

# First Congregational Church of Lyme

1 Sterling City Road, Lyme, CT 06371  
860-434-0220

**Reverend Carolyn Johns, Acting Pastor**  
**December 24, 2013**

The Distribution of the Light:

*Your usher will bring the light of the Christ Candle to your pew. In passing the light to your neighbor, you celebrate the passing of the Good News through the centuries to our present time. In lighting the candles, only the unlighted candle should be tilted. Please exercise caution with your lighted candles. Young children with candles should be supervised closely. The candles may be extinguished after the Christmas Eve Prayer and Proclamation. Your partially burned candle is yours to keep if you wish or you may deposit it in the box at the entrance of the church as you leave.*

Candlelight Carol (seated)      “*Silent Night, Holy Night*”

1. 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.
2. 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!
3. Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

\*Carol      “*Joy to the World! The Lord is Come*”

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding  
joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

\*Benediction (*Extinguish your Candle*)

Postlude



## Welcome!

We, the members of the First Congregational Church of Lyme, CT, interpreting the Bible in the context of its times and our time and following the teachings and example of Jesus, declare our church to be an Open and Affirming church, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people. We acknowledge God's acceptance of every individual and Jesus' commandment to love one another. Therefore, this church welcomes heterosexual, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals to worship and enter into the full life and ministry of our church. In our community of faith, all people are encouraged to participate and share their talents and energy in worship and sacraments, leadership positions, ordained ministry, lay ministry, learning, service, mission, and fellowship. Further, persons of every gender, mental and physical ability, age, race, nationality, economic and social status, faith background, marital standing, and family structure are welcome in our church community; and the First Congregational Church of Lyme invites all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings, and joys of our congregation.

**First Congregational Church of Lyme**  
**United Church of Christ**  
**1 Sterling City Road, Lyme, CT 06371 860-434-0220**  
**Rev. Carolyn Johns, Acting Pastor**  
**Rebecca Blomgren, Organist**

**December 24, 2013 – 5 p.m.**  
**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

\* Asterisk means those who are easily able to stand may do so.

Prelude:

Welcome

Anthem: "The Slumber of The Infant Jesus" Francois Gevaert  
Duet: Laurie Sulger and Rebecca Blomgren

Lighting of the Advent Candles:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
*Those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.*

LIGHT FOUR CANDLES

Our Advent journey is now complete. The darkness is gone.

The Light of the World is here!

*Our hope has been met. Our preparations are done.*

*Our joy has been made perfect. The love of God as has come to live among us.*

*And so, today, we light the candle of Christ.*

LIGHT THE CHRIST CANDLE

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

The long awaited Christ has come!

*Celebrating the birth of our Savior, we light this candle.*

*Together, we will shine with the radiant light of Christ!*

Meditation

Rev. Carolyn Johns

The Light Revealed

Lesson: Isaiah: 9: 2-7

\*Carol "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. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; (*Refrain*)
3. 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*)

Lesson: Luke 2: 8-18

Carol (seated) "Angels We Have Heard On High"

1. 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!
2. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come adore on bended knee,  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

The Light Reflected

Offertory : A Carol Tapestry arr Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Duet: Laurie Sulger and Rebecca Blomgren

*(Tonight's offering will support the Lyme Church's team*

*that works the New London Soup Kitchen throughout the year.)*