

First Congregational Church UCC

Christmas Eve Worship

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“❄️” invites all to stand in body or in spirit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
THE RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

❄️ CALL TO WORSHIP (*Leader/People*)

On this holy night, we gather from distant and not-so-distant places to hear the good news once again.

We come to see familiar faces, hear familiar words, and sing familiar songs as we remember the faith of our childhood and renew the faith we rely upon in this season of our lives.

We come here to reclaim the sense of awe and mystery as we once again hear the ancient story of Jesus’ birth.

As we listen with open ears and open hearts, we look forward to the Advent candles burning brightly with hope, peace, joy and love. With anticipation, we wait for the light of Christ to shine, not just in the church, but in our hearts as well.

❄️ OPENING PRAYER

CAROL **CH #148**
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Tonight is the night for which we have all been waiting. “For unto us a child is given, unto us a Savior is born and the order of the world will be upon his shoulders.” With the birth of Jesus, our lives are forever changed. We are transformed by his model and message. We light this candle to represent that Christ is truly the center of our lives...

Christ is born in Bethlehem...let us sing, “Joy to the world”.

CAROL **CH #143**
“Joy to the World”

GIVING THANKS THROUGH OUR GIFTS, TITHES, AND OFFERINGS
OFFERTORY CAROL “Silent Night” Norma Kjos

❄️ SONG OF PRAISE **“Glo-ria in ex-cel-sis De-o”**
“Glo-ria in ex-cel-sis De-o”

❄️ PRAYER OF DEDICATION WITH **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS IN STORY AND SONG

THE GIFT OF REST Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7
CAROL **CH #153**
“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

THE GIFT OF PEACE Micah 5:2-5
CAROL **CH #144**
“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

THE GIFT OF GRACE Luke 1:26-38
SPECIAL MUSIC **“O Holy Night”** Marilyn Hesper

THE GIFT OF TRUST Matthew 1:18-25
CAROL **CH #147**
“Away in a Manger”

THE GIFT OF LOVE Luke 2:1-7
CAROL **CH #155**
“Angels We Have Heard on High”

THE GIFT OF JOY Luke 2:8-14

Christmas Prayers and Thanksgiving

THE GIFT OF WONDER Luke 2:15-19

Announcements

- ▲ **In this season of wonder, may Christmas joy be yours this day.** Our church is a member congregation of the United Church of Christ. We believe in the extravagant welcome of Jesus Christ. We practice "open" communion, and actively seek ways to remove barriers from full church participation. If you would like to know more about our church, or would like to share a comment or story, please let us know. Our email address is: ucc.bfso@gmail.com. You are welcome here.
- ▲ **Assisted hearing devices and children's bulletins** are available upon request. Please see a Greeter.
- ▲ **Glowsticks are available** for anyone who would like a flame-free worship experience.
- ▲ **A heartfelt welcome goes out to our organist/pianist** this evening, Norma Kjos.
- ▲ **Special appreciation** is extended to all our readers.

First Congregational Church United Church of Christ



<https://www.template.net>

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 ~ 5:30 p.m. Worship

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Belle Fourche, SD 57717
605.892.3402

Email: ucc.bfso@gmail.com
Pastor's email: caurand3@gmail.com
Web address: www.bfsoucc.org

"Silent Night"

**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!**

**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.**

**Silent night; Holy night;
Wondrous Star, lend thy light!
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King!
Jesus, shine in our hearts!
Jesus, shine in our hearts!**

(moment of silent reflection)

- ❄ CLOSING PRAYER
- ❄ CHARGE AND BLESSING
- ❄ DEPARTING MUSIC

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