

**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**January 8, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.
First Sunday after Epiphany
Epiphany Pageant**

~ORDER OF WORSHIP~

We welcome all and extend a special greeting to our guests; our service is enriched by your presence! Please join us in Chapin Hall for fellowship time after worship.

*The Welcome Table in Chapin Hall offers information about the church and members who can answer your questions. **Hearing devices** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is always available down the hall in Room 4.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please include your full address and phone number as you sign our friendship registration pads, and please wear your nametags. All announcements should be written down and given to the ushers or pastors prior to worship.

If you have a prayer request you would like read aloud for today's prayers, please fill out one of the prayer cards found in the friendship registration pads (your name is optional). Be prepared to pass it to the aisles at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bob Inderbitzen

Leader: Jesus said: I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

All: We have seen the light of Christ like a star shining in the sky; and like the Magi, we have come to worship.

Leader: Glory be to God, and to Jesus Christ, the Word of Light.

All: God is made known to us in Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*HYMN

“Once In Royal David’s City”

NC (black) 145

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

****Bold type denotes collective response.***

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Holy God, we know that you have been present to us throughout all of history, even throughout our own histories. We know you will be with us in our future. Yet often we don't live as if we know that. You ask no more of us than what we can provide. Give us the grace to follow Jesus faithfully. We ask this in Jesus' name, who taught us to pray, saying,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE

NC 743



Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that

The first line of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.



I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

The second line of musical notation continues the melody from the first line. It also consists of a treble and bass staff with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

Epiphany Pageant



SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 1:26-38

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and

peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us,
yet a King, born to reign in us for - ev - er,

let us find our rest in thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
now thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of
spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone; by thine all suf -

ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 2:1-7

“Mary Had a Baby”

Led by Liz Reed-Swale

SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 2:8-21

Angels We Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;

And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
 Say what may the ti - dings be, Which in - spire your heaven - ly song.
 Come a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

REFRAIN

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

We Three Kings of Orient Are (vs 1 & 2)

In unison



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, Bear - ing gifts we trav - erse a - far
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, Gold I bring to crown him a - gain,
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I, In - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume Breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom:
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;



Field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, Fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er O - ver us all to reign.
 Prayer and prais - ing, all men rais - ing, Wor - ship him, God on high.
 Sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, Sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Sounds through the earth and skies.



REFRAIN



O star of won - der, star of night, Star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



West - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to thy per - fect light.



Go Tell It On The Mountain

Refrain

G D7 G

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hill and ev - ery - where.

G Em C G/D D7 *Last time, end* G

Go tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born!

G D7 G

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
 3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

G A7 D7 *to Refrain*

Be - hold through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
 Rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 And God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.



OFFERING OF GIFTS

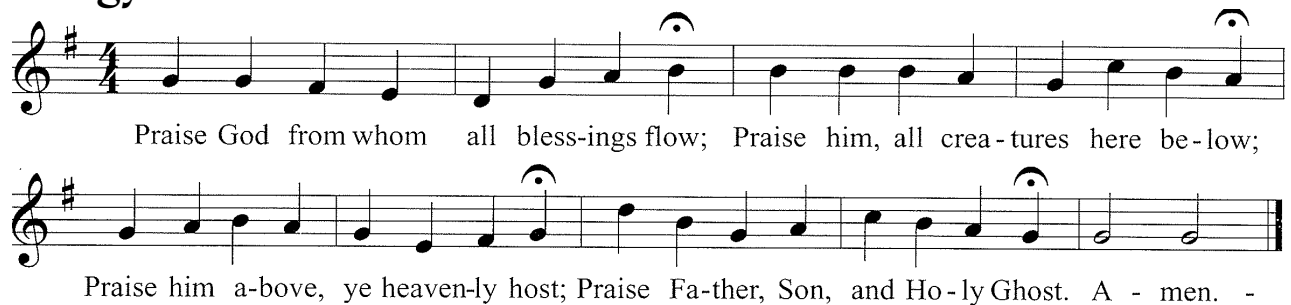
During the time of offering, your prayers can be offered using the blue prayer request cards and placed in the offering plate. The pastor will read the prayers aloud during the Joys and Concerns.

Invitation to the Offering

For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available in your pew so that all may participate in the act of the offering.

