

**The First Religious Society in Carlisle
Unitarian Universalist**

3rd Sunday of Advent: Joy

December 17, 2017 Order of Service, 10:00 am

***Asterisks indicate that the congregation will stand as able in body or in spirit**

Prelude Little Partita on “Es ist ein Ros” (*movements 1 & 2*) by James Woodman

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome and Opening Remarks The Reverend Lisa Mobayed

***Hymn No. 231** **Angels We Have Heard on High**

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle The Davidson Family: Ann, Scott and Lulu
Response (spoken in unison) *May it kindle in us rejoicing and delight.*

***Chalice Lighting** (spoken in unison)

*May the light of this flame illuminate lives and strivings of the spirit.
May it heal misunderstandings and strengthen love.*

***Covenant of the Congregation** (spoken in unison)

*Love is the doctrine of this church; The quest for truth is our sacrament;
And service is our prayer.
To dwell together in peace; To seek knowledge in freedom;
To serve humanity in friendship;
To the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine –
Thus do we covenant with each other and with God.*

Anthem **This Little Light of Mine** Judy Bose, Children’s Choir Director
Story Pam Howell, Director of Religious Education

Children’s Recessional

*Go your way in peace; wander as you may.
Blessed is the path you take, may love guide you on your way.
Comfort find in truth; may your struggles cease.
May the fire within your heart light the way of peace.**

*Music & lyrics by Jim Scott, adapted from Mozart. ©2005 Jim Scott (SESAC)

Candles of Community Rev. Mobayed
A time to share the prayer on your heart

Prayer by Hildegard of Bingen

Instrumental Response Little Partita on “Es ist ein Ros” (*movement 3*) by James Woodman

Offering: Shared 50/50 today with St. Paul’s Feeding Ministry
(see announcements for more information)

Offertory Anthem Ding Dong Merrily on High by Thoinot Arbeau; arr.. by Charles Wood

***Doxology No. 402** From you I receive to you I give,
together we share, and from this, we live

Reading by Mary Oliver

***Hymn** **God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen** (*see insert*)

Sermon Receiving Joy Rev. Mobayed

Silent Meditation

***Hymn No. 239** **Go Tell It on the Mountain**

***Benediction** by Hafiz

Choral Response Gloria by Jacques Berthier

Chalice Extinguishing (spoken in unison)
Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

Postlude Little Partita on “Es ist ein Ros” (*movement 4*) by James Woodman

Greeter: Karen Dunkers
Verger: Nancy Hartle
Coffee Hour comestibles: Congregants with last names W-C

Accessibility: The elevator to all three floors of the building is located in the hallway through the door next to the pulpit. Personal hearing devices are available on tables at the back of the Sanctuary.

Staff and Committee Contacts

Parish Cmte Co-Chairs:	Eric Darling, edarling@carlisletaxcredits.com, Jackie Schaefer, jackie.schaefer@comcast.net
Parish Cmte Members:	Mary Hult, Rick MacDonald, Margot Morse, Lisa Sama, Molly Sorrows
Activities:	Janice Kissinger, 978-369-8968
Buildings & Grounds	Ann James, 978-369-1296, ajames3@comcast.net Susan Emmons, 978-369-7921, susanemmons@comcast.net
Coffee	Gio DiNicola, 978-287-5407, gfdinicola@gmail.com
Environmental Action	Bob Luoma, 978-369-1240, rmluoma@aol.com Dave Erickson, 978-369-7150, daveeric@alum.mit.edu
Finance	Jim Pope, 1-419-460-3296, vaticandrj@yahoo.com
Greeter	Eva Herndon, Frank Rigg, Karen Dunkers, Tom Dunkers, Marilyn Harte
Membership	Tom Rourk, 978-369-5366, tfrpiano@comcast.net
Ministries	Christine Lear, 978-318-0850, CMLteatime@comcast.net
Worship Arts	Nancy Hartle, 978-369-1680, n8hummingbird9@comcast.net
Pastoral Concerns	Chair: Nancy West. December contact: Sally Hayen FRSpastoralconcerns@gmail.com or leave a message with the Church office
Religious Education	Amy Smack, amypagesmack@yahoo.com
Social Action	Laurie Eckler, , (617) 645-5210, lacameroneckler@comcast.net
Treasurer	Mary Hult, 978-369-0448, mphult@gmail.com
Collector	John James, 978-369-1296, jjames3@me.com
Share the Plate team	Stephanie Hackbarth, Barbara Ritz, Muggsie Rocco
Minister	Rev. Lisa Mobayed, 978-369-0284 lmobayed@uucarlisle.org
Music Director	Dan Ryan, dryan@uucarlisle.org
RE Director	Pam Howell, dre@uucarlisle.org
Office Administrator	Ann Quenin, 978-369-5180, frs@uucarlisle.org
Minister Emeritus	Dr. Eugene Widrick, 978-663-0568, WOODTRU@aol.com

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3rd Sunday of Advent: Joy
December 17, 2017



A Welcoming Congregation

Today in Religious Education

Little Angel Sunday - Children (K-5th) arrive at 9:40 to don their robes and shine their little lights with Judy Bose.

Little's (1yr-4yrs) with Bella Eckler

K-5th Grades - Elf Workshop 10am-12pm

Children will be making gifts with the Elf Helpers (JYG and NYG teens)

NYG - (7th-12th Grades) - with 6th Graders!

7-8:30 Elf Cleanup and Party -

8:30-9pm - Games and Dark Silence.

