

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

December 24, 2012

Christmas Eve Family Service

GATHERING MUSIC "Dance and March from The Nutcracker Ballet"

Tchaikovsky

"Yuletide Echoes"

Hudson

WELCOME

The Rev. David Minnick

PRELUDE "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" Sophie Becker

"Silent Night"

ACOLYTES

Mariah and Arielle Shivers

LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE

Alex, Beth and Kate Fowler

DUET "Adore Him" Christa Hockenberry and Ryan Fujimoto

PRAYER of INVOCATION

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #148 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

THE COMING

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9: 2-7 Brianna Markunas

PASTORAL PRAYER and the LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN #144 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" *(please remain seated)*

THE BIRTH of JESUS

SCRIPTURE Matthew 1: 18-25 Julia Assard

SOLO "O Holy Night" Annie Longo

SCRIPTURE Luke 2: 1-7 Sarah Kline

HYMN #147 "Away in a Manger"

SHEPHERDS GUARDING THEIR FLOCKS

SCRIPTURE Luke 2: 8-14 Kevin Mead

*HYMN #154 "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

SCRIPTURE Luke 2: 15-20 GloryAnna Hockenberry

HYMN #145 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

WISEMEN from the EAST

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2: 1 -11 Nicholas Bartos

HYMN #172 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

(vs. 1 and 5 only, please remain seated)

OFFERTORY "O Come Little Children" Transformers

*DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A CHRISTMAS STORY The Rev. David Minnick

*HYMN #143 "Joy to the World!"

BLESSING

CHORAL BENEDICTION "Gaudeamus Hodie"

POSTLUDE "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" Handel

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

A very special thanks to our Christmas cast:

Holy Family: Christopher, Erin and Hudson Prewo

Star: John Gilbransen

Angels: Julie Bradford, Abby Harlow, Madison Johanson, Shannon Knauss, Brady Ramsdell

Guardian Angel: Olivia Toolan

Shepherds: Joe Bradford, Paul Denning, Jason Doty, Justin Doty, Cole Jackson

Older Shepherd: Charles Harlow

Wisemen: Sophie Becker, Megan Hasty, Hannah Ramsdell

Organist: James Burr

Transformers Director: Leanne Connolly

Transformers Choir: Nicholas Giordano, Jack Longo, Avery Prewo, Heather Morgan Russell, Arielle Shivers, Mariah Shivers, Sarah Turner

Special thanks to Cherish Hockenberry for coordinating entrances and lighting.

The Poinsettias are given by the church family and arranged by the Flower Committee.

In keeping with the religious nature of this service, we request that there be no photography or videography during the service.

There will be a Candlelight Service tonight at 9 PM.

A Crib Room is available upstairs near the balcony for parents with infants up to 12 months of age.

The socks collected this evening will be donated to the Tri-Town Shelter.

The Christmas Fund enables the United Church of Christ to provide financial aid to low income, retired clergy and their widowed spouses; emergency assistance to clergy in financial need and funding for pension and health supplementation plans for low income retired clergy and lay employees. Christmas Fund envelopes are available on the table at the back of the Sanctuary (If all envelopes have been taken, make your check payable to FCCV with "Christmas Fund Offering" in memo). All donations may be placed with the regular offering.

Please join us for a reception after the worship service on Sunday, December 30 to honor and celebrate The Rev. David Minnick's 28 months as our Interim Senior Pastor. During this time David's pastoral leadership has enriched our lives and prepared us for the next chapter in our journey as a congregation. Please join us as we thank David and wish him well.