



---

**December 24, 2021**

**Christmas Eve**

**4:30 p.m.**

---

PRELUDE *Once in David's Royal City  
Away in a Manger* White Chapel Bell Ringers

WELCOME Rev. Michael Frady

CHORAL INTROIT *Sussex Carol* ~M. Bringle & S. Morris  
First Church Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Tonight old dreams die and new dreams come to life.

**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.**

Hope gives way to joy and prayer to proclamation.

**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.**

Our candles illuminate our story. Dawn invades midnight.

The Light of the world has come

**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all.**

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING Bob Gallagher and Donna Levine

\*HYMN 100 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

LESSON 1 Luke 1:26-38, The Angel Visits Mary Don Bisset

HYMN 94 *To a Maid Engaged to Joseph*

LESSON 2 Luke 1:39-45, Mary and Elizabeth Bev Roffo

Musical Response *Still, Still, Still* Valerie Johnson, Soprano

\* *Indicates all who are able may stand*

*Please silence your cell phones*

LESSON 3                      Luke 2:1-7, The Birth in Bethlehem                      Craig Barnes  
HYMN 131                      *Away in a Manger*

LESSON 4                      Luke 2:8-14, The Shepherds and the Angels                      Jean Opie  
Musical Response                      *In the Bleak Midwinter*                      Valerie Johnson

LESSON 5                      Luke 2:15-20, The Shepherds Worship                      Christian Hathaway  
\*HYMN 123                      *Hark, The Herald Angels Sing*

LESSON 6                      Matthew 2:1-11, The Gifts of the Magi                      Rachel Holton  
Musical Response                      *Child of the Poor/ What Child is This?*                      ~ S. Soper  
Rev. Michael Frady, Baritone  
Valerie Johnson, Soprano

CHRISTMAS PRAYER                      Rev. Suzy Aja Burba  
LORD'S PRAYER  
Musical Response                      *The Coventry Carol*                      ~ E. Jolly  
Sophie Wang, Violin

LESSON 7                      John 1:1-5, The Word Made Flesh                      Mark Goodwin  
\*HYMN 107                      *Joy to the World*

LESSON 8                      John 1:10-14, The Savior of the World                      Rev. Michael Frady  
Musical Response                      *O Holy Night*                      ~ Adolphe Adam

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST  
HYMN 135                      *Silent Night*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE                      *Go Tell It on the Mountain*                      Keith Ciccone, Organ  
Sophie Wang, Violin



HYMN 100 v 1,2 ,&4

***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

*1 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!*

*2 Sing, choirs of angels;  
sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God,  
all glory in the highest! [Refrain]*

*4 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]*



HYMN 94 v 1,2,& 4

***To a Maid Engaged to Joseph***

*1 To a maid engaged to Joseph,  
the angel Gabriel came.  
"Fear not," the angel told her,  
"I come to bring good news,  
Good news I come to tell you,  
good news, I say, good news."*

*2 "For you are highly favored  
by God the Lord of all,  
who even now is with you.  
You are on earth most blest,  
you are most blest, most blessed,  
God chose you, you are blest!"*

*4 "Fear not, for God is with you,  
and you shall bear a child.  
His name shall be called Jesus,  
God's offspring from on high.  
And he shall reign forever,  
Forever reign on high."*



HYMN 131

*Away in a Manger*

*Away in a manger  
No crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus  
Laid down His sweet head  
The stars in the bright sky  
Looked down where He lay  
The little Lord Jesus  
Asleep on the hay*

*The cattle are lowing  
The Baby awakes  
But little Lord Jesus  
No crying He makes  
I love You, Lord Jesus  
Look down from the sky  
And stay by my side  
Until morning is nigh*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus  
I ask You to stay  
Close by me forever  
And love me I pray  
Bless all the dear children  
In Your tender care  
And fit us for heaven  
To live with You there*



HYMN 123

*Hark, The Herald Angels Sing*

*Hark, the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the new-born King;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”*

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the new-born King!”*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail th’incarnate Deity,  
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.*

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the new-born King!”*



HYMN 107 v 1,2,&4

*Joy to the World*

*1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*

*2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
while fields and floods,  
rocks, hills, and plains,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*4 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.*