Offertory Anthem

*Doxology



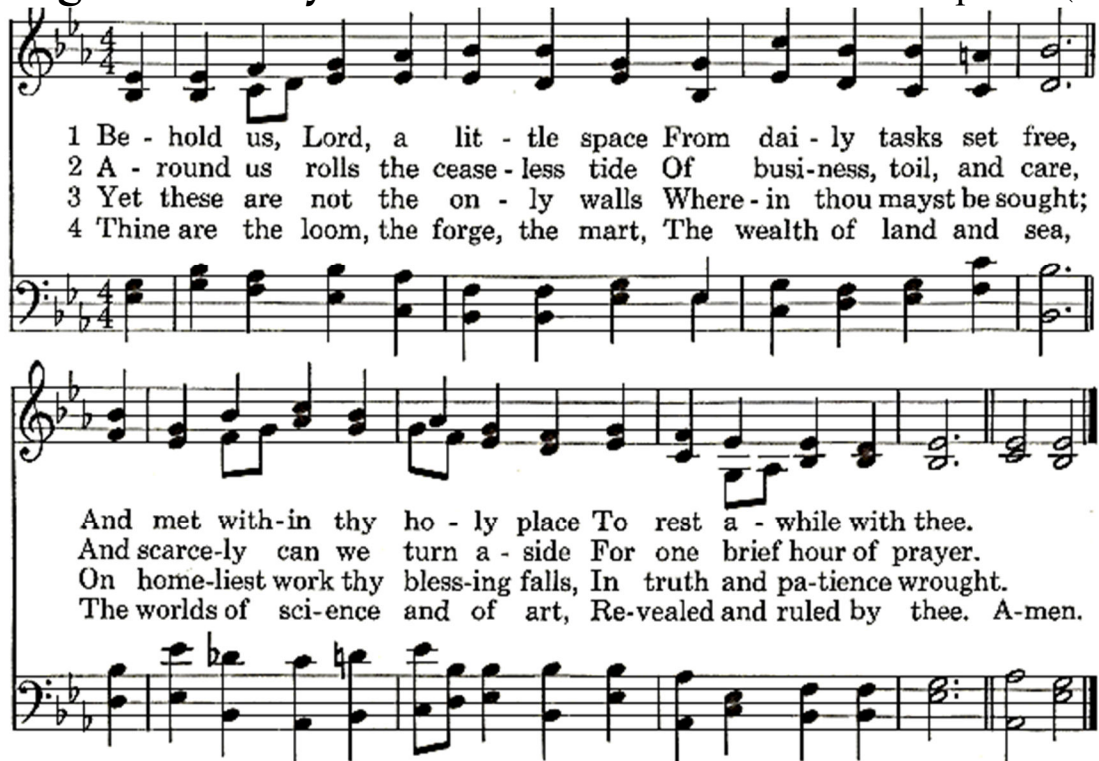
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here be-low;
Praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men. -

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

Sung Call to Prayer “Behold Us, Lord, a Little Space” (verse 1) PH 395



1 Be - hold us, Lord, a lit - tle space From dai - ly tasks set free,
2 A - round us rolls the cease - less tide Of busi-ness, toil, and care,
3 Yet these are not the on - ly walls Where - in thou mayst be sought;
4 Thine are the loom, the forge, the mart, The wealth of land and sea,
And met with-in thy ho - ly place To rest a - while with thee.
And scarce-ly can we turn a - side For one brief hour of prayer.
On home-liest work thy bless-ing falls, In truth and pa-tience wrought.
The worlds of sci-ence and of art, Re-vealed and ruled by thee. A-men.

CHURCH  COUNCIL

All members of RHCC: PLEASE JOIN US FOR LUNCH!

Calling all adults, youth and children
The Council invites EVERYONE to a special
"What are our Ministries?" luncheon on
Sunday, January 22, 2017, immediately following worship.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this special event in the life of our church. During this fun and fast paced lunch session, we'll explore who we are NOW as a church and who we want to be. We'll also discuss how a revised governance structure (how we are organized) may help us become the church we want to be.

Your participation is important! Please join us.

Please RSVP using the sign-up sheets in Chapin Hall, or contact the church office at office@rhccucc.org or 860-529-4167. We will also be issuing personal invitations in the coming weeks. Please share any dietary needs. Childcare will be provided.



