

THE SANBORNTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Established November 13, 1771

THE ORDER FOR MORNING WORSHIP

December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

WELCOME

WE ARE AN ACTIVE CHURCH - FINDING FAITH IN WHAT WE DO

PASSING THE PEACE and MOMENT OF CENTERING

ONE: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you!

MOMENT OF CENTERING

We invite you to listen to the music and abide in God's presence.

PRELUDE Herr Christ Der Einig Gottes Sohn Dietrich Buxtehude

GATHERING and PRAYING

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLES - The Candle for Love

Reader: Today we light the candle of love, along with the candle of hope, the candle of peace, and the candle of joy. On this last Sunday in Advent, we invite the fruit of love to enter our hearts.

HYMN #116 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel - verse 1

READER: This candle reminds us that love has no bounds. The active, intentional lighting of the candle of love allows us to acknowledge how love has changed us this year. How love has comforted us this year. How love has invited us into a warm candle-lit Advent Wreath as we prepare for Christmas.

Please join me in prayer.

LOVE CANDLE PRAYER (Unison)

**Holy God, we thank you for this gift of love that is found in Christ Jesus.
Remind us of this love in our lives as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.
Amen.**

*HYMN # 117 Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates Truro

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion:

People: Your God reigns!

Leader: God comes in the power of love and justice; therefore let us wait with eagerness and worship with joy.

**People: God comes to judge the world with righteousness,
the people with truth.**

**All: Let the heavens be glad; let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar and
all that fills it. Shout for joy, all the earth!¹**

*INTROIT A Carol Roland E. Martin

Once for a shining hour, heav'n touched earth.
Hope was born anew, and peace reigned in the world.

¹ Reprinted from Book of Worship ©1986 by permission of the United Church of Christ Office for Church Life and Leadership.

**ORDER for RENEWAL of the MARRIAGE COVENANT
Of Robert Dennis and Kim Erin Bossey**

INTRODUCTION

RENEWAL OF MARRIAGE VOWS

RECOGNITION OF RENEWAL

BLESSING AND THANKSGIVING

HYMN #362

When Love Is Found

O Waly Waly

COMMITTING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Fuga a la Pastorale

C. F. Pitsch

*DOXOLOGY

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Praise God above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (UNISON)

Gracious God, giver of every good gift, receive these offerings as expressions of our love, and of our willingness to be of service to your church. Use these offerings and us, we pray, to bring into being your prayer that God's kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth, even as it is done in heaven, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

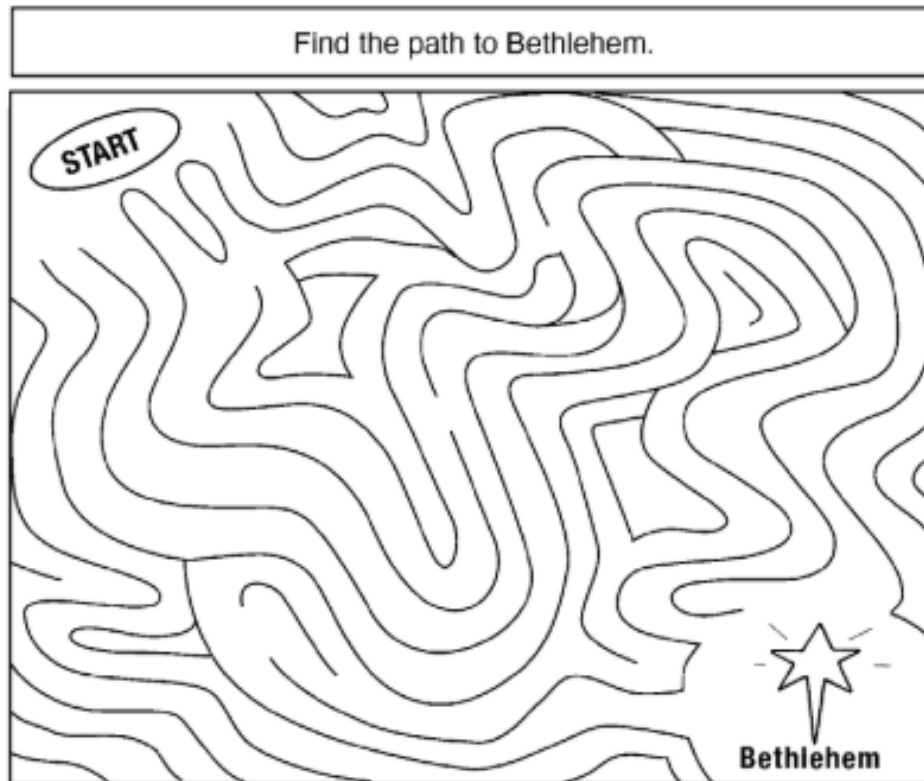
*HYMN #105 Gentle Joseph, Joseph Dear Joseph Lieber, Joseph Mein

*BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE Magnificat Alexandre Guilmant

*We invite you to be seated to listen to the postlude;
if you need to leave, please do so quietly. Thank you.*

***As comfortable, please rise.**



WELCOME to Sanbornton Congregational Church, UCC

Please join us in the Undercroft for refreshment and fellowship after worship.

We welcome Rev. Richard Slater and thank him for leading us in worship.
Rev. Slater has agreed to serve as regular pulpit supply through mid-June 2025.

We want you to hear all parts of today's service! If you have difficulty hearing any part of our worship service, please let an usher know so we can fix it!

We have THREE types of bulletins each week including youth bulletins for puzzle minded folk and young at heart which are available each week in person and digitally with [this link](#).

Prayer Requests: If you would like to make a prayer request to be lifted during worship, please write it down on the "prayer request" sheet in the back of the sanctuary. Those at home can email prayerrequests@uccsanbornton.org or fill out a [prayer request](#) from our website.

Thank you to today's **ushers** Rhu McBee & Cheryl Provost and today's **reader**, Kim Bossey.

Are you curious about our history, upcoming events or wanting to re-watch a service?

Visit our website

www.uccsanbornton.org

Follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/sanborntonuccchurch

Watch us on our **NEW** YouTube Channel

www.youtube.com/@SanborntonCongregationalChurch



ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's that? You still have your stewardship envelope? Our team is getting ready to assemble and will use information from the stewardship forms to craft a budget for next year and to know who likes to do what. We are still collecting your pledges and "Who Likes to Do What?" forms. Either or both of these can be placed in the offering plate when it is passed. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE

- ★ Tuesday, December 24, 2024, 7 pm - Annual Christmas Eve Service - Service of Lessons and Carols
- ★ Saturday, February 1, 2025, 1 pm - Memorial Service for Dave Hart

PEW CARDS can be filled out and added to the collection plate when it is passed.

Keeping in Touch - Thank you for keeping us in-the-know!

Please let us know how you are staying connected with folks from our Sanbornton Congregational Church community by



filling out the [form linked here](#). We plan to add this as a regular article in our Belfry!

YouTube Channel NEWS

Our OLD channel is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAeFubn0S3JWWB0xKxiNgHw>.

You will still see our old services there.

Our **NEW channel** is www.youtube.com/@SanborntonCongregationalChurch

You will see our weekly service on the NEW channel.

If you haven't updated this link, please click it and SUBSCRIBE. :-)


Seekers will start meeting again in 2025. They will resume meeting on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at 10 am in the Undercroft in January. All are welcome.

Fellowship Snacks - The Hospitality committee welcomes your donation of snacks for our weekly time of fellowship after church. Please join us after worship today for hot coffee, tea and a tasty treat or two.

Announcements and calendar additions for Sunday's bulletin can be submitted by Friday at 9 am through uccsanbornton@gmail.com or by contacting Sue Long.

First Fruits is always in need of and grateful for our contributions, especially toiletries. **Belknap House** is in need of **cleaning supplies**. Donations can be placed in the appropriate receptacles which are in the back of the sanctuary.

Winter Weather Closings: Watch for an email announcement in your email or check WMUR for church status on Sundays **and** other days with scheduled events. On Sundays, an email will be sent out and the announcement will be on WMUR by 7:30 AM. If our Pastor, Organist and Media Specialist are able to make it to the church there will be a notice of “Online Services” and if they are unable to make it to church “Church Services will be Closed” will be the notice. Please check these sources for information.

