

Welcome to Worship

We believe that all people are blessed and loved equally by God. Following the teachings of Jesus we heartily welcome everyone into God's covenantal community. Whatever your race, ethnicity, age, socioeconomic or marital status, variety of thoughts and beliefs, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression - whoever you are and wherever you come from you are welcome into the full life and ministry of our church.



Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

Order of Morning Worship

2nd Sunday of Christmas

January 5th, 2025

We gather in worship this morning with joy and reverence in our hearts and a sincere welcome to all. Please remember that some will greet neighbors while others come quietly to prayerfully seek God.



PRELUDE

Matthew Marion

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively, please*)

Racquel: Come, let us bear our gifts to God and one another.

All: Emmanuel – God with us.

Dale: Come, let us bend the knee and pay homage to God.

All: Emmanuel – God with us.

Racquel: Come, let us seek and search, following God's light.

All: Emmanuel – God with us.

Dale: Come, let us be a beacon of light in the world.

All: Emmanuel – God with us.

*HYMN NCH # 159

As with Gladness Those of Old

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

Creator God, we confess that our hearts have not been fully open to all that you revealed to us in the nativity of your son. You sent Christ to be born as a child and yet we have not fully attended to the suffering of all children. You chose humble Mary to be the mother of our Lord and yet we have not fully attended to the struggles of all women. The Holy family found shelter among the animals because there was no room among humanity and yet we have not fully attended to sheltering the homeless. You announced the Birth of the Messiah to shepherds and yet we have not fully attended to those who tend to the nation's farms and fields. You called magi from the east to pay homage to the new King with their gifts and yet we have not fully opened all of our own gifts to share them with others. Forgive our inattention, and free us for joyful sharing that we may honor your gifts within each of us, serving others, in the name of Jesus our Christ we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*GLORIA

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(The cups contain grape juice. All the bread is gluten-free).

WORDS OF INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts and give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

THE LORD'S PRAYER debts/debtors *(in unison)*

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP *(Please serve your neighbor each element. It is our custom to eat the bread individually, symbolizing our personal relationship with God and to drink the cup together, symbolizing the value of our faith community.)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN NCH # 330

Let Us Break Bread Together

(Children and teachers may depart for classes during the singing of the hymn)

PRAYERS

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MORNING PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:1 - 12

(New Testament, p. 2)

REFLECTION

Bearing Our Gifts

Rev. Racquel Ray

OFFERTORY

CHORAL ANTHEM

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

*PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION

*HYMN NCH # 177

God of Change and Glory

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Go In Love

**Go in love, have no fear. God will guide you, God is always near.
Go in love, take God's hand, God will hear you and will understand.
May God's light forever shine upon you, may full peace be always in your heart.
Go in love, face each day, God will lead you and will show the way.
Go in love and live in faith.**

POSTLUDE

**Those who are able, please stand.*

*Please freely change the wording of any part of this service to more inclusive language.
Our purpose is to worship God in wholeness.*

The service is also being livestreamed to be watched online
by those unable to join us in person.

Large Print Bulletins and Hearing Devices are available from the Ushers.



TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS:

One arrangement is given by Lory McCoy and family in loving memory of her parents, as they remember her mother's birthday and parents' anniversary, both on January 4th.

The other arrangement is given by Paula Rooks and family in loving memory of Bill Rooks, as they remember him on his birthday.



Ushers: Frank & Barbara Lee

Worship Tech Support: Kim Colby

TO OUR VISITORS: We especially welcome those who are visiting with us today. We are pleased to have you among us and invite you to fill out a Visitor Response Card found in the pew rack. Welcome Folders are available for pick up from the racks in the stairwells. We hope that you will come back and worship with us again.

Ministers to the World: All the Congregation	Office Administrator: Sara Bagwell
Senior Minister: The Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo	Music Director: Matthew Marion
Associate Minister: The Rev. Racquel Ray	Financial Secretary: Patricia Stoddard
Dir. Faith Formation: Andrea Terni Bullard	Custodians: Frank & Barbara Lee

Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

461 County Road, Barrington, Rhode Island 02806

Telephone: (401) 246-0111 Email: office@bccucc.org

Website: www.bccucc.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/bccucc

TO MAKE A DONATION: Offering envelopes are available for your use in the pew racks. To make a donation online use this QR code to access the donation page of our church's website. Thank you for your financial support.

