

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
*Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community*



December 29 ~ 10:00 a.m.  
Last Sunday of 2019, “Bells Sunday”  
on the Fifth Day of Christmas

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We welcome all and extend a special greeting to our guests; our service is enriched by your presence!

- Nursery care is offered during worship downstairs in Room 4.
- Hearing devices are available for worship; an usher will be glad to assist you when you ask.

Please join us for fellowship time after worship in Chapin Hall, which is located downstairs. The Welcome Table in Chapin Hall offers information about the church; and our members will be glad to answer your questions!

# ~ORDER OF WORSHIP~

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## Reflection

...These sudden ends of time must give us pause.  
We fray into the future, rarely wrought  
Save in the tapestries of afterthought.  
More time, more time. Barrages of applause  
Come muffled from a buried radio.  
The New-year bells are wrangling with the snow.

– Richard Wilbur, from *Year's End*

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

## Call to Worship

Deb Copes

One On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me

**People a partridge in a pear tree.**

One On the second day of Christmas, my true love gave to me

**People two turtledoves and a partridge in a pear tree.**

One On the third say of Christmas, my true love gave to me

**People three French hens, two turtledoves and a partridge in a pear tree.**

One On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me

**People four calling birds, three French hens, two turtledoves,  
and a partridge in a pear tree.**

One On the FIFTH day of Christmas, my true love gave to me

**ALL FIVE golden rings....**

*four calling birds, three French hens, two turtledoves  
and a partridge in a pear tree.*

## SONG

### Walking in a Winter Wonderland

Sleigh bells ring, are you listening  
In the lane, snow is glistening  
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight  
Walking in a winter wonderland

Gone away is the bluebird  
Here to stay is a new bird  
He sings a love song as we go along  
Walking in a winter wonderland

In the meadow, we can build a snowman  
Then pretend that he is Parson Brown  
He'll say, "Are you married?" We'll say, "No man"  
But you can do the job when  
you're in town

Later on, we'll conspire  
As we dream by the fire  
To face unafraid, the plans that we've made  
Walking in a winter wonderland

Sleigh bells ring, are you listening  
In the lane, snow is glistening  
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight  
Walking in a winter wonderland



## Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

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.

## Response: Do you hear what I hear? (verse 2)

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy:

“Do you hear what I hear? Ringing through the sky, little lamb?  
Do you hear what I hear? A song, a song, high above the trees  
With a voice as big as the sea, with a voice as big as the sea.”

## Sharing the Peace of Christ

*You are invited to share a sign of the reconciling peace of Christ with those around you with a handshake, an embrace, or a non-contact gesture of greeting.*

## A Message for All Ages Ring, Ring, Ring the Bells

(tune is “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”)

Ring, ring, ring the bells, Christmas time is here  
To tell the children everywhere that Christmas time is here!

## Children's Recessional

*(Children are invited to depart for Church School)*

“We Will Keep a Place For You” by John Corrado



We will keep a place for you where - ev - er you may go.

We'll sus-tain this home of faith and love you've come to know. Go in peace, bring

hope to hearts that yearn. We will keep a place for you 'till you re-turn.

## SONG

### Sleigh Ride

Just hear those sleigh bells jingling - Ring-ting-tingling too  
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you  
Outside the snow is falling and friends are calling, "Yoo hoo"  
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you

Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap let's go, let's look at the show  
We're riding in a wonderland of snow...  
Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap It's grand, just holding your hand  
We're riding along with a song of a wintry fairy land  
Our cheeks are nice and rosy And comfy cozy are we...

We're snuggled up together like two birds of a feather would be  
Let's take that road before us and sing a chorus or two  
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you...  
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you!

## Readings

### Reflection

### Voices of Christmas

Rev. Nada Sellers



### Offering our Gifts

*Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, prayer request cards will be collected. For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available so that all may participate in the act of the offering.*

### Invitation to Offering

### Music

Janet Schneider

## \*The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

## Unison Prayer of Dedication

With gladness, as with people of old, throughout all the ages, now we rejoice. We rejoice in the Christ child; we rejoice in a season of gifting and we offer these gifts, to support the ministries you call us to as community of faith. God of all, to thee we raise, this our song of grateful praise. Amen.

