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Welcome to a church where everyone matters
and everyone belongs.

Prelude

Welcome

Light of Christ

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Advent Candle

All: May we inspire the world with peace.

Men: May it touch our lives so that in every place of stress, frustration, or fear, we
might feel the presence of peace easing our hearts and transforming our lives.

Women: And may we share the healing power with our
children that they might become the inspiration
through which peace makes its way to a new yet-
dreamt-of world.

(candle is lit)

All: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

May peace light the world this Christmas.

*Opening Hymn #14 "Womb of Life, and Source of Being"

Sacrament of Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive communion.

Invitation

Prayer of Blessing/The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Remember/Sharing the Bread and the Cup

(Served in the pew; gluten-free bread is available. Please indicate your preference to a Deacon. We will receive the elements when all are served.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

God our Provider, you fill the hungry with good things and send the self-satisfied away empty. In this holy meal you have filled us with the word and the bread of life of your Son Jesus Christ. In his presence we are filled with joy. Fill us with his spirit of service and self-forgetting love, that through us, you may become near to all people. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Scripture Joel 2:12-14, 28-29

Luke 11:13

Sermon

Rev. Joanne Myer

Sharing of Joys and Concerns/Morning Prayer

Call to Offering

Offertory "Creation Will Be at Peace" J. Williams

Leanne Connolly, Minister of Music

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Hymn #135 "Blessed Be the God of Israel"

*Benediction

Postlude ""Unto Us a Boy Is Born" Smith

*All who are able are invited to stand.

Please join us downstairs after the service for coffee and refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

Today's Preludes

James Burr, Organist

"Once in Royal David's City" Farlee

"He Shall Feed His Flock" Handel

"In dulci jubilo" Lubeck/Walther

"What Child Is This?" Peery

"Jesu-Noel" arr. Whitsett

Debi Hockenberry, Director of Christian Education

Reminder...Sunday School ends at 11:15 AM.

In Our Ongoing Prayers

Bill and Holly Boutwell on the death of his sister, Meg; Shirley Bryant having knee replacement surgery on Tuesday; Geoffrey Stone, Emily Westerberg's father, on the death of his brother Tom after a long struggle with dementia; Gerry Dyar's family and the Mooers family on the death of Gerry's half-brother Bob Mooers; Jim Wilson at home recovering from surgery; Elizabeth Fry, Joanne Myer's mother, dealing with a bone infection; Janina Majkowski, Cheryl Turner's grandmother; James Purnell; Linda Dayton; Sara Levy; Julie, friend of the Turner family; Geraldine Strong; Tim Madigan; Lorraine Grork, Pam Lyons' friend; Pat Lazeren; Shirley McElroy; Helen Dyar; Dean Hockenberry; Helen Dahling; Dave Hollister; Ryan Meneses; Joyce Smith; John Arthur; Brian, 11 years old, fighting cancer; Daniel Burnett-Pollack; Debbie Chase; Dick Myer; Margaret Klukas; Paul Westerberg; people struggling with mental illness, and their families; the people of Syria; Heidi Howie; Mason Bower; Michael Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Cooper Doyle

New additions in bold print

Today's Activities

Junior Choir Rehearsal: 11:30 AM

Children's Pageant Rehearsal: 12-2 PM, Sanctuary

Special Notice: Today we welcome guest speakers from PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) and from the Rockville High School Gay Straight Alliance. We encourage all of you to join us in Kellogg Hall at 11:30 AM to hear their stories and the purposes of their organizations. Of particular interest will be their perspective on why FCCV should be an ONA declared church. Discussion and questions welcomed.

J*Walkrz Jr Christmas Carol Trip: If you signed up, we will be going to see the Hartford Stage's production of the Christmas Carol today. We will leave church at 1:15 PM and return around 4:45 PM. Please contact Kate or Taunya if you have questions.

This Week's Activities

Men's Breakfast Group: Tuesday, November 29, 6:30 AM at Vernon Diner

Council: Wednesday, December 7, 7 PM, Kellogg Hall

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, December 8, 7:30 PM, Kellogg Hall

Grief Support Group: Friday, December 9, 10:30 AM, Kellogg Hall

Missions: Saturday, December 10, 10 AM, Kellogg Hall

Children's Pageant Rehearsal: 10 AM, Sanctuary

"All About That Baby"

a sheep-ishly fun Christmas musical for kids

Sunday, December 11 at 10 AM

Teddy Bear Ministry: Teddy Bears are sitting in the pews for you to take and give or send to someone in need of a bit of caring love. Parents, please explain to your children that the bears are for people who are sad, hurt or sick. Certainly children may take a bear for a friend in need. Your very young toddlers may have a bear, but we ask that you remember to bring their "special" bear with them each Sunday so they "know" they already have one. In order to keep this ministry going, we are asking for monetary donations to the Women's Fellowship Teddy Bear Ministry Fund or you may buy a bear (10"-12") and leave it in the Church Office. Contact Joanne Myer at 860-872-9222 or [HYPERLINK "mailto:jmyer0146@yahoo.com"](mailto:jmyer0146@yahoo.com) if you have questions. Thank you to Joyce Smith for tying the tags on the bears!

The loose offering collected today is placed in the Deacons' Fund for aid in time of emergency to people within our congregation.

Christmas Giving Tree sponsored by the Board of Missions. We are collecting toys for the Vernon Social Services "Toy Workshop" where a family in need can choose the gifts that best fit their children's wants and needs for Christmas. Please keep in mind that gift cards for music, games and clothes are a great option for older kids and teenagers. Gift cards can be purchased from the Scrip-Your-All table during Coffee Hour and this will benefit FCCV. Please choose a tag from the tree set up in the back of the Sanctuary from today until December 11. Each tag bears the age and gender of a child in need. Please place your new, unwrapped gift (or gift card) under the tree by Sunday, December 18 (Note: If inclement weather cancels the church service, gifts will be collected in the church breezeway between 8-10 AM on Monday, December 19.). Any questions, please contact Sue Moreau at [HYPERLINK "mailto:susan.j.moreau@gmail.com"](mailto:susan.j.moreau@gmail.com) or [HYPERLINK "tel:860-268-8801"](tel:860-268-8801) .

2017 Giving Commitment Update! Thank you to all who have returned your Giving Commitment. After Harvesting of Gifts Sunday, 83 giving commitments have been returned with \$175,776 towards our 2017 goal of \$258,000. Check out the signs in the Narthex and at Coffee Hour for recent updates.

Scrip-Your-All Update: Only 3 weeks left of Scrip-Your-All for 2016 (and only 2 for orders)! To date we have earned \$4,254 towards our \$5,000 goal for the year. Now it's time to shop for

your Christmas gift cards to retail stores, restaurants and grocery. New card retailers are available during Coffee Hour. Gift card holders are also available. Consider picking up a gift card for the food bank. We have Price Chopper cards for as little as \$5. Orders will be placed each week through December 11 with pick-up on December 18.

Please Note: The December 5 worship service video which normally airs at 6 PM will air at 8:30 PM on that date only.

Child Care is available for church activities/events when notice is given 3 days prior to the event. Contact Child Care Coordinator, Jen Jensen, 860-836-5824.

To request a visit with the pastor, please call the Church Office, 860- 875-7580.

Church Office 860-875-7580

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