice & Faith Formation Ministries: Dr. Eric Hearst (ext 209)

Church Office Manager: Emily McKenna (ext. 200)

Bookkeeper: Brenda Russell (ext. 201)

Sextons: Thomas St. Amant and Ileia Belton Sunday

Meals Program Coordinator: Carrie Howe (ext 205)

Nursery Care: Tina Franklin

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Would you like to learn more about Center Church? Email us at info@cchartford.org

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING Congregation. "We include into full participation in the life of this church persons of any age, race, economic status, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and physical, emotional and mental capacity" (from the statement adopted October 23, 1994.) In recognition of the richness of backgrounds of our congregation, a **DIVERSITY OF LANGUAGES** will find expression in our worship services. Center Church offers an **OPEN COMMUNION**. Adults and children from all religious backgrounds are invited to partake. **TEXT ALERTS** To receive text alerts regarding church activities and cancellations, please text the word CENTER to (860) 300-3697. (Message and data rates may apply according to your data plan.)

FACEBOOK LIVE We livestream our worship services on Facebook each week, and your presence here constitutes your permission for your image to be shown. If you prefer not to be seen, speak with the minister or whoever is operating the phone up front to determine where a good seat might be to avoid the camera. Our viewership is growing and we are excited to welcome a congregation in cyberspace!

Church Information

FREE PARKING is available during Sunday Worship Services at the Travelers Plaza Garage off Prospect Street (next to the Hartford Club.) The garage closes at 1:00pm (12:00pm during Summer services). On-street parking is also available on Gold Street and on the west side of Lewis Street, and is FREE on Sundays.

REST ROOMS are located in the basement of the Meeting House. Please use the stairs in the southeast corner of the building. For safety, please have an adult accompany your child to the restroom.

CHURCH SCHOOL is held at the Church House (60 Gold Street) for preschool to 12th Grade. Children are to remain with their families in the Meeting House during worship until they depart for Church School following the Children's Moment. Please pick your child up promptly at 12:00pm. For their safety, children will remain with their Church School instructor until an adult picks them up. Church School is not held during the Summer.

CHILDCARE and NURSERY care are provided by trained, capable, and nurturing staff and volunteers, and is available in the Meeting House basement for infants and toddlers (up to two years of age.) A nursery without staff is also located on the second floor of the Church House.

CURRENT SUNDAY ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES Announcements regarding Adult Education classes are announced in our publications.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS to the sanctuary is via the lift outside at the south end of the portico. If possible, please call the church office in advance for assistance in using the lift.

The latest issue of **CENTER CHURCH E-NEWS** is available on our church website. If you would like a paper copy mailed to you, please contact us at info@cchartford.org / 860-249-5631