## Song

### Silver Bells

City sidewalks, busy sidewalks, dressed in holiday style  
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas  
Children laughing, people passing, meeting smile after smile  
and on every street corner you'll hear  
Silver bells, silver bells, It's Christmas time in the city  
Ring-a-ling, hear them sing, soon it will be Christmas day

Strings of street lights, even stop lights, blink a bright red and green  
As the shoppers rush home with their treasures  
Hear the snow crunch, see the kids bunch, this is Santa's big scene,  
and above all this bustle you'll hear  
Silver bells, silver bells, It's Christmas time in the city  
Ring-a-ling, hear them sing, soon it will be Christmas day

## Benediction

## Benediction Response

## Postlude

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THANKS to our worship participants today:

Pastor	Rev. Nada Sellers
Guest Organist/Pianist	Janet Schneider
Liturgist	Deb Copes
Ushers	Sue Chatfield, Steve Smith and Marge Murk
Greeter	Joan Tennyson
Hospitality	InReach
Church School	Heather Wolfe-Taylor
Childcare	Jennifer Madley, Kaedryn Pulling

The tower will be lighted this week and next week in honor and loving memory of **Thelma Somes** by her daughter-in-law, Elaine Somes.



We'd like to stay in touch with you! Here's how...

Please include your full address, phone number and email as you sign our friendship registration pads.

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) and be prepared to pass it to the aisles at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected. If you have announcements, they should be written down and given to the ushers or pastor prior to worship.

### Upcoming Worship Schedule

Sunday, January 5 – 10:00am Epiphany Pageant with Diaper Drive

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to Gilberts Farm for supplying our Christmas Poinsettias and wreaths; and for donating the lovely kissing ball hanging in our Sanctuary. Please support our local farmers.

Think SCRIP! The next order for cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on January 26 (with delivery on February 2). E-cards may be ordered anytime. A complete listing of all retailers available through our program can be picked up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

Epiphany Pageant - Please join us during worship next week (January 5) when the young people present an Epiphany Pageant: a retelling and reenactment of the Christmas story. Come, to be reminded of God's love for you and for all creation.

Diaper Drive – Sunday, January 5. We will collect diapers during the Epiphany Pageant for the Connecticut Diaper Bank. The Diaper Bank distributes free diapers to families, food pantries, soup kitchens, day care centers and shelters throughout Connecticut. All sizes are needed. Thank you, Witness and Outreach: Heather Collins, Marge Murk, Elaine Sellenberg and Sue Speers.

## THIS WEEK AT RHCC

### December 29

10:00am Worship  
9:30am Childcare  
10:00am Church School

### December 30

*Office & Preschool closed*  
7:00pm Women's AA

### December 31

*Office & Preschool closed*

### January 1

*Office & Preschool closed*

### January 2

8:30am Preschool Opens  
9:30am NEWSLETTER MAILING  
7:30pm Men's AA

### January 3

### January 4

10:00am Pageant Rehearsal

### Sunday

Sanctuary  
Room 4  
Rms 24,25,26

### Monday

Fiorilli Room

### Tuesday

### Wednesday

### Thursday

Fiorilli Room  
Chapin Hall

### Friday

### Saturday

Sanctuary

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

#### December

28 Nathan Vann  
30 Krista Pender

#### January

1 Gladys Kitchens  
3 Fred Nashold  
4 Jack Malespini



The church office will be closed Dec 30 -Jan 1.

The January newsletter mailing will be on Thursday, January 2 at 9:30am.

Pageant Rehearsal will be held on Saturday, January 4 at 10:00am.

Weather cancellations will be listed on WFSB-TV3, our website, and on facebook.

Ministers:

Pastor:

Minister for Children & Youth:

Minister of Music:

Office Manager:

Webmaster:

Childcare:

#### Ministry Team

All the members of the church

Rev. Nada Sellers

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Jennifer Madley

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Church Website: [www.RockyHillUCC.org](http://www.RockyHillUCC.org)

Visit us on Facebook & Instagram at: [RHCCUCC](https://www.facebook.com/RHCCUCC)

Office Hours: Open Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Friday – Closed