



**THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER UCC
EPIPHANY
SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2017**

*We are the Church of the Redeemer, United Church of Christ,
an inclusive community committed to the worship of God, the work of justice,
and the recognition of our common humanity in the struggles of life.*

*We follow Jesus Christ, who welcomes all people to his table.
We celebrate the rich diversity of God's people:
in race, gender, age, sexual orientation, physical and mental abilities,
marital and economic status and culture.*

*Join us on a journey of the Holy Spirit,
where faith and intellect meet, learning never ends,
and music and the arts draw us closer to our Creator.*

WELCOME

We are pleased that you could join us this morning; wherever you are on your life and faith journey, you are welcome at the Church of the Redeemer UCC. If you have any questions, please speak with an usher at the back of the Sanctuary. If you would like more information about the church, fill out the visitor information form at the back of this bulletin and put it in an offering plate. We hope you will join us after the service at Coffee Hour for a time of fellowship – go out the side door and follow the crowds.

ABOUT US

The Church of the Redeemer UCC is an open and affirming, theologically progressive, mainline Protestant church affiliated with the United Church of Christ (UCC). It was founded as a Congregational church in New Haven in 1838. Our identity is summarized by our vision statement.

CHILDCARE DURING AND AFTER CHURCH

Children are always welcome in church. Activity bags for older children and rocking chairs for adults with babies are available at the rear of the sanctuary. We have a nursery downstairs for children through age 6; you can take your child there at any time (follow the "Nursery" signs in the Tower Lobby or ask the ushers at the back).

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES

If you are having trouble reading this bulletin or hearing the service, the ushers can provide you with a large-print bulletin or an assistive listening device. There are also large print Bibles and hymnals for those with vision challenges.

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER UCC
Epiphany
Sunday, January 7, 2018

PRELUDE Dietrich Buxtehude Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME Pastor Susan Murtha

INTROIT

GATHERING PRAYER *(unison) please stand*

Traveling God,

**with the wise men we journey in faith:
sometimes with confidence and hope
sometimes with faltering steps
from places of clarity to the shadows of mystery
never still, never certain
instead changing and growing;
never quite knowing what the future might bring,
but trusting that You hold us in love.
Traveling God,
journey with us;
be our path; be our destination.
Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

We three kings
see page 12
Verses 1-4: choir only
Refrain and verse 5: all

ANTHEM Felix Mendelssohn from *Christus*
Sarah Reed, soprano; Paul Berry, tenor
David Carter and Brian Robinson, bass

When Jesus our Lord was born in Bethlehem, in the land of
Judea, behold, from the east to the city of Jerusalem there came
wise men and said:

Say, where is he born the king of Judea? For we have seen his star
and are come to adore him.

There shall a star from Jacob come forth and a scepter from Israel
rise up, and dash in pieces princes and nations.

How brightly beams the morning star
with sudden radiance from afar,
with light and comfort glowing.
Thy word, Jesus, inly feeds us,
rightly leads us,
life bestowing.
Praise, O praise, such love o'erflowing.

SAYING GOODBYE TO MAGGIE FRASER Children's Faith Formation

PASSING OF THE PEACE
Let us welcome one another with the traditional Christian greeting
"Peace be with you." "And also with you."

HYMN OF PREPARATION *please stand* The first Nowell
see page 13
Verses 1, 2 and 3 only
Verse 1: sopranos and altos
Verse 2: tenors and basses
Verse three: all

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12

Brian Robinson

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Leader:

God is still speaking.

People:

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Going on what you've got

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Harold Darke

In the bleak mid-winter

Sarah Reed, soprano

Paul Berry, tenor

In the bleak mid-winter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen snow on snow
in the bleak mid-winter long, long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
in the bleak mid-winter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God almighty Jesus Christ.

Enough for him whom cherubim worship night and day,
a breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay;
enough for him whom angels fall down before,
the ox and ass and camel which adore.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can, I give him, give my heart.

CONGREGATIONAL DOXOLOGY *please stand*

(Tune: Lasst uns erfreuen)

**Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship God in humbleness:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God and Jesus Christ the Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One:**

**O Praise God, O Praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

COMMUNION HYMN

Who would think
#153 *New Century Hymnal*
Verses 1 and 2 only

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

At Redeemer, we welcome all people to our table for Holy Communion, including children. If your children have not been in the practice of receiving the Sacrament, we leave to your discretion whether or not to invite them to receive. By way of explanation, we encourage you to tell your children that we do this because Jesus asked us to remember him when we eat and drink, and that Jesus promised to be present with us in a special way when we eat and drink together as the church. It is a quiet time, for praying and remembering all we know about Jesus. It is a joyous time, for we celebrate that the risen Christ is with us always!

