



Worship Bulletin

9:00 A.M. Service of Worship

11:00 A.M. Service of Worship

Christ Congregational Church, UCC
9525 Colesville Road · Silver Spring, MD 20901
301-585-8010 · www.cccsilverspring.org



*A Just Peace and Open and Affirming Church
Becoming an Anti-racist Church*

9:00 A.M.
SERVICE OF WORSHIP

*At CCC, we honor and celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, abilities,
sexual orientations and gender identity.*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - PEACE
December 19, 2010

Let us now enter into the Holy One's presence.

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Richard Thayer

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel! You, who lead Joseph like a flock.

You are enthroned upon angels, and shine upon nations!

Rise up in your might, rise up and come to help us!

Restore us, O God; let your light shine, that we may be saved.

How long, O God of Hosts, will you answer our prayers with anger?

You have fed us tears for our daily bread.

Restore us, O God; show us your favor, that we may be delivered from anger and tears.

Place your hand upon us, and we will never turn away from you.

Restore us, O God of Hosts; let your light shine, that we may be saved.

Come, let us worship God!

Psalms 80, adapted

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Believing that all people are children of God, greet each other with a sign of peace.

***CONGREGATIONAL CAROL (Congregation standing)**

arr. John Rutter

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to
Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels.

*Refrain: O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him.
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

2. See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks, draw
nigh with lowly fear; we, too, will thither bend our joyful footsteps. *Refrain*

3. Child, for us sinners, poor and in the manger, we would embrace thee with
love and awe. Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? *Refrain*

4. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation. O sing, all ye citizens of heaven
above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest. *Refrain*

5. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all
glory given. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Amy Lewis

How may your Peace take shape in our world, O God? Does it arrive when compassion moves us to risk our dreams? When we live into our vision of a community made whole by Peace made real? How may your Peace take shape in our world, O God? Do miracles of open hearts and open minds join to miracles of willed reconciliation and willed non-violence? How may your Peace take shape in our world, O God? We pray for you to tell us. We pray for you to show us. We pray for you to lead us in the very words that Jesus taught us to pray.

Holy God, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. AMEN

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Board of Social Witness

Our fourth candle, the candle of Peace, is lit while we recite our Just Peace Covenant.

SUNG RESPONSE

Light this can-dle for peace, one bright can-dle for peace, Christ brings peace to ev' ry heart, Christ
 7 comes, Christ comes! Light this can-dle for peace, one bright can-dle for peace,
 13 Christ brings peace to ev' ry heart, Christ comes, Christ comes!

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-25

Rev. Richard

Thayer

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Richard

Thayer

CAROLS

Cradle Carols

Joseph Martin

The Chapel Choir; Myra Thayer, piano

Choir

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
 the little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.
 The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
 the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
 close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
 Bless all the dear Children in Thy tender care,
 and fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Choir and congregation

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Silent night, Holy night, all is calm, all is bright.
 'Round yon virgin mother and child, Holy infant so tender and mild,
 Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, Holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight,
 Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia"
 Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Amy Lewis

Emmanuel, "God with us," is a name of such power, and a promise of such grace. So much so that we may suspect it is not true, and we doubt both our faith and our God. Sometimes we find it difficult to imagine God is near when life circumstances are so cruel, yet we look back and know that God was there. At other times we totally forget to look for God at all, and we miss opportunities to be people of gratitude and hope. With our self interests as the only focus, we live divided within and without, cut off from God and one another.

PRAYERS OF PERSONAL AND CORPORATE CONFESSION

Rev. Amy Lewis

We cry out for Peace, again and again. We cannot hide from ourselves, and we surely cannot hide from you. Endless Grace, Eternal Compassion: embrace our very being and still our sorrows; comfort our regret and undo our sin; convict our rebellion against Love, and quell our appetites for vengeance, and restore that which we have broken. Make real the miracle of your Peace in our contrite hearts. Reestablish the balance of your Spirit in our spirits, and in our world. Come, O Come Emmanuel. AMEN

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Amy

Lewis

Emmanuel blossoms within us! "God with us" is a promise that we are actually powerless to break. Grace abounds, and multiplies, and leaps from heart to heart, and no matter the season of our spirits, God's grace has set us free. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. AMEN

CAROL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Joseph Martin

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
 That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
 Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease.

Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

SERMON

Rev. Richard Thayer

CALL TO PRAYER

Rev. Amy Lewis

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Amy Lewis

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING**OFFERTORY**

Angels We Have Heard on High
Will Joseloff, violin

GLORIA***DOXOLOGY**

sung to the tune: Veni

Emmanuel

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Our God of peace; your mercies bestow;
Praise God aloud, you heavenly choirs,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit which inspires,
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Rev. Richard Thayer

With these gifts, dear God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts, which rejoice in your goodness and love. Let our gifts point to your presence in the world, and further your dream for the world through Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us. AMEN

BENEDICTION

Rev. Richard Thayer

***CHORAL POSTLUDE**

A Christmas Recessional

Joseph

Martin

Angels We Have Heard on High

Choirs and Congregation:

Angels, we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains, in reply, echo back their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Angels from the Realms of Glory

The Choir

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies.

With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace. Hail the Son of Righteousness.

Light and life to all he brings; ris'n with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,

Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!

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Thayer

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***CALL TO WORSHIP**
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Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel! You, who lead Joseph like a flock.

You are enthroned upon angels, and shine upon nations!

Rise up in your might, rise up and come to help us!

Restore us, O God; let your light shine, that we may be saved.

How long, O God of Hosts, will you answer our prayers with anger?

You have fed us tears for our daily bread.

Restore us, O God; show us your favor, that we may be delivered from anger and tears.

Place your hand upon us, and we will never turn away from you.

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Psalm 80, adapted

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3. Child, for us sinners, poor and in the manger, we would embrace thee with love and awe. Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? *Refrain*
4. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation. O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest. *Refrain*
5. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all glory given. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. *Refrain.*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jeanne Young

How may your Peace take shape in our world, O God? Does it arrive when compassion moves us to risk our dreams? When we live into our vision of a community made whole by Peace made real? How may your Peace take shape in our world, O God? Do miracles of open hearts and open minds join to miracles of willed reconciliation and willed non-violence? How may your Peace take shape in our world, O God? We pray for you to tell us. We pray for you to show us. We pray for you to lead us in the very words that Jesus taught us to pray.

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SCRIPTURE
Thayer

Matthew 1:18-25

Rev. Richard

MUSICAL OFFERING
John Rutter

Magnificat

The Chancel Choir, Soloists and Orchestra

MAGNIFICAT ANIMA MEA

*Magnificat anima mea Dominum:
et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo.
Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae:
ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden:
for behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

OF A ROSE, A LOVELY ROSE

*Of a Rose, a lovely Rose,
Of a Rose is all my song.*

Hearken to me, both old and young, How this Rose began to spring;
A fairer rose to mine liking, In all this world ne know I none.
Five branches of that rose there been, The which be both fair and sheen;
The rose is called Mary, heaven's queen. Out of her bosom a blossom sprang.
The first branch was of great honour: That blest Marie should bear the flow'r;
There came an angel from heaven's tower To break the devil's bond.
The second branch was great of might, That sprang upon Christmas night;
The star shone over Bethlem bright, That man should see it both day and night.
The third branch did spring and spread; Three kinges then the branch gan led
Unto Our Lady in her childbed; Into Bethlem that branch sprang right.
The fourth branch it sprang to hell, The devil's power for to fell:
That no soul therein should dwell, The branch so blessedfully sprang.
The fifth branch it was so sweet, It sprang to heav'n, both crop and root,
Therein to dwell and be our bote: (*bote=salvation*)
So blessedly it sprang. Pray we to her with great honour,
She that bare the blessed flow'r, To be our help and our succour,
And shield us from the fiendes bond.

