



First Church of Christ in Mansfield (Congregational) United Church of Christ

549 Storrs Rd. P.O. Box 36 Mansfield Center, CT 06250

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All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT + NOVEMBER 28, 2021

Welcome to Our Guests!

*We're delighted you have joined us for worship; the members are the ministers of this church...
if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us!*

Waiting for the Light

O Christ, you are like a candle burning

You are the flame that guides our way.

We await the dawning of your presence

We long to see you face to face.

Musical Response

Candle Burning

Pat Mayberry, adapted

O Christ you are like a can-dle burn-ing. You are the flame that lights the way. You are the
love that shines with - in us, fills our hearts and dawns the day.

Opening Prayer

God of justice and peace, from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness, that all on earth may stand in awe and wonder before your marvelous deeds. Raise our heads in expectation, that we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord and welcome your Child, Jesus Christ, who lives and loves for ever and ever. Amen.

Welcome and Greeting

Hymn

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

CH119

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O God, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you;

let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame;

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O God, and teach me your paths.

**Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.**

Remember, O God, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;

remember me according to your love

and for the sake of your goodness, O God.

Gracious and upright are you;

therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You guide the humble in doing right and teach your way to the lowly.

**All your paths are love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant
and your testimonies.**

Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

Musical Response

Candle Burning

Pat Mayberry, adapted

Reflection

Call to Prayer

Face to Face

Natalie Grant, Bernie Herms, Paul Duncan (adapted)

Here I am, I'm reach-ing out. I need you al-ways,
Oh, I need you now. I'm com-ing close_ so we can stay
hand in hand un til we're stand-ing face to face.

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

Please pray the Prayer of Jesus in whatever language is most comfortable for you.

The following are offered as examples...

Our Father/Mother/Creator,
 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/sins/trespasses,
 as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Musical Offering

Love is Everywhere

Maya Rogers Sherman

*Offerings may be placed in the collection boxes at the entrances to our worship space,
 mailed to: First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC. Box 36. Mansfield Center, CT 06250,
 or given online at www.myfcc.info*

Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea - tures here be low; Praise

5 God for all that love has done: Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spi - rit, One. A - men!

Prayer of Dedication

Accept, O God, this money offered, these gifts given, the goodwill of our hearts, that disappointment may be turned to hope, and worry may be turned to anticipation, as we await with wonder the birth of Christ. Amen.

Hymn

Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn

CH138

Benediction

The Week Ahead...

Sunday, November 28	10:15am Worship and Worship Circle 6pm Tree Lighting
Monday, November 29	10am First Church leads Worship at St Joseph Living Center
Tuesday, November 30	6pm Adult Education on Zoom 7pm Prayers at the End of the Day on Facebook
Wednesday, December 1	11am-1pm Open Office Hours 1pm Book Group in Fellowship Hall
Thursday, December 2	7pm, Music Ministry in Fellowship Hall
Sunday, December 5	10:15am Worship and Worship Circle

First Church Giving Opportunities

1st Sunday of the Month- Supportive Friends Sunday

- First Church Deacon's fund
- The Community Meal program
- "Love Offerings" honoring our friends and family

2nd Sunday of the Month- Sheltering Sunday

- Holy Family Shelter & the No-Freezer Shelter
- Our First Church Building fund

3rd Sunday of the Month- Sustenance Sunday

Welcoming gifts of food items and funds for:

- The Soup Kitchen
- Our First Church Blessing Box
- Tuna Church for Access Agency

4th Sunday of the Month- School & Service Sunday:

- Items for Church World Service School Kits and Hygiene Kits