Welcome and Bell
Announcements
Prelude – “What Child Is This” –arr. Dorothy Wells

Call to Worship – Isaiah 9:6-7
and Lighting of the Third Advent Candle —Paul & Sharon Okraska

Reader:  For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us.

People:  And the government will rest on His shoulders.

Reader:  And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

People:  There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the throne of David and over His kingdom.

Reader:  To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forever more.

People:  The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession

Gospel Absolution Text – 1 John 2:12

“I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name’s sake.”

*Hymn #192 (green hymnal) “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Ancient Creedal Reading – Apostles’ Creed (in unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.
[Offering]
[Because of Covid, after the service please deposit your offering in the collection plates on the tables in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you.]

Children’s Message
(The youngest children may depart for children’s church.)

Anthem “Morning Star” —words & music by Willard Minton

Scripture Reading: Genesis 3:6-15

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.
7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.
8 They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.
9 Then the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?”
10 He said, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.”
11 And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”
12 The man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate.”
13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”
14 The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, Cursed are you more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you will go, And dust you will eat All the days of your life:
15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.”

Prayers of the Church and the Lord’s Prayer (sins)
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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Doxology #515 (red hymnal)
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
Prayer of Illumination

Sermon Text: Luke 2:8-20

8 In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened.

10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people;

11 for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

12 “This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

13 And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.”

15 When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, “Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.”

16 So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger.

17 When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them by the shepherds.

18 And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds.

19 But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart.

20 The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

Gloria Patri #513 (red hymnal)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.

Sermon – “The Response of the Shepherds”

*Hymn #103 (red hymnal) “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

The Lord’s Supper

Invitation, Warning and Prayer

Scriptural Proclamation: Isaiah 49:5-6

5 And now says the LORD, who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, To bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel might be gathered to Him (For I am honored in the sight of the LORD, And My God is My strength), 6 He says, “It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make You a light of the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

Partaking of the Bread and then the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving
*Hymn #184* (green hymnal) “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

*Benediction and Offering*
(When the service is over, please place your offering in one of the plates in the back. Thank you for your patience and generosity.)

*Choral Response*

*Postlude* – “God Rest You Merry” –arr. Wilbur Held

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**Second Congregational Church**
800 Main Street
Winsted CT 06098-1014
Phone: 860-379-4766

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Children’s bulletins are available in the Main Street entry hall, located in the brochure holders attached to the wall on your right as you enter.

The two nursery rooms downstairs are clean, sanitized and available should you need a place to change a diaper, feed your baby, or simply need a quiet place to take your child during the service. There is an audio speaker in the room so the service can be heard.

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**About the Service:**

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Daniel Cote
Monthly Deacon: Melissa Lloyd

**Last Week:**

Attendance was 79 (74 worship + 5 children’s church).
Offering was $6218.00
($4381 is needed each week to meet our budgeted expenses.)

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**Church Office Hours:**
Tues.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-12:00 PM, 1:30-4:00 PM
Fri. –8:30 AM-12:00 PM

**Church Staff:**

Pastor: The Rev. Douglas Aldrich
Email: douglas_aldrich@sbcglobal.net
Office Phone: 860-379-4766 Home Phone: 860-379-1147
(Monday is Pastor Doug’s day off and on Thursday afternoon he works at home.)

Associate Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Daniel Cote
Email: danielcote@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 203-217-7498 Home Phone: 203-729-5257
Office Hours: Tues. 6:00-9:00 PM Sun. 8:00-12:00PM

Administrative Assistant: Carol Tomassetti
Email: info@sccwinsted.org
Phone: 860-379-4766

Organist: Christopher King
Sextons: Tom Doney and Cassie Riberdy

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**Sermon Schedule** (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Text</th>
<th>Message</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec 19</td>
<td>Matthew 1:21</td>
<td>He Will Save His People</td>
<td>4th Sunday of Advent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 26</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>(Pastor Dan preaching)</td>
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Discipleship

- **Sunday Worship at 10 AM** (9:30 July/August) Also live-streamed on YouTube
- **Sunday School for Children** —9:00-9:45 AM
  Lower level of the church. See Pastor Dan for information.
- **Sunday Morning Women’s Study**—9:00-9:55 AM in the church parlor
  Led by Verna Aldrich
  *Eve in Exile: The Restoration of Femininity* by Rebecca Merkle
- **Sunday Morning Men’s Discussion Group** —9:00-9:50 AM
  In Pastor Doug’s office
- **Young Adult Discussion Group** —3:00-4:30 PM
  1st and 3rd Sundays at the church
- **Tuesday Morning Study** —10:00-11:30 AM in the music room
  Reading the Psalms and J. I. Packer’s *Concise Theology*
- **Tuesday Men’s Bible at 7:00 PM** in the church parlor
  1st, 3rd, and 5th Tuesdays, led by Pastor Dan
  The New Testament
- **Greek Self Study Class** —5:30-6:45 PM
  1st and 3rd Tuesdays, facilitated by Pastor Doug
- **Wednesday Night Study** 7:00-8:30 PM in the church parlor
  Study of God’s Law in the Torah
- **Wednesday Diaper Bank** 5:00-6:30 PM
  1st & 3rd Wednesdays

* In person and also on Zoom. If you would like to join in please email Pastor Doug to be put on the Zoom link email list.]

**Covid Policy:** All Covid restrictions have been lifted, with the exception that food will not be served in a pot-luck style.

**Snow Policy:** We try not to cancel Sunday worship. If the weather is questionable the church will open at 10:00 AM *for worship only.* Our information is posted on CH 3 so check there for updates, and please be safe. Pastor Doug is much more liberal, however, about canceling his studies; when in doubt they are probably canceled.

**Announcements**

- The **Tuesday Morning Study** is canceled this week (Dec. 14th).

- **Please note these important dates:**
  - Dec. 19 Christmas Pageant rehearsal in place of Sunday School
  - Dec. 19 Christmas Pageant during worship service (no children’s church or nursery)
  - Dec. 26 No Sunday School
  - Jan. 2 No Sunday School

- **Christmas Poinsettias**—If you would like to order a poinsettia to help decorate the sanctuary for our Christmas services, you will find an order form included in the bulletin. Please return forms (with payment) to the church office TODAY. Any questions please see Carol in the church office.

- **Pastor Doug** will be on vacation from Dec. 22nd through Jan 5th.

- The **Men’s Bible Study** will meet on Dec. 21st at 7:00 PM in the church parlor. We are reading through the New Testament. We meet each month on the first, third, and fifth Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30 PM. Join us as we seek to be better disciples of Christ.

- Our **Christmas Eve Service will be held at 6:00 PM on Dec. 24th**. Please join us for this special candlelight service focusing on the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
1 Angels we have heard on high
   Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
   Why your joyous strains prolong?
3 Come to Bethlehem and see
   Him whose birth the angels sing;

1 And the mountains in reply
   Echo back their joyous strains.
2 Say what may the tidings be,
   Which inspire your heavenly song?
3 Come adore, on bended knee,
   Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria
   in excelsis Deo,
   Gloria
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set thy people free;
2 Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth thou art;
3 Born thy people to deliver, Born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;

From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in thee.
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.
Born to reign in us for ever, Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to thy glorious throne, Amen.

ADVENT
1 Hark! the herald angels sing,  "Glory to the new-born King;"
2 Christ, by highest heaven adored;  Christ, the everlasting Lord!
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace!  Hail the Sun of righteousness!

Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  God and sinners reconciled!
Late in time behold him come,  Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings,  Risen with healing in his wings,

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  Join the triumph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see;  Hail the incarnate Deity,
Mild he lays his glory by,  Born that man no more may die,

With the angelic host proclaim,  "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.

REFRAIN
Hark! the herald angels sing,  "Glory to the new-born King!" Amen.
If you would like to order a memorial poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary for our Christmas services please complete the form below and attach payment of $16.00 per plant, made payable to Second Congregational Church.

Please return forms to the church office no later than Sunday, Dec. 12th in order for your information to be included in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Sunday bulletins.

If you have any questions please email or call the church office:
Email: info@sccwinsted.org  Phone: (860) 379-4766

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

I wish to order (no.)____ poinsettia(s) for the following:

In memory of ________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

Please PRINT names clearly

Amount enclosed:_______ ($16.00 per plant)

___ I will pick up my plant(s).

___ Please deliver my plant(s) to a shut-in.

Given by: ________________________________________________

Phone: ______________________ Email: ______________________

(Return form with payment to church office by Dec. 12)