—15th Century English Text

QUIA FECIT MIHI MAGNA

*Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est: et sanctum nomen eius.
Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.
 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts.
 Heaven and earth are filled with thy glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.

ET MISERICORDIA

Patricia O'Connor, Soprano

Et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.
 And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.

GLORIA PATRI

Rachel Green, Soprano

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.
Sancta Maria, succurre miseris,
iuva pusillanimes, refove flebiles:
ora pro populo, interveni pro clero,
intercede pro devoto femineo sexu:
sentiant omnes tuum iuvamen,
quicumque tuum sanctum implorant auxilium. Alleluia.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
 Holy Mary, succour those in need, help the fainthearted,
 support the weak: pray for the laity, assist the clergy,
 intercede for all devout women: may all feel the power of your help,
 whoever prays for your holy aid. Alleluia.
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
 world without end. Amen.

CALL TO PRAYER

Lewis

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
 Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up unto the Lord.
 Let us pray.

Rev. Amy

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Amy Lewis

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

Jeanne Young

OFFERTORY

Bach

In Dulci Jubilo

J. S.

***DOXOLOGY**
EMMANUEL

sung to the tune: VENI

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Our God of peace; your mercies bestow;
Praise God aloud, you heavenly choirs,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit which inspires,
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

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***CHORAL POSTLUDE**
Martin

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Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,

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Notes on the *Magnificat* of John Rutter

Though he is perhaps best known for his carols and other short pieces, John Rutter also has a number of large-scale works for chorus and orchestra to his name. Most of these received their first performances in the United States, where Rutter is a frequent visitor, writing regularly for American choirs and conducting performances of his own music. The *Magnificat* was first performed in 1990 in Carnegie Hall, New York, conducted by the composer, and the UK première followed a year later in Coventry Cathedral.

The Magnificat - the canticle of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Luke I: 46-55) - traditionally formed part of the ancient service of Vespers in the medieval Roman rite. After the Reformation it was incorporated into the evening services of the Lutheran and Anglican churches, where it was linked with the Nunc Dimittis. The Magnificat has been set to music more often than any liturgical text other than the Mass itself, in settings that vary enormously in style and scale, from the purity of Palestrina’s exquisite four-part unaccompanied compositions to Monteverdi’s grand, dramatic settings written for St Mark’s, Venice, and later the almost symphonic conception of Mozart’s *Vesperae Solennes de Confessore*, of which the Magnificat forms the final movement, written in 1780 for use in Salzburg Cathedral.

John Rutter’s initial inspiration for his *Magnificat* was another great masterpiece – that of J.S. Bach, though he has also revealed that he found the task of following in Bach’s footsteps a somewhat daunting prospect, as indeed any composer might. Despite the fact that the two works are about as different in style as they could possibly be, they nevertheless do share some basic similarities. For instance, both pieces conclude with a reiteration of the music of their opening movements, both make use of traditional Gregorian plainsong melodies, and in both works the focus is on the soloist for the more reflective verses, while the chorus is called upon to provide some appropriate vocal muscle in robust sections of the text such as ‘Fecit potentiam in brachio suo’ (He hath showed strength with his arm). And just as Bach included several additional

Christmas movements in the original E-flat version of his *Magnificat*, so too Rutter incorporates three extra elements into the standard Latin text. Particularly memorable is his haunting setting of the beautiful 15th century poem, ‘Of a Rose, a lovely Rose’, which uses the image of a rose as an allegory for the Blessed Virgin Mary and her powers to intercede for mankind. The other two supplementary texts are the Sanctus from the Ordinary of the Mass, and a Marian antiphon, ‘Sancta Maria’ (Holy Mary).

