

**Second Sunday after Epiphany  
January 19, 2025**

**Prelude**      *In the Bleak Midwinter*      Arr. David Hicken      Faye Chen

**Welcome**      Christian Corvino, Deacon

**Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: God has set this day before us,

**People: a day set apart, a day of rest and praise.**

Leader: So let us go into this day with our eyes and hearts wide open.

**People: Welcome to this place of love and grace,**

Leader: welcome to this place of peace, hope and perseverance.

**People: God invites all of us to be part of the beloved community.**

Leader: God invites all of us to share in the good news, so let us sing.

**People: We are all welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.**

Leader: Before anyone entered the sanctuary this morning, love was already here. When we draw our last breath and leave this world, love will be waiting for us.

**People: That love is God.**

**Kids' Church**      Children are welcome to meet in the entrance area of the sanctuary      Nicole Giannetta  
for Kids Church in the Parish House.

**\*Gathering Hymn**      *In the Bleak Midwinter*      #128 Red Hymnal

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

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;  
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;  
But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

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

**\*Passing the Peace**

**Scripture**      *Matthew 1:21* (pg. 835 in your pew Bible)      Rev. Elyon Wells

**Sermon**      *The Good News*

**\*Hymn**      *O Mighty God, When I Survey in Wonder*      #35 Black Hymnal

O mighty God, when I survey in wonder the world that formed when once the word you said,  
the strands of life all woven close together, the creation at your table fed,  
My soul cries out in song and praise to you, O mighty God! O mighty God! (x2)

When your voice speaks in rolls of thunder pealing, your lightning power bursts in bright surprise;  
when cooling rain, your gentle love revealing, reflects your promise, arcing through the skies,  
My soul cries out in song and praise to you, O mighty God! O mighty God! (x2)

The Bible tells the story of your blessing so freely shed upon all human life;  
Your constant mercy, every care addressing, relieving burdened soles from sin and strife.  
My soul cries out in song and praise to you, O mighty God! O mighty God! (x2)

And when, at last, the clouds of doubt dispersing, you will reveal what we but dimly see;  
With trumpet call, our great rebirth announcing, we shall rejoin you for eternity,  
Then we will sing your praise forevermore, O mighty God! O mighty God! (x2)

### **Service of Prayer**

Joys and Concerns / Prayers of the People  
Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer  
Lord's Prayer (debts)

### **Offering**

Call to Offering  
Musical Offering      *How Great Thou Art*      Roger Calistro

#### **\*Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; (or) Praise God, from Whom All blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;      Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;      Praise God for all that love has done;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.      Praise Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

#### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

### **\*Closing Hymn**      *Amazing Grace*      #547 Black Hymnal

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.  
  
T'was grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!  
  
Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come  
Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
  
My God has promised good to me, whose word my hope secures,  
God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures  
  
When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

### **Benediction**

### **Threefold Amen**

### **Postlude**      *Passacaglia*      By George F Handel

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.



### **Rev. Elyon Wells, Master of Divinity Seminary Student**

We are thrilled to welcome back to our pulpit Divinity School student, Rev. Elyon Wells. Elyon grew up in Bridgeport CT and received a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice at Monroe College, a Bachelor's diploma in Ministry & Theology at Bible University, and a MBA from Monroe King Graduate School of Business. His career has been in management, youth development, criminal justice, and clinical supervision. Elyon works with organizations between CT and NYC to help low-income communities with high crime rates by providing education and resources to churches within these communities.

Ordained in the Faith Outreach Apostolic Churches, Elyon is pursuing his Master of Divinity degree at Yale Divinity School and his Andover Newton Seminary diploma. After graduation (class of 2026), he plans to serve his church as a full-time pastor, providing insight for urban spirituality and outreach to other churches. Elyon lives in New Haven and has two beloved children.

### **CALL TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**PARISH HOUSE MEETING ROOM  
January 26, 2025, 11:15 AM**

The January Congregational Meeting of FCCW is hereby called:

1. To hear the Treasurer's Annual Fiscal Report
2. To adopt the Final Annual Budget for 2025
3. To elect the FCCW Treasurer
4. To elect members of the Board of Stewardship and members of the Nominating Committee
5. To hear and approve plans advanced by the FCCW Church Council and any other business which might come before the group

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Stoddard, Clerk



We will have kid-friendly lunch & snacks along with childcare & fun crafts while parents attend the Congregational Meeting on January 26, 2025 @ 11:15 AM in the Parish House.





CHAMPLAIN TRIO TO PERFORM CLASSICAL CONCERT  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1st at 3:00 p.m.  
Woodbridge First Church of Christ  
5 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge

Please join us in welcoming Vermont's acclaimed Champlain Trio.  
The Church will be hosting this trio in their Timeless Trios program, featuring  
Letitia Quante on violin, Hiromi Fukuda on piano, and  
Emily Taubl on cello.

It will be an afternoon of inspiring chamber music featuring works by  
Clara Schumann and Ludwig van Beethoven. All are welcome.  
There will be a freewill offering.

The Music Committee will be hosting a reception in the Parish House after the  
concert. For more information, call the church office, 203-389-2119.

# "SOUP"-ER BOWL

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH FOR ALL AGES



SOUP  
BUFFET  
&  
MAC'N'  
CHEESE



MUSIC WITH  
MICHELE  
URBAN



CAN  
DONATIONS  
WELCOME

**SUNDAY, FEB 9, AT 11:15 AM**  
Parish Hall, 5 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT  
For more info: 203-936-9356