HYMN 135

*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.*



**THE CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS WHICH ADORN THE SANCTUARY ARE**

given by Susan & Ralph Altmaier  
in honor of Rev. Michael Frady and Rev. Suzy Burba

given by Susan & Ralph Altmaier in honor of Keith, Valerie & Glenn

given by Susan Altmaier  
in memory of Mary Van Dyke Shaw, grandmother of Susan

given by Craig & Marcia Barnes  
in memory of Norman & Glendolyn Magowan, parents  
and Delwyn & Barbara Barnes, parents

given by Carleton F. Barron, Jr. in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Carleton F. Barron

given by Keith J. Ciccone & Rick Mirkin  
in memory of Grace & Louis Ciccone, parents

given by Keith J. Ciccone & Rick Mirkin  
in memory of Frances & Arthur Mirkin, parents

given by Pastor Michael  
in honor of the good people of First Congregational Church

given by Robert Gallagher  
in memory of his loving wife, Shirley E. Gallagher  
and his mother, Lydia M. Gallagher

given by Meredith Hatch & family in memory of Nancy Benjamin

given by Martha & Brad Hobbs  
in loving memory of Ruth, William & Walter Hobbs

given by Janet & Glenn Holton in memory of Harold and Priscilla Belcher

given by Kristen Johnson in memory of Jim Lynch

given by Mattie, Thomas & Tom  
in memory of Shawn Hewson & Bert Gietman

given by Donna M. Levine in memory of Eli Levine

given by Donna M. Levine in memory of Elizabeth N. Pitt

given by the Lyons children, grandchildren and great grandchildren  
in honor of Harvey & Phyllis Lyons

given by Nancy Mills  
in loving memory of classmate & friend Alice Forbes South

given by Nancy Mills in loving memory of my husband, my friend, Wayne Mills

given by Cheryl & Gregory Pappas and Deborah Anderson  
in memory of Barbara & Phillip Anderson

given by Cheryl & Gregory Pappas and Deborah Anderson  
in memory of Marie & Charles Pappas

given by Cheryl & Gregory Pappas and Deborah Anderson  
in memory of Cathleen & George Cowie

given by Cheryl & Gregory Pappas and Deborah Anderson  
in memory of Laura & Anton Anderson

given by Russell & Vana Peck in memory of Mortimer & Julia Peck

given by Don & Diane Porter in honor of church friends

given by Grace Reinelt in memory of loved ones

given by Beverly Roffo in memory of her husband, Michael Roffo

given by Marlene & Jeannine in memory of Dee Watson

given by John & Jeannine Slauson  
in memory of Mr. & Mrs. James Slauson and Violet Cabral



## *Poinsettias*

Those who purchased poinsettias may pick them up at the close of the Christmas Eve service. The deacons would appreciate the help of anyone who could deliver a poinsettia in the next few days -- if you can do this, please meet us at the front of the church after service. Thank you and...



*Merry Christmas!*



*Thank you to our Director of Music, Keith Ciccone, Guest Musician, Sophie Wang and Bell Choir Director, Valerie Johnson for leading our worship music today.*

*Thank you to participants of the Choir, Bell Choir and our scripture readers, too!*

*Like the magi, we are called to offer our gifts in adoration of Christ. A Christmas offering to support the life, ministry, and mission of the church may be placed in the box at the back of the sanctuary.*



Rev. Michael Frady, Senior Pastor ❖ [pastormichael@firstchurchbraintree.com](mailto:pastormichael@firstchurchbraintree.com)

Rev. Suzy Aja Burba, Associate Minister ❖ [suzy@firstchurchbraintree.com](mailto:suzy@firstchurchbraintree.com)

Keith Ciccone, Director of Music ❖ [keciccon@aol.com](mailto:keciccon@aol.com)

Mattie Gietman, Dir. Children's Ministry ❖ [mattie@firstchurchbraintree.com](mailto:mattie@firstchurchbraintree.com)

Deb McMartin, Administrator ❖ [office@firstchurchbraintree.com](mailto:office@firstchurchbraintree.com)

Valerie Fink, Bookkeeper ❖ [finance@firstchurchbraintree.com](mailto:finance@firstchurchbraintree.com)



---

**12 Elm Street, Braintree, MA 02184 ❖ 781-843-3616 ❖  
[www.firstchurchbraintree.com](http://www.firstchurchbraintree.com)**