All Are Invited to InReach's

COMFORT FOOD DINNER

Saturday, January 28, 5:30 pm

Menu: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potato & Gravy,
Ham, Macaroni & Cheese, Tossed Salad & Rolls,
Hot Vegetables and a Variety of Desserts, Coffee, Tea, Soda

Entertainment – Magic of Michael Michaels

"Magic for all occasions"

\$10.00 – Adults; \$5.00 – 4 to 12 years;

Free – Children under 4 years old. Family cap \$35.00

Please reserve tickets: Jeannie Alessi 860/839-1321

Tickets on sale during January Coffee Hours

Snow date: January 29, 2017



SCRIP-SURE



What is it? Scrip-sure is a **fundraising program** for our church, which allows the regular shopping we do at a variety of retailers to generate income for the church. How? Participating retailers sell gift certificates or gift cards to our church at a discount. Church members buy the certificates for full face value and redeem them for full face value, and our church keeps the difference as revenue. Everybody wins! The retailers get our business, and our church gets a regular source of revenue that involves nothing other than what we would all be doing anyway – shopping/spending at grocery stores, drugstores, restaurants, gas stations, and many other businesses, including online retailers

We have most of the usual cards in inventory for immediate purchase this morning. Here is a partial list of cards typically available:

- Coffee: Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks
- Fast food: Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's
- Gas: Exxon/Mobil, Shell, Sunoco
- Grocery: Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, Westside Marketplace, Whole Foods
- Pharmacy: CVS, Walgreens
- Restaurants: Bertucci's, Bonefish Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, Denny's, Olive Garden, On the Border, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Payless Shoes, Target, Toys R Us, Walmart

Today is the "end of December" deadline to order gift cards that are not stocked in inventory. A comprehensive listing of all available retailers can be picked up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall. Cards ordered by today will be available for pickup on January 15. The next ordering deadline will be on January 29.

Did you know that you can donate to the Rocky Hill Food Pantry and "Covenant-to-Care for Children" through our scrip program? Your cash/check donations are used to buy gift cards to local groceries (food pantry) or other retail stores (CC). For these donations, we do not retain any profit, so a \$1.00 donation effectively buys about \$1.07 in groceries or clothing. You may donate at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

Stop by the scrip table in Chapin Hall this morning for a complete listing of available cards, or to have all of your questions answered. Think SCRIP!

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

January 8

10:00am **Worship/Pageant**
9:30am **Childcare**
11:30 **HSYouth Ice Skating**
4:00pm **Tamil School**

January 9

7:00pm **Women's AA**
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

January 10

7:00pm **Council**
7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

January 11

9:00am **Breakfast Club**
6:00pm **Pilates**
7:30pm **Choir**

January 12

10:00am **Music Together**
7:30pm **Men's AA**

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Rms 22,23,25,26,27

Monday

Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

Tuesday

Fiorilli
Room 23

Wednesday

Bob's Coffee Shop
Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

Thursday

Room 22
Chapin Hall



08	Brian Silkowski
09	Debra Peterson
09	Melody Hall
10	Natalie Tine
10	Nicolis Alessi
11	Gregory Pickett
12	David Dean
13	Robert Speers
13	Louis DiRenzo

Cards of Sympathy for Charlotte Bacon may be sent to: Ed & Holli Bacon, 455 Wolcott Hill Rd, Wethersfield, CT 06109. Memorial donations in her honor may be made to RHCC, 805 Old Main St. Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

The Deacons are looking for folks who would be willing to serve as ushers at funerals and/or memorial services for our departed church family and friends. If you have the availability and are willing to fill in for the Deacons when needed, can you please let the office know at (860-529-4167 or office@rhccucc.org) or Deb Copes (860-729-6541 or deb.copes@gmail.com). Thank you in advance!

Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
805 Old Main Street
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Church Office: office@rhccucc.org / 860 529-4167
Church Website: rhccucc.org
Visit us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/rhccucc

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Open and Affirming Statement

Because we believe that all people are created in God's image and thus are blessed and loved equally by God, and because love is a unifying and strengthening force within our Christian Faith,

We, the members of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, hereby declare ourselves an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people.

We welcome all who seek to follow Jesus, including persons of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith background, marital status and family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, mental and physical ability, economic and social status, and educational background, to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our church family.

Jesus teaches us to welcome all God's children into God's covenantal community. As we grow together in faith and love, we will strive to celebrate the diversity in which God has created us.

Approved by congregational vote June 2009

Ministry Team

Ministers: All the members of the church

Pastor: The Rev. Craig L. Cowing ccowing@rhccucc.org

Minister for Children and Youth: Georgette L. Huie ghuie@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero mary@rhccucc.org

Office Manager: Theresa E. Cleary office@rhccucc.org

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling