Second Congregational Church of Winsted

(Baptist & Congregational)

Bible-focused • Christ-centered



Worship Service: 10:00 AM
November 29, 2026
1st Sunday of Advent

*"Behold, the days are coming," declares the Lord, "When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as king and act wisely and do justice And righteousness in the land." (*Jeremiah 23:5*)*

Welcome, Greetings & Announcements

Prelude – How Brightly Shines the Morning Star - Johann Christoph Bach

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Call to Worship (Psalm 22:1; 11-18—A prophetic Messianic Psalm of David)
& Lighting of an Advent Candle – Cassie and Sean Riberdy

Leader: My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning.
People: Be not far from me, for trouble is near; For there is none to help.
Leader: Many bulls have surrounded me; Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled me.
People: They open wide their mouth at me, as a ravening and a roaring lion.
Leader: I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;
People: My heart is like wax; It is melted within me.
Leader: My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue cleaves to my jaws
People: And You lay me in the dust of death.
Leader: For dogs have surrounded me; A band of evildoers has encompassed me
People: They pierced my hands and my feet.
Leader: I can count all my bones. They look, they stare at me;
People: They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.

***Hymn #168** (green hymnal) "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

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Prayer of Invocation and Confession

Offertory – The Advent of Our King - arr. Raymond H. Haan

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***Doxology #<u>515</u>** (red hymnal)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

*__Hymn #174__ (green hymnal) “Lo! How A Rose E’er Blooming”

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Scripture Reading Isaiah 53:1–12

[1] Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? [2] For He grew up
before Him like a tender shoot, And like a root out of parched ground; He has no *stately* form or majesty
That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. [3] He was despised and
forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. [4] Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He
carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted. [5] But He was pierced
through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being *fell*
upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed. [6] All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has
turned to his own way; But the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him. [7] He was oppressed and
He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, And like a sheep that is
silent before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth. [8] By oppression and judgment He was taken away;
And as for His generation, who considered That He was cut off out of the land of the living For the
transgression of my people, to whom the stroke *was due?* [9] His grave was assigned with wicked men, Yet
He was with a rich man in His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was there any deceit in His
mouth. [10] But the Lord was pleased To crush Him, putting *Him* to grief; If He would render Himself *as* a guilt
offering, He will see *His* offspring, He will prolong *His* days, And the good pleasure of the Lord will prosper
in His hand. [11] As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see *it and* be satisfied; By His knowledge the
Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As He will bear their iniquities. [12] Therefore, I will allot
Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself
to death, And was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded
for the transgressors.

Prayers of the Church & 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.

Musical Response

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon Text: Matthew 1:1–17

[1] The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham: [2] Abraham was
the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. [3] Judah was
the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez was the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram. [4]
Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon.
[5] Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of
Jesse. [6] Jesse was the father of David the king. David was the father of Solomon by Bathsheba who had
been the wife of Uriah. [7] Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah
the father of Asa. [8] Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the

father of Uzziah. [9] Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. [10] Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah. [11] Josiah became the father of Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. [12] After the deportation to Babylon: Jeconiah became the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel. [13] Zerubbabel was the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor. [14] Azor was the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud. [15] Eliud was the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob. [16] Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah. [17] So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

Gloria Patri #<u>513</u> (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 Promised King" - *Advent Sermon Series—part 1*

***Hymn #170** (green hymnal) "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

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***Benediction**

Musical Response

Postlude – From Heaven Above - Arr. Raymond H. Haan

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Sermon Notes:

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<u>Service Information</u>

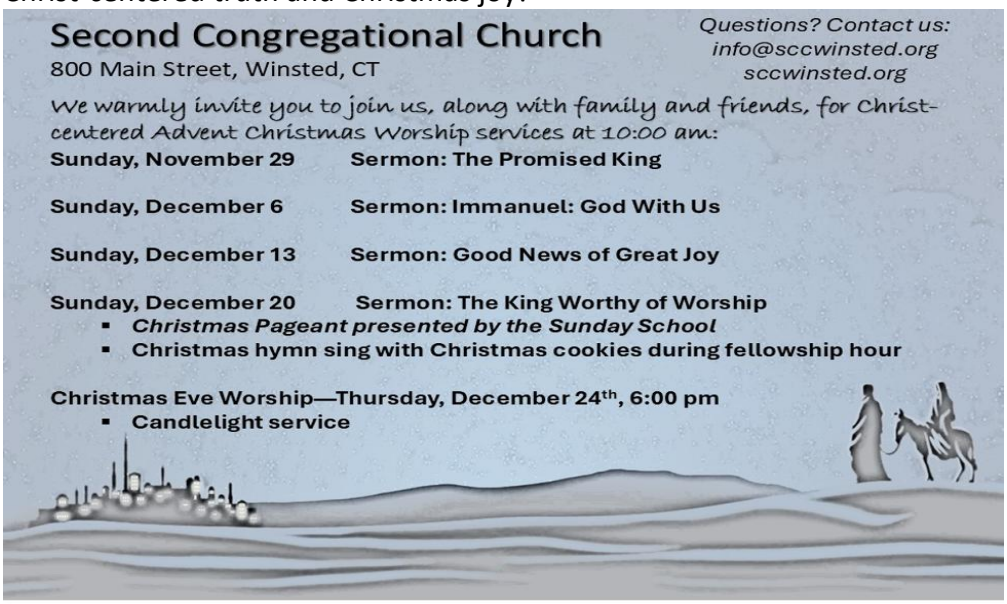
Preaching: Rev. Dr. Daniel Cote
Monthly Deacon: Jeff Stannard
Monthly Assistant Deacon: Vicki Atkins
Last Week's Attendance: 60
Last Week's Offering: $1,498 ($3300 budgeted)