<p style="text-align: center;">What did Elizabeth ask?</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p style="font-size: small;">Solve the sudoku puzzle. All numbers must be used only once in each row, column and box. Then use the letter code to fill in the blanks.</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Elizabeth asked: “But why am I so favored, that the _____t_____ of _____y <small>7 1 9 2 4 7</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____c_____to me?” <small>8 1 4 5 3 9 1 6 8 5 1 7 2</small></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">  </div>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td>1</td><td></td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td></td><td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H</td><td></td><td>6</td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td><td>3</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>4</td><td></td><td>8</td><td></td><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td>5</td><td></td><td>M</td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td>3</td><td>8</td><td></td><td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td>7</td><td></td><td>6</td><td></td><td>D</td><td>9</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td>U</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>R</td><td></td><td>9</td><td>L</td><td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td></td><td>O</td><td>3</td><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td><td>9</td><td></td><td></td><td>8</td><td></td><td>3</td><td></td><td>1</td> </tr> </table>	1		8	9	6	4		E	H		6		2		3	5	5	4		8		S	1	9		5		M			2	4	4	2			3	8		1			7		6		D	9	3		U	5	2	R		9	L	7	2		O	3		7	6			7	9			8		3		1
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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

Sanbornton Public Library

- Tuesdays 10-12pm: Fiber Arts: Stitch, knit, spin with us!
- Fridays 10:30am: Storytime for children 0-6 with stories and songs.
- Thursdays 2-4pm: Learn and play Mahjong, ask at the circulation desk.
- Tech Appointments are available by request, no question is too small.**

Winter Hours and Programs:

- Holiday Hours: Closed on Tues. 12/24 and Wed. 12/25 and closed Wed. 1/1/25
- Thurs. 1/9 at 3:30pm: Open Chess for all ages and abilities, held on 2nd Thursday of the month
- Wed. 1/15 at 6pm: Book Discussion of The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper by Phaedra Patrick

Thurs. 1/16 at 4:30pm, "What's Up in Tonight's Sky" Sky Watch with NH Astronomical Society, brief indoor presentation then sky watch with telescope (1/23 backup date)

Sat. 2/1 from 10am-1pm: Take Your Child to the Library Day

FREE COVID TESTS are available at the Sanbornton Public Library!



What else did Elizabeth declare to Mary?

Add the numbers from the intersecting row and column to find the letters to fill in the blanks.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	S	B	D	T	A	I	E
2	B	D	T	A	I	E	H
3	D	T	A	I	E	H	M
4	T	A	I	E	H	M	O
5	A	I	E	H	M	O	R
6	I	E	H	M	O	R	F
7	E	H	M	O	R	F	L

$\frac{3}{2} \frac{14}{9} \frac{8}{8} \frac{2}{9} \frac{2}{11} \frac{8}{9} \frac{4}{11} \frac{7}{9} \frac{2}{6} \frac{2}{2}$
 $\frac{w}{2} \frac{u}{9} \frac{u}{11} \frac{u}{9} \frac{u}{6} \frac{u}{2}$
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 $\frac{5}{5} \frac{9}{9} \frac{8}{8} \frac{14}{14} \frac{11}{11} \frac{12}{12} \frac{4}{4}$
 $\frac{w}{11} \frac{u}{14} \frac{u}{4} \frac{u}{13} \frac{u}{14} \frac{u}{13} \frac{u}{7} \frac{u}{14} \frac{u}{14}$
 $\frac{p}{9} \frac{p}{7} \frac{p}{2} \frac{p}{12} \frac{p}{11} \frac{p}{10} \frac{p}{7} \frac{p}{2} \frac{p}{8} \frac{p}{2}$
 $\frac{5}{5} \frac{11}{11} \frac{9}{9} \frac{8}{8} \frac{12}{12}$

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December 2024

22	Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming <i>with Rev. Richard Slater</i> Fourth Sunday in Advent
22	Sunday	After worship	Virtual Coffee Hour - join us at our Talking Table meet.google.com/eyv-xpjd-gcf
24	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols
25	Wednesday		Merry Christmas
29	Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming <i>with Rev. Richard Slater</i> First Sunday after Christmas
29	Sunday	After worship	Virtual Coffee Hour - join us at our Talking Table meet.google.com/eyv-xpjd-gcf

January 2025

1	Wednesday	10:00 am	TENTATIVE - Seekers
2	Thursday	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
5	Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming <i>with Rev. Richard Slater</i> Second Sunday after Christmas Epiphany
5	Sunday	After worship	Virtual Coffee Hour - join us at our Talking Table meet.google.com/eyv-xpjd-gcf



www.uccsanbornton.org