

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ROCHESTER
ROCHESTER, WISCONSIN
December 8, 2024
Second Sunday of Advent

HYMN OF PREPARATION: #95 "Love Came Down at Christmas"

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 9:6-7

SERMON: Reflections on The Journey

SPECIAL MUSIC: Harry

SHARING OUR LIVES TOGETHER:

Thanksgivings
Concerns of the Community

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Silent Prayer
Prayers of Adoration
Confession
Thanksgiving
Supplication
The Lord's Prayer (debts)

SHARING OUR GIFTS:

Call to Giving (offering trays will not be passed)
Doxology

*CLOSING HYMN: #308 "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

*BENEDICTION: Philippians 4:7

POSTLUDE:

*** Denotes that all who are able should stand**

PRELUDE _____ MEDITATION* _____ CHURCH BELL _____

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ruth Frost, Moderator

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

INTROIT: Harry

*OPENING HYMN: #541 "Here I am Lord"

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

Leader: Listen! The voice of God calls out across the ages!

People: We hear and respond. We rise up to worship God from the valleys,
the mountains and the plains.

Leader: Like a shepherd God leads us and tenderly gathers us together.

People: Comfort, comfort O my people says our God of love.

*All: The grass withers and the flower fades; but the word of our God will
stand forever.*

*THE GLORIA PATRI: #558

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (unison)

O God,

You call us from faraway places. You call to our hearts.

We hear You and answer Your call. We come to pray and to praise.

We come to learn of Your love for all creation.

Reveal your glory that we may see it together.

Teach us and inspire us to seek Your kingdom on earth in our time. Amen.

LOOKING AHEAD AT OUR DECEMBER CALENDAR:

Today, December 8th - Worship Hour at 10:00 am. **Second Sunday in Advent.** Rae Ellen Preuss will be our Guest Speaker. Children's Sunday School. Special Music by Harry.

Sunday, December 15th - Worship Hour at 10:00 am. **Third Sunday in Advent. Communion Sunday.** Rev. Dr. Barry Szymanski will be our Guest Speaker. Special Music by our Choir. Church Council Meeting following the service.

Friday, December 20th - 11:00 am Ladies Luncheon at Chances. The luncheon will be followed by a cookie packing at the church. Please RSVP Mary Krall if you are joining the luncheon. 262-492-6523. (*Small Cookies and bars are needed and can be brought to the church that Friday morning*)

Sunday, December 22nd - Worship Hour at 10:00 am. **Fourth Sunday in Advent.** Steve Dolphin will be in the pulpit. Special Music by Joni Konecke. Children's Sunday School. Please join us for a Coffee Hour following the service.

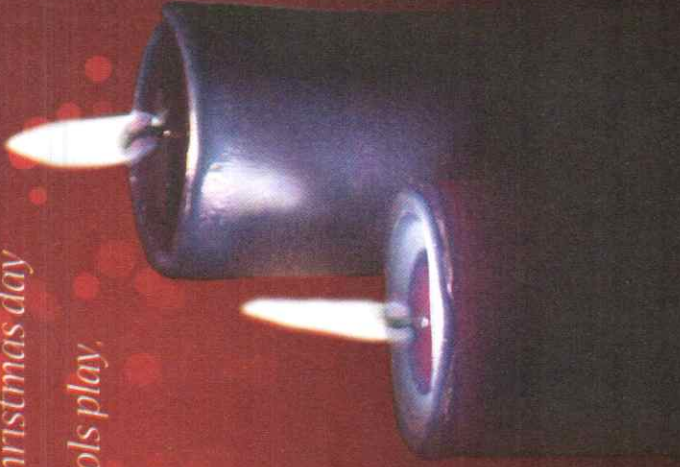
Tuesday, December 24th 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Prayer Concerns:

Lori Haley, hospice	Cindy Ovokaitys
Aubrey Koepfer, cancer	Oscar, Brain tumor
Daniel Hays	Rev. Stu Merkel
Torin, autism	The lost and wandering souls
Elizabeth Joseph	Peace and Good Will on Earth
Morgan Haley	Those dealing with loss and grief
Viveca Persson, Agneta's sister	God's Providence for Israel and the Middle East
Rigmor Alexander, Agneta's sister	
Tom Eckert, lung cancer	
Joshua Myer, cancer	
Morton Zimmerman	
Agneta Ray and family for peace and comfort.	

Peace

I heard the bells on Christmas day
their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
the words repeat
of peace on earth,
goodwill to men.



This man shall be the peace.

Micah 5:5