



## Prayers of the People

### Offertory

“Gigue from Cello Suite”  
(J.S. Bach)

Dean Langby

### \*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

God of hope and joy, you have given us outrageous gifts: a shocking hope, a vision of a just peace, a core of fierce joy, and lives continually transformed by your love. You give us light in our darkness. You sustain us with your presence. Receive our gifts, today, from our grateful hearts—and use them, we pray, to transform the world. Amen.

### \*Closing Hymn

“Go, Tell it on the Mountain”

Hymnal #29

### \*Benediction

Leader: As you depart this place and step out into a new year, may you go forward in the hope, peace, joy, and love of Christ. May you be empowered by the Spirit of to be a blessing for the world God loves.

All: Amen.

### \*Sung Benediction

God be with you till we meet again;  
By their counsels guide, uphold you;  
With their sheep securely fold you;  
God be with you till we meet again.

### Postlude

“Silent Night”  
(J. Lind)

Oxana Khramova

### Credits

- The Call to Worship and Opening Prayer were adapted from pieces written by Nancy C. Townley and posted in “Worship Connection: December 27, 2020” on the *Ministry Matters* website, <https://www.ministrymatters.com>.
- The Prayer of Dedication was adapted from one posted on the *Discipleship Ministries* website, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org>.
- The Benediction was adapted from one written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay for “Vindication: Service Prayers for the First Sunday After Christmas,” posted in *Worship Ways*, <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/>.
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*Today’s flowers are from Deb & John Wesolek created by their daughter, Pam Wesolek, wishing a Happy New Year to all!*

### This Week

**Monday, January 1, 2024, office closed for New Year holiday**

**Tuesday, January 2, 6:00 pm, Executive Council meeting**

**Wednesday, January 3, 4:00 pm Kid’s Club; 5:30 pm; Choir rehearsal; 6:30 pm Bell Choir rehearsal**

## **Mission Statement of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Menomonie, WI**

We are called together:

To celebrate God's presence.

To help each person to grow in his or her relationship with God;

To Create a welcoming and supportive community of all God's people;

The diversity of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, and identity, social and economic status, and the differently abled;

To observe and share life's passages and our faith traditions;

To reach out in love seeking justice and peace;

And to tell the old story of Jesus and His love.

## **Land Acknowledgement**

Here we congregate on Ojibwe, Dakota, Menominee, Potawatomi, and Ho Chunk land. Generations of Indigenous people occupied and provided careful stewardship of this land long before Europeans arrived on these shores. The traumatic dispossession of this land by European immigrants and the displacement of countless individuals produced collective suffering that has repercussions for our Indigenous neighbors today. The original inhabitants of this land—known to some Indigenous peoples as Turtle Island—took seriously the Creator's call to be stewards of air, land, water, and creatures. With gratitude, we acknowledge the lessons we continue to learn from our Indigenous neighbors as we seek to be good stewards and pray for guidance in learning how to make reparations.

## ***Thursday's Table***

Community take-out meal each Thursday from 5-6:00 pm.

## ***Community Care***

AA Meetings, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 6:30am, Fellowship Hall

Al-Anon Meetings, Mondays, 6:00pm, Parlor

NA Meetings, Fridays, 7:00pm, lower-level Room 5

## Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO 6.6.7.7.8.5.5

Medieval Latin

Trans. and para. John Mason Neale, 1853; alt.

German folk tune, 14th century

Harm. David Hugh Jones, 1953

1. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice      With heart, and soul, and voice;  
 2. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice      With heart, and soul, and voice;  
 3. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice      With heart, and soul, and voice;

Give ye heed to what we say:      Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
 Now ye hear of end - less bliss:      Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 Now ye need not fear the grave:      Je - sus Christ was born to save!

Ox and ass be - fore Him bow, And He is in the man - ger now.  
 He hath o - pened heav - en's door, And we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all To gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day!      Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this!      Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save!      Christ was born to save!

## Go, Tell It on the Mountain

29

GO TELL IT 7.6.7.6 with refrain

African-American spiritual

Arr. John W. Work III, 1940


Stanzas, John W. Work II (1872-1925)

Harm. and adapt. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987

*Refrain*

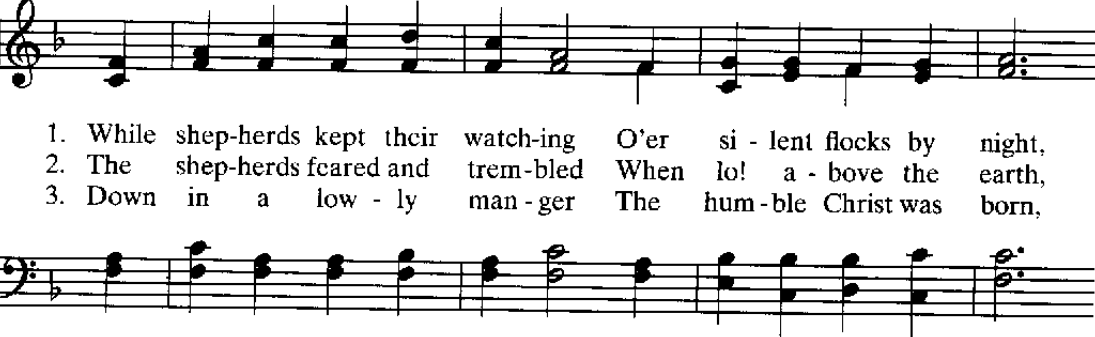


Go, tell it on the moun - tain O-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

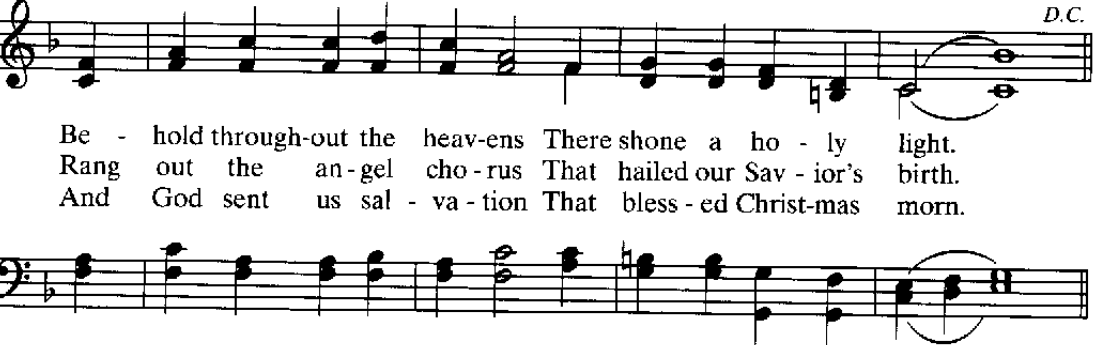


Go, tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

*Fine*



1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo! a - bove the earth,  
3. Down in a low - ly man - ger The hum - ble Christ was born,



Be - hold through-out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light.  
Rang out the an-gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

*D.C.*