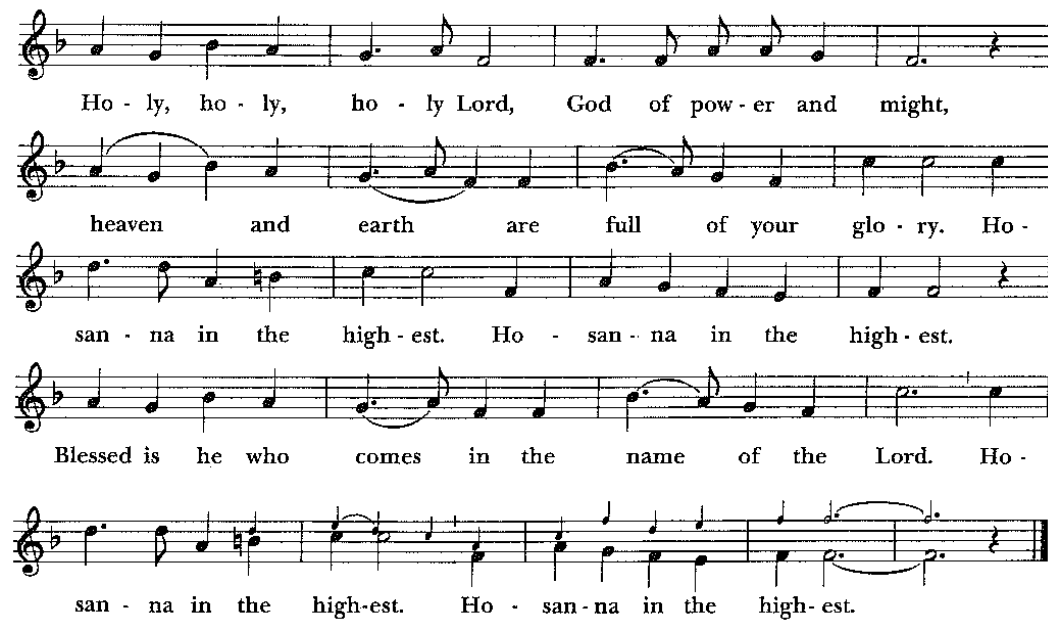
Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Holy God, source of all blessing...

...with all the saints and a great cloud of witnesses we sing your praise.

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

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Prayers of Intercession

Lord's Prayer

Mark Miller

mp

Our God, in hea-ven, ho - ly is your name, your

reign come, your will done, on earth as in hea-ven.

slower

Give us to-day our dai - ly bread, and help us for-give, as we have been for - giv - en.

mf

In the time of tri-al lead us in - to light, for yours is the kin- dom, and the

f *mp*

po- wer, and the glo-ry, for - e - ver. Our God, in

hea- ven, ho - ly is your name, ho - ly is your name.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Communion is being served this morning by the method of intinction. Please approach the Communion table by going down the center aisle to either side of the Communion table. The chalice near the piano contains wine. The opposite side has a chalice with (low in sugar) grape juice. The bread today is gluten-free. Take a piece of the bread, dip it in the cup and take and eat. Then return down the outer aisles to the rear of the sanctuary and back to your seat.

If you would like the elements brought to you in the pew, please let an usher know.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

RECESSIONAL HYMN *please stand*

The first Nowell
see page 13
Verses 4, 5 and 6
Verse 4: tenors and basses
Verse 5: sopranos and altos
Verse 6: all

BENEDICTION

AMEN

Give light

Please sing with the choir

Give light, and people will find the way. Give light, and
people will find the way; Give light, and people will find the way.
Peo-ple will find the way I do be - lieve.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, the second staff contains the second line, and the third staff contains the third line. The lyrics are: "Give light, and people will find the way. Give light, and people will find the way; Give light, and people will find the way. Peo-ple will find the way I do be - lieve."

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POSTLUDE

G. Winston Cassler

O'er the earth there shines a great light

*Please be seated during the postlude and use this time for silent reflection.
Afterward, we will adjourn to the Sterling Room for a luncheon and the
All Church Gathering: "Next Steps: Part 3," led by Pastor Susan.
You can get to the Sterling Room by exiting the side door at the front of the church.*

THANK YOU TO THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP SERVICE

Deacon Shepherd: Tony Forman

Reader: Brian Robinson

Hospitality: Luncheon

Ushers: Bob Parker and Marilyn Toland


Communion Servers: Tony Forman, Chuck Peterson, Nancy Carrington,
and Wes Poling



Next Sunday

Hospitality: Gail Reen and Georgia Erickson

Ushers: Doby Hall and Courtney Mason



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,
 3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -



1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
 3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.
 4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.


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!



1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star
 3 And by the light of that same star
 4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,
 5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
 3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
 4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
 5 full rev - erent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
 4 and there it did both stop and stay
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
 2 and so it con-tin-ued both day and night.
 3 and to fol-low the star wher-ev-er it went.
 4 right o-ver the place where Je-sus lay.
 5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank-in-cense.

Refrain

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is-ra-el.

6 Then let us all with one accord
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT STEPS: PART 3

Please join us after worship for Next Steps: Part 3 as we continue our all-church conversation about Redeemer's future direction. Lunch and childcare will be provided!



An All-Church Gathering

NEXT STEPS Part 3!

Sunday, January 7, 2018
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

We will review the “5 lanes” ahead,
continue creating Redeemer’s Ministry Plan
and begin discernment

Please come, listen and share!

~ ~ Lunch and childcare will be provided!! ~ ~

FAREWELL TO MAGGIE FRASER

After 5 and a half years of dedicated service to our littlest Christians, our beloved nursery attendant, today is Maggie Fraser's last day with us. The children have made her a gift. We are truly grateful for the care and nurturing Maggie has given to our children during her time here at Redeemer. We wish her God-speed and blessings in her future endeavors.

THIS TUESDAY: THE NOON BOOK GROUP

The Noon Book Group's first meeting in January will take place this coming Tuesday, January 9 when the group will discuss *Threading My Prayer Rug: One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim* by Sabeeha Rehman. Bring your lunch and join in the discussion and fellowship!

THE EVENING BOOK GROUP

The next meeting of the Evening Book Group will be at 7:30 on January 22nd to discuss *The Leavers* by Lisa Ko. The meeting will be held at the home of Carol Nardini. As always, new members are welcome!

THE KNITTING GROUP

The Knitting Group The Knitting Group meets every third Thursday of the month at 2:30 in the afternoon in the Sterling Room. Please join us for this vital ministry of creating prayer shawls for those who need comfort in difficult times. The pattern is very simple and we will teach the stitches to anyone who joins us. We also can supply the yarn. We would love to have some new members! The next meeting is January 18.

CHURCH MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Sunday, January 7, 2018	8:30 am	Sr. Choir, sanctuary
	10:00 am	Worship and Communion
	11:30 am	Congregational Budget meeting Followed by "Next Steps: Part 3," Sterling
Tuesday, January 9, 2018	12:00 pm	Noon Book Group, Phillips
Thursday, January 11, 2018	7:45 pm	Senior Choir, sanctuary
Sunday, January 14, 2018	8:55 am	Senior Choir, sanctuary
	10:00 am	Worship and Sunday school
	11:30 am	Children's Choirs rehearse

SAFE CHURCH POLICY

The Church of the Redeemer UCC aspires to provide a safe environment for people of all ages; physical and sexual abuse and harassment will not be tolerated in any way. The full text of our Safe Church policy is available on our website.

REDEEMER OFFICE HOURS

The Redeemer office is open Mondays through Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. You may also contact the office by sending an email to redeemer@uccredeemer.org.

CONTACT REVEREND MURTHA

Susan may be reached via the Redeemer office at (203) 787-5711. You may also reach her via email at susanjdarc@gmail.com or by telephone at (203) 936-9356.

WELCOME VISITORS TO THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER UCC!

Please let us know more about you and how we can serve you.

Please complete this card and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

☐ I would like to be on your mailing list to receive newsletter (email or USPS)

☐ I would like information about Sunday School for my children:

Name(s)/Ages(s): _____

☐ I would like a call from the Pastor.



The Church of the Redeemer

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Join us on Facebook at Church of the Redeemer New Haven
Susan J. Murtha, Interim Senior Minister
susanjdarc@gmail.com

Jordan Rebholz, Minister for Faith Formation
Robert Parker, Moderator of the Church
Henry Sykes, Treasurer
Kay Comendul, Clerk
Marguerite Brooks, Director of Music
Julia Blue Raspe, Chancel Choir Director and Alto Section Leader
Paul Berry, Boys' Choir Director and Tenor Section Leader
Sarah Reed, Soprano Section Leader
Brian Robinson, Bass Section Leader
Larry Bishop, Organist
Barbara Repetsky, Office Administrator and Financial Secretary
Collin Morrissey, Security
Lou and Valarie Fanelli, Sextons
Margaret Fraser, Nursery Attendant
Emily Novicki, Nursery Attendant