Next Sunday, Christmas Eve -

All children are invited to attend the Christmas Eve Tableau - a simple yet timeless telling of the sacred story of a new baby in a needy world. Please come at 2:30 to dress in costume and be a part of the singing and procession. The Children's Choir will also sing with Judy Bose.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 17

9:15-9:45am Choir Rehearsal

Nursery is open after the Message for All Ages

10:00am Service

11:00am Coffee Hour

11:30am Worship Arts Committee, Widrick

Upcoming Services

Dec 24th, Christmas Eve Services, 3pm (family)

5pm (candlelight) Fourth Sunday of Advent: Receiving Love

Announcements

St. Paul's Feeding Ministry in Lowell will receive your donations to Share the Plate this week. A broad range of people, at least 100 souls, come to the table nightly including families on welfare, returned veterans, unemployed whose benefits have expired, elderly, and people on food stamps.. Dinner is served M-F always, and every 5th Friday, FRS entirely provides and serves the meal. Many in the FRS community are responsive to requests for the needed food, and a smaller number of FRS folk accompany our St. Paul leader, Frank Rigg, to service this worthy project on our 5th Fridays, but funds are needed for the overall effort. (see Frank Rigg's plea for food and volunteers later in the Announcements.)

A message from Dan Ryan, Music Director:

I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to all who made our Winter Holidays concert a success. The Worship Arts Committee did a wonderful job coordinating the ushers, lighting, and reception. Tom Rourk was terrific with all-around logistics, and many other volunteers helped with behind-the-scenes tasks. Our choir members, soloists, Jazz group, Handbell ringers, the Barbershop quartet, and pianist Margaret Darling displayed their skills and commitment with aplomb!

Many thanks for all of you!

A message from Frank Rigg and the Social Action Committee:

For some years, our Social Action Committee has led an FRS effort in Lowell to help those in such need. Like other church groups in the area, we work through a low-key, very low overhead, but very orderly and well organized program that feeds needy people every night of the week at St Paul's Church on Eliot Street.

On the last Friday of those months that have five Fridays, a happy band of FRS members prepare, take and serve the dinner. Some of us make a main course, some provide salad, some make a dessert, or provide bread or milk, and some go to serve the meal.

On **Friday, December 29**, in the season of feasting, it will be our turn once again. As always we would really appreciate donations of lasagna, salad, desserts, bread and rolls, and milk. To join us in serving the meal or to contribute items for the meal: please go to signup genius (link found in the Meetinghouse Messenger) or e-mail me at frank.rigg@comcast.net, or call me at 978 369 0277. We are always really happy to welcome new participants and all contributions are wholeheartedly appreciated.

Save the Date for a Community Dinner for Refugees. Please join us for a family dinner on **Saturday, January 27 from 7 to 9 p.m.** in Union Hall. Come for soup and to learn what it means to make the journey from Syria to the US and then what is needed to settle and rebuild your life. Stay tuned for more details and how you can participate.

A note to visitors: We hope you will join us at Coffee Hour immediately following the service. If you would like to know more about us and let us learn about you, please take a RED Mug so we can find you.

About the Music

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:

*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our heavenly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:

O tidings ...

The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway,
This blessed Babe to find:

O tidings ..

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and charity
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All other doth efface:

O tidings ..

The organ **Prelude, Postlude, and Response** comprise variations of the German carol "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" by local composer James Woodman (b.1957). Woodman was appointed the first Composer-in-Residence at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston, and currently serves as Monastery Organist for the Society of St. John the Evangelist, Cambridge, MA.

The tune of **Hymn 231**, "Angels We Have Heard on High" is an 18th century Noël, probably from the Lorraine or Provence region of France. The lyrics are inspired by, but not a direct translation of, the French *Les Anges dans nos campagnes* (literally, "The Angels in our countryside") by James Chadwick, Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle, England. They were first published in 1860.

The Choir **Anthem** "Dong Merrily on High" is a Christmas carol adapted from a secular dance tune known under the title *Branle de l'Official* in *Orchésographie*, a dance book written by Thoinot Arbeau (1519–1593). The lyrics are from English composer George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848–1934), and the carol was first published in 1924 in his *The Cambridge Carol-Book*. Woodward took an interest in church bell ringing, which no doubt aided him in writing it. The carol contains many specific references to bell ringing that called worshipers to the various monastic services of the "liturgy of the hours," including the services of Prime, Matins, and Evensong. The macaronic style (in this case the mixing of English and Latin) is characteristic of Woodward's delight in archaic poetry. Charles Wood harmonized the tune when it was published with Woodward's text in *The Cambridge Carol Book*.

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen is one of the oldest extant English carols, dated to the 16th century or earlier. It probably came to England via France, survives in countless variations, and is found across Europe. It is the most well-known of the English "luck-visit" tunes. The luck-visit is a practice, similar to caroling, in which groups of people (mainly youths) go house to house, singing special seasonal songs and in return receiving food, drink and money. The practice was not confined to Christmas but also included Winter Solstice, Shrove Tuesday, May Day, and other seasonal events. This carol is referred to in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, 1843: "... at the first sound of 'God bless you, merry gentlemen! May nothing you dismay!', Scrooge seized the ruler with such energy of action that the singer fled in terror, leaving the keyhole to the fog and even more congenial frost." It is worth noting that the verb *rest* in the carol's title is a 16th to 17th century usage, and means "to keep, cause to continue to remain."

Notes for "About the Music" are from Internet sources, and from the "New Oxford Book of Carols