



Julia Ettkin, Artist

First Reformed Church of Schenectady

December 24, 2019 ~ 5pm

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE The Stockade Strummers

*Go Tell it on the Mountain, Carol of the Bells,
Away in the Manger, Silent Night*

GREETING Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Karl Family

INTROIT *Noel* *Redman, Tomlin & Cash*
Gabby and Gillian Pizzolo, Gian Stabler

*CAROL *O Come, All Ye Faithful* #41

**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!*

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing!**
(refrain)

**Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!**
(refrain)

LESSON *Isaiah 9:2-3a, 6-7*
Gian Stabler and Laura Mason

CAROL *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* #9

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.**

(Refrain)

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here:
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.**
(refrain)

**O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.**

LESSON *Luke 1:26-39*

Narrator: Faith Potter; Angel: Ava Muse
Mary: Hannah Bachorik

ANTHEM Youth Choir

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he, "O lowly maiden Mary"
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

"For know a blessed mother you shall be,
All generations praise continually,
Your Son shall be Emmanuel,
by seers foretold."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleases God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and
magnify God's holy name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

**Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn.
And Christian folk
throughout the world will ever say;
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!**

LESSON *Luke 2:1-7*

Narrators: Julia Mason, Callan Stabler;
Mary: Hannah Bachorik; Joseph: Derick
Muir; Jesus: Gavin Muse

CAROL *Away in a Manger* (vs.1,2) #25

**Away in a manger,
No crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus
laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky
Looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus,
asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing,
the poor Baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus,
No crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus,
look down from the sky,
And stay by my side
until morning is nigh.**

LESSON *Luke 2:8-14*

Narrator: Gillian Pizzolo; Angel: Audrey
Mason; Multitude of Angels: Ava Muse,
Audrey Mason, Eloine Lion, Noah
Fernandez, Gavin Zollweg, Atlas Parker,
Lucia Ockerman

ANTHEM *Swing Down Angels* Alumni Choir

LESSON *Luke 2:15-20*

Narrators: Gabby Pizzolo, Julia Etkin;
Shepherds: Ryan Muse, Greyson Karl,
Lucas Karl, Declan Karl; Sheep: Micah Lion

CAROL *Angels We Have Heard on High* #23

**Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**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.**

HOMILY Daniel Carlson

*CAROL *Joy to the World* (vs.1, 2, 4) #40

**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.**

**Joy to the world! The Savior reigns:
Let us our songs employ;**

**While fields and floods,
Rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *African Noel* Orffestra

PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE Youth Choir
Make Room by Maher and Hall

Fam'ly hiding from the storm
found no place at the keeper's door.
It was for this a Child was born
to save a world so cold and hollow.
The sleeping town, it did not know
that lying in a manger low
A Savior King who had no home
has come to heal our sorrows.

Is there room in your heart?
Is there room in your heart?
Is there room in your heart
for God to write His story?

Shepherds counting sheep at night,
do not fear the glory light.
You are precious in His sight.
God has come to raise the lowly.
Mother holds the Promise tight.
Ev'ry wrong will be made right.
The road is straight, the burden's light
for in His hands He holds tomorrow.

Is there room in your heart?
Is there room in your heart?
Is there room in your heart
for God to write His story?
Make room in your heart.

*CAROL *Silent Night, Holy Night* #60

*Pass the flame of the candles by holding the
lit candle upright and tilting the unlit one.*

**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.**

*BENEDICTION



After extinguishing your candle, please leave the candle and plastic holder in a basket at the door. All are welcome to a festive reception with cookies and coffee following the service.

The Mission & Benevolence Committee has designated this year's Christmas offering to The Matogou Project for larger-scale water filtration systems to the Matogou community of Carrefour, Haiti.

First Reformed Church seeks to put God first and therefore is dedicated to caring for creation, human diversity, the next generations, and each other. We invite you to join us as we grow in God's love. We wish you a joyous Christmas and a peaceful New Year!

The sanctuary and chapel are adorned to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

- Margaret (Peg) Shultes from her family
- Alice and Russell Jones and Dr. Charles Assini, Parents of John and Carolyn Assini.
- Dr. Charles Assini and Russell and Alice Jones by the Assini Family
- David by Audrey Bain and Family
- Dick Blackmer and given by his family.
- Our parents from Wayne & Amy Brule
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard E. Burgoyne from their family
- Timothy Burgoyne from his family
- Our mothers, Ethel Slabaugh and Priscilla Carlson from Mary & Daniel Carlson
- Parents and siblings by Gay & Joe Doolittle
- William Dotter by his wife, Elsie & children
- Sylvia & Dolph Ebeling, Lorraine Ebeling and Elyne Schulte by Scott Ebeling
- Rudolph and Therese Mahlberg, and Paul Erickson, by the Erickson family
- William and Louise Stange and Sam Croce by Marlene Risseeuw and the Erickson family
- Erin Falconer, Raymond & Marion Falconer, Donald & Lois Weidenfeller from Phil, Jane & Trevor Falconer
- Merry Christmas from Marjorie Geiger
- Roy Hjelmar, Sidney White, and Elsie White by the Hjelmar Family
- Scott Jewett by his family
- LeRoy Jewett by his family
- Harold Lapham from his family
- My friend Brenda Spencer from Joan Lindsay
- Robert Matz and Meg Kester by Mary Matz
- Mark McDermott by his wife, Gini
- Rev Margaret "Peg" Miller from her family
- The Cottrell Family from Anne Putnam
- The Bolz-Putnam Families from Anne Putnam
- Frederic P and Florence Reimer from Florence Reed
- Rick Reimer by Florence Reed
- Robert E. Reed from Florence Reed and family
- Our parents given by Richard & Kate Rose
- To honor our family by Ellie & Gene Rowland
- Hans and Mary Stern by their Children
- Daniel J. Thuener by, Vernetta and family
- Donald Troost from Carol, Deborah & Matt
- Earle and Dena Van Heyningen by daughter Carol Troost
- Claribel & Clarence H Linder Sr. from The Walraven Family
- Ann Walraven from The Walraven Family
- Carolyn Shepherd Welch by the Welch family
- Anne Shepherd Wemple, Robert V. Shepherd and Susan Shepherd by the Welch family
- Palmer V. Welch, Marian A. Welch, Mary C. Welch by the Welch family
- Glenn Winchester by his family and loved ones.
- Gene Zeltmann from his family
- Eugene Zeltmann from Mary Zeltmann