John Rutter has stated that his intention was to write a Magnificat redolent of Mediterranean sunshine and celebration, evoking the spirit of the many exuberant festivals held throughout Europe in honour of the Virgin Mary. To this end, the work is full of energetic, syncopated rhythms and strong melodies, with more than a hint of the musical theatre from time to time. Rutter’s music is always beautifully written for the voice and superbly orchestrated, and although his unashamedly popular style has won him few friends amongst the upper reaches of the musical establishment, choral societies and audiences throughout the world have responded with wholehearted enthusiasm to its uninhibited tunefulness.

Program notes by John Bawdin

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Flowers

The Christmas plants on the altar this morning
will be delivered by the Deacons to those
considered to be in particular need of a loving hug
from their church family.

Portions of this service were adapted from processandfaith.org

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Please turn off cell phones during the worship service.

Christ Congregational Church Christmas Orchestra 2010

Flute

Lynne Joseloff, Lauren Panfili

Oboe

Lazo Momchilovich, Larkin Turman

Clarinet

Lizzy Raskulinecz, Mark Simon, Scott Wolpert

Bassoon

David Bell, Eric Hall

French Horn

Tania Blockland, Tim Carrigan, Ron Friedman, Lynne Griffith

Trumpet

Don Junker, Frank Gorecki , Steve Young

Trombone, Euphonium

Matt Dinkle, Brian Frye, Stuart Kern

Percussion and Tympani

Tom Jones, John Spirtas

Violin I

George Alderson, David Swanson, Jane Weber

Violin II

Jim Brown, Christopher Brown, Paul Geiser, David Gayer, Bruce Taylor

Viola

Susan Jones, Larry Lafoon, Laura Weber

Cello

Sarah Cotterill, Ann Marlowe, Meleny Weber

Bass

Justin Weber

Pianist

Sam Brush

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR DECEMBER 26

Isaiah 63:7-9 · Psalm 148 · Hebrews 2:10-18

Matthew 2:13-23 (Or the readings for epiphany may be used):

Isaiah 60:1-6 · Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12 · Matthew 2:1-12

What is Happening With Christian Education Today?

During the 9:00 and 11:00 services

Childcare for infants through two-year-olds in the nursery - Room 106

There Will Be No Church School Today

CCC Calendar for the Week

Sunday, December 19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Christmas Sunday with Special Music at the 11:00 Service

9:00 AM Service of Worship - Sanctuary

11:00 AM Service of Worship - Sanctuary

Monday, December 20

12:00 PM Staff Meeting – Room 107

7:30 PM Board Meetings

Tuesday, December 21

10:30 PM Senior Adult Third Tuesday Gatherings – Conference Room

8:00 PM Big Band Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 22

Thursday, December 23

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve – Church Office Closes at 12:00 p.m.

5:00 PM Intergenerational Service

9:00 PM Service of Lessons & Carols

10:00 PM Reception following the 9:00 PM Service

Saturday, December 25

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 26

10:30 AM Service of Worship – Sanctuary

Monday, December 27

The Church Office Is Closed

**Christ Congregational Church
United Church of Christ**

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<http://www.cccsilverspring.org>

E-mail: cccoffice@cccsilverspring.org

The Church Office is open 9:00-2:30 Monday through Friday.

The Rev. Richard Thayer, Sustaining Interim Minister, Ext 223, richard@cccsilverspring.org

The Rev. Amy L. Lewis, Minister for Adults, Ext 226, amy@cccsilverspring.org

Nae Pearson, Director of Music, Ext 224, nae@cccsilverspring.org

Dianne Abraham, Church Administrator, Ext 222, PropertyAdmin@cccsilverspring.org

Aileen Hilliard, Executive Assistant, Ext 228, cccoffice@cccsilverspring.org

Susan Gray, Office Administrator, Ext 228, cccoffice@cccsilverspring.org

Kristen Brown, Administrator for Youth Ministry, brown.jk@verizon.net

Stephanie Peterson, Administrator for Church School, sjpgab@verizon.net

Stephanie Helsing, Coordinator for Camping Ministry, nizwa328@rcn.com

The Rev. James A. Todhunter, Minister Emeritus