

* Closing Hymn "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" #153B vss. 1,2,4

* Benediction and Threefold Amen #312B

Postlude "Andante" Couperin



"A Christmas Blessing"

Central Congregational Church, UCC
Presents a Christmas Concert
Featuring Philip Lima, Baritone
Karl Orvik, Violinist
Handbells and Choir
Tudor Bota, Pianist & Director

Sunday, December 12, 2021
3:00 PM

All are invited. Masks required.
Freewill Offering
Light reception after concert.



Central Congregational Church, UCC
1 Worthen Street, Chelmsford, MA
978-256-5931



Central Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Richard B. Knight

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. John A. Zachry

Director of Music/Organist: Tudor Bota

December 5, 2021

10:00 o'clock a.m.

*No matter who you are, or where you are on your spiritual journey . . .
You're welcome here!*

Prelude "Be Still and Know" arr. Hayes
 "Oh, How He Loves You and Me" arr. Hayes

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Rich Knight

Call to Worship Elizabeth Hartigan

* **Opening Hymn** "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" #149B

Lighting the Candle of Peace Candlelighters: Ben and Kerri Pulaski

Unison Opening Prayer (*seated*)

O God, we thank you for giving us your Beloved Child, the Prince of Peace. Forgive us for the times we have not lived in his peace, for the times we have spread darkness rather than light. Show us how to spread the light of your peace in a world often torn with conflict, so that wounds may be healed, intolerance may turn to community, and the clenched fist may become an open hand. Show us the ways of peace, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

* **Advent Wreath Carol** "One Candle Is Lit" #128B verse 2

Morning Offering

Chancel Choir Anthem "More Precious Than Silver/I Stand in Awe"

Lynn DeShazo & Mark Altrogge

Lord, you are more precious than silver. Lord, you are more costly than gold. Lord you are more beautiful than diamonds, and nothing I desire compares with you. (2X)

You are beautiful beyond description, too marvelous for words; too wonderful for comprehension, like nothing ever seen or heard. Who can grasp your infinite wisdom? Who can fathom the depth of your love? You are beautiful beyond description, majesty enthroned above.

And I stand, I stand in awe of you, I stand, I stand in awe of you; holy God, to whom all praise is due, I stand in awe of you. (2X)

And nothing I desire compares with you.

Pastoral Prayer

The Holy Scriptures Luke 1:26-38

Sermon "What Christmas Reveals"

Communion Hymn "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" #124B vss 1&2

Sacrament of Holy Communion

We share communion together as a church family seated in the pews.

All are invited to God's Table!

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Loving God, we thank you that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. In the name of him who taught us to pray...

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.