Second Congregational Church
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Winsted, CT 06098-1014
Phone: 860-379-4766
Email: info@sccwinsted.org
Web: sccwinsted.org

Important Notices

- **Special Advent Bible Study, Christmas Cookies, and Carols**— Join us for a special Advent Bible Study on December 16th, 6:00-7:15 pm. This is a standalone Bible study session led by Pastor Dan titled "The Two Advents of Jesus." Even if you don't regularly attend, we hope you will join us for this evening of Christ-centered truth and Christmas joy!





- **Do you have a prayer request?** We have created a new system for submitting prayer requests. Please go to our webpage and click the link "Prayer Request" in the middle of the homepage to submit your prayer requests. All prayer requests will be sent to the prayer chain. Unless you indicate otherwise, all prayer requests will also be mentioned in the Sunday worship service. Prayer requests may also be sent directly to: sccwprayerrequests@gmail.com.
- **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. Audio of the service can be heard.
- **Nominating Committee**: *For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I am to live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose. Philippians 1:21-22.*
  These words of Paul are very powerful. To live is Christ: The Apostle Paul views his entire earthly life as completely devoted to, defined by, and centered on Jesus Christ!
  To die is gain: Physical death holds no terror for him because it means entering the immediate presence of Christ, which is far better.
  We all need to examine our hearts and work on "living for Christ." There are many competing messages in the world, but the message in the Bible is clear. We are called to ask for forgiveness from our sin, believe in Christ and follow Him, love our neighbor and share the Gospel with others. Some ways that we can encourage our faith are to attend church regularly to worship the Lord and support our fellow believers, read the Bible and attend a Bible study to strengthen our walk, and to love our neighbor by serving. There are many opportunities for you to serve here at Second Congregational Church. We are looking for people to serve on the Finance Board, Board of Deacons and Board of Christian Education.
  Please consider helping on one of these boards. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful church family. I encourage you to seek me out to have a conversation about ways that you feel God is calling you to serve.
  Blessings to you all this coming Advent season as we all focus on the joys of the coming celebration of the birth of our Savior!
  Bonnie Sterpka

- **The Board of Deacons:** The Diaconate is accepting nominations from the congregation to fill one or two positions of Deacon. If you know someone who is a mature Christian and has the heart to serve the Lord, please drop their name in the box on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Self-nominations are welcomed. You can nominate anonymously.

Upcoming Events This Week

- **Sunday Morning Bible Study is from 9:00am-9:45am.**
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Study and Prayer Group is as follows:**
  - Prayer Group—5:30 pm (Pastor Dan's Office)
  - Bible Study—6:00 pm (Music Room)
- **Monday - Celebrate Recovery** – 7:00 PM (led by Jeff Liskin, Sr., downstairs)

Christian Education and Youth Events

- **Children's Christmas Pageant: Sunday, December 20, 10:00am**
  Our children will present the nativity story through narration and illustration, telling the birth of Jesus and the events surrounding it.
  - **Rehearsals:** Children and youth should plan to attend on December 6, 13, and 20 at 9:00 am for rehearsals and dress fittings.
  - **Volunteers:** We'd love your help! Speak with Bonnie S. or John C. to learn how you can support our children this year.
- **Sunday School Holiday Break**: There will be no classes from December 27 through January 17. Classes resume Sunday, January 24.

Youth Group Calendar — Nov.- December

Request Youth Group is open to grades 6 and up—We Welcome you to Join Us!

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	Nov. 29th	9:00am – 9:45am	Youth Pageant Prep
Sunday	Dec. 6th, 13th, 20th	9:00am – 9:45am	Pageant Practice (costume fittings, rehearsals)
Sunday	Dec. 13th	9:00am – 9:45am	Pageant Rehearsal
Sunday	Dec. 20th	10:00am ----------	(9:00am - Full Dress Rehearsal!) Christmas Pageant
Sunday	Dec. 27th		Holiday Break

Men's and Women's Fellowship

- **Men's Fellowship Upcoming Events:**
  - December 10, 6:00-8:00 pm - Regional Men's Christmas Dinner, Location: Greenwoods Country Club (Sign up: ASAP in the Fellowship Hall/ Tickets: $32.00 make checks made payable to SCCW)
  - February 13, 8:30 am - Quarterly Men's Breakfast
- **Women's Fellowship Upcoming Events:**
  - Attention women of the church. Please consider joining us in 2027 for an activity or event. This is an open group and we welcome all ages! If you see something that is interesting to you, please join us. You

don't have to come to the meetings or attend all of the events, but participation is welcome. Everyone is invited to join at any time, as we grow in our faith, friendship and fellowship.

- **Cocoa, Cookies and Carol Sing - On Thursday, 12/17 at 6:30 p.m.** We have decided to cancel this event as there are other opportunities to gather during the Advent season. Please join us in 2027 as we look forward to many opportunities to gather in friendship and fellowship.
- **Planning Meeting:** We will host a planning meeting after church on **Sunday, January 24, 2026**. All of the women at the church are welcome to come together to spend time in fellowship as we grow in our faith! Please join us as we plan out our fall and winter activities and come with ideas.
- **Winter Warmer:** The Women's Fellowship Group will once again offer a soup luncheon (Winter Warmer) in February after church for the whole church family (more details coming soon)!

Other Important Information

- **Feed Our Neighbors Food Challenge!** The Missions Board and the Board of Deacons have teamed up once again for our **Second Annual Feed Our Neighbors Food Challenge!** This year, we're adding a fun new twist!
  Starting this week, you'll see signs displayed on the wall in the Fellowship Hall, each featuring the name of one of our church boards or committees. The challenge? See which board or committee can build the tallest tower of food beneath its sign!
  Everyone is invited to join in the fun by bringing in non-perishable food items or personal care products and adding them to the tower of your choice. Whether you're supporting your favorite board or simply want to help make a difference, every donation counts!
  This friendly competition is about more than building the tallest tower. It's an opportunity for our congregation to come together, support our neighbors in need, and make a meaningful difference in our community.
  All donations collected will go to the Winsted Salvation Army Food Bank.
  Let's see how tall we can build those towers—and how much good we can do together!
- **The Fellowship Coffee Hour** chart for 2027 is posted, and there are vacancies if anyone wants to sign up.
- **We are partnered with The Interfaith Food Bank**, managed by the Salvation Army. We will be collecting non-perishable foods on the first Sunday of each month; however, you can always bring in your items and place them in the purple crates in Fellowship Hall. The next collection date is **Sunday, December 6, 2026.** They are also requesting personal care items.
- **Tithes, Offerings, and Donations** may now be made online. For those who would like to give to the church online, simply go to the front page of our church website and click the link "Support Our Church and Ministries." You may also download the Vanco mobile app onto your smartphone. Search for churches in your area, and you will find "Second Congregational Church of Winsted." For more information on Vanco, see Paul Okraska.
- **Celebrate Recovery Meetings are held on Monday evenings at 7 PM – downstairs (Opens at 6:30 PM).** Dealing with life's hurts, habits, and hang-ups is not a solo endeavor. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered 12-Step program that helps you heal from what life has put you through in a safe, confidential environment. Whether it is substance abuse, procrastination, mental and physical abuse, overeating, fear, anxiety, or any other issue, Celebrate Recovery is for you. The Winsted chapter meets every Monday at 7 PM (doors open at 6:30 PM) right in our church. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dan or the CR Ministry Leader, Jeff Liskin, Sr.

Second Congregational Church Online

Church Email: info@sccwinsted.org
Church Webpage: http://sccwinsted.org
Church Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/sccwinsted
YouTube Channel for Livestream Services: www.youtube.com/channel/UCCW4dPY3yqt-GsjPZG-cHuQ
(Search for: Second Congregational Church of Winsted, CT)

Church Library & Media Center: www.librarything.com/catalog/sccwlibrary
Pastor Dan's Apologetic Page: http://multimediaapologetics.com

Church Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Church Staff

***Senior Pastor*: Rev. Dr. Daniel Cote**
Email: danielrcote@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 203-217-7498 (feel free to call or text Pastor Dan)
Office Hours: Sunday, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM & Wednesday, 5:00 PM-7:30 PM (Other days as needed or by appointment)

***Director of Youth and Families:* John Costa**
Email: john.costa.jc@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 413-854-7147
Office Hours: Sunday, 8:00 AM-1:00 PM, Mon. 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Wednesday 5:00 PM-7:30 PM (Other days as needed or by appointment)

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer DeSanti
Email: info@sccwinsted.org
Phone: 860-379-4766

***Organist*: Christopher King**

***Sextons*: Tom Doney & Cassie Riberdy**

Second Congregational Church—Winsted
Statement of Faith

1. **We believe there is only one living and true God, Creator of all things, infinite in wisdom, goodness, and love, eternally existing in three persons, The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit.**
   (Ex. 20:1–6; Deut. 6:4; Ps. 96:4–5; Mt. 28:19; Jn. 1:1; 2 Cor. 13:14)
2. **We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God and that they are the supreme authority in faith and life and absolutely trustworthy.**
   (Ps. 119: Mk. 13:31; Jn. 10:35, 17:17; 2 Pet. 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16–17; 1Thess. 2:13)
3. **We believe that God, in His goodness, created only two distinct and complementary genders, male and female, which is defined by one's biological sex at birth. These two genders together reflect the image and nature of God, and rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of God's created order and the image of God within that person.**
   (Gen. 1:26–28,31; 2:2-24; Lev 18:22-23; 20;10-21; Deut 22:5; Is3:12; Rom 1:24-27; 1Cor 6-9; 11:7; 1Tim 2:11-15)
4. **We believe that man and woman sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God, and that we are all born with a sinful nature that mars God's image in us.**
   (Gen 1:26-27; 2:7; 3:1-24; Ezek 13:23; Rom 5:12; Eph 2:1-3; James 3:9)
5. **We believe that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is truly God and Man.**
   (Is 7:14; Matt 1:18,23; Luke 1:30-35; 2:6-7,40; John 1:14; Phil 2:6-7; Heb 1:2-5; 2:14)
6. **We believe that, out of love for us, the Lord Jesus Christ died to atone for our sins according to the Scriptures and that all who repent of sin and place their faith in Him alone are reconciled to God by His shed blood.**
   (Is 53:4-6; Mark 1:14-15; John 14:6; Rom 5:8; 8:3; 1John 4:10; 1Pet 2:24-25)
7. **We believe that Christ rose from the dead and ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father to reign over all things.**
   (Luke 24:1-7; John 2:19-21; Acts 1:9; Heb 4:14,10:11-13; Rev 1:17-18)
8. **We believe that all who repent of sin and receive the Lord Jesus Christ, which is by grace alone through faith alone, are born of the Holy Spirit and thereby become the children of God and shall not come into condemnation and that the Lord Jesus Christ gives them everlasting life.**
   (John 1:12-13; 3:16-18,36; 5:24-29; 10:27-29; Acts 4:12; Rom 8:1,9-12,15-17; 10:9-11; Gal 4:24-29; Eph 1:5; 1 John 5:12-13)
9. **We believe that Christ has called all Christians into universal fellowship in His church. This church is made up of local congregations where members worship through Word and sacrament, are trained in discipleship and are called to evangelize the world in charity.**
   (Matt 16:18-19; 18:17; John 17; Acts 2:42; 6:1-6; 20:28-32; 1Cor 10:1-14:40; Eph 5:21-32; 1Thes 5:12-13; 1Tim 3:1-16; 5:17-22; Heb 10:25; 1Pet 5:1-4)
10. **We believe that God created marriage to be a holy and lifelong covenant union, which can only be between one man and one woman who are not closely related, and that the only lawful place for intimate relations is marriage.**
    (Gen 2:22-24; Ex 22:16-17; Deut 22:14; Mal 2:16; Matt 19:4-6; Eph 5:5,21-6:4; Col 3:18-21; 1Tim 1:8-10; Heb 13:4)
11. **We believe that at The Last Day, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will return according to His promise and that He will judge the world, and the saved will receive the blessing of life in His eternal kingdom and that the lost will be eternally separated from God.**
    (Matt 25:31-46; Rom 8:35-39; 1Thes 4:13-17; Rev 20:12-15, 21-27)



A little information about the poinsettia flower you might not know:

The shape of the poinsettia flower and leaves are somethings thought as a symbol of the Star of Bethlehem which led the Wise Men to Jesus. The red colored leaves symbolize the blood of Christ. The white leaves represent his purity.

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 the Second Congregational Church.

Please return the form to the church office no later than **Sunday, Dec. 6th** 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 or honor or celebration of:

_____

_____

Please PRINT names and occasion 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. 6)