



**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN**

United Church of Christ  
14 Brookside Road, Darien, CT 06820  
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[www.uccdarien.org](http://www.uccdarien.org)



***THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD***  
***The Second Sunday after Christmas***  
***January 4, 2015***  
***8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.***



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Children are always welcome at our worship services.  
A drop-off Nursery is available to children age 2 and younger,  
at the new Two's classroom starting [at 9:45 a.m.](#)

***\*Those who are able are invited to stand.***

**PRELUDE**

Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Rev. Dale B. Rosenberger

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**\*HYMN #143**

“WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE”

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*(responsively)*

Have you seen the star? And heard the good news?  
The very God who created all things has come to us.

**We have heard of a baby born in Bethlehem.**  
**We hear breathless talk of God with us anew.**

Can we see what great promise unfolds, near and far?  
And what precious gifts do we have to present to him?

**We are usually afraid to trust God so completely as this.**  
**Yet God's expansive dream dwarfs ours and attracts us.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; As it was in the be-  
gin-ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men. A - men

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

ISAIAH 60:1-6

Leo Schlinkert, Deacon (8:30)  
Dave Miller, Deacon (10:00)

**\*HYMN #131**

“LO, HOW A ROSE E’ER BLOOMING”

**GOSPEL LESSON**

MATTHEW 2:1-12

Rev. Rosenberger

**SERMON**

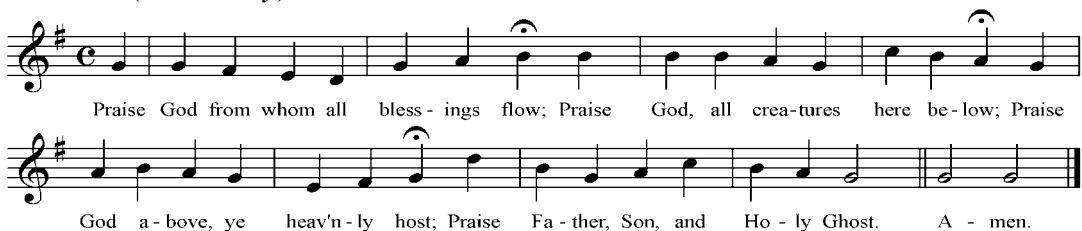
“LITTLE LIGHTS, GREAT BEACONS”

Rev. Rosenberger

**OFFERTORY**

Senior Choir

**\*DOXOLOGY (10:00 only)**



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low; Praise  
God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*10:00 only*)

(*unison*)

**O God, we open our gifts in the spirit of wayfarers long ago who opened costly treasures before Jesus. May all who dwell in darkness and search the heavens for your light experience the unsearchable riches of Christ. May our reaching out take your light, meant personally for us, and make it a universal beacon for all. Amen.**

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**INVITATION**

**CALL TO PRAYER**

(Leader)

The Lord be with you.

(Congregation)

**And also with you.**

(Leader)

Lift up your hearts.

(Congregation)

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

(Leader)

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

(Congregation)

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

\*SANCTUS

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

*Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!  
My heart knows how to say to you: Holy are you, Lord!*

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

(*unison*)

**Almighty God, we praise you, and extol you, for you have satisfied us with the food and drink of eternal life. Having been reclaimed in the sacrifice of your Son, we offer ourselves, our bodies and souls, as a holy and precious offering. May our lives be lived for the glory of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

\*HYMN #144

“WHAT STAR IS THIS, WITH BEAMS SO BRIGHT”

**\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rosenberger

**POSTLUDE**

Mr. Pakhomov

\* \* \*

**TODAY'S USHERS** are Lou Converse, Mary Ann Freeman, Gary Holmes, Dave Miller and Leo Schlinkert (8:30 a.m.)



***COFFEE HOUR***

EACH SUNDAY, WE GATHER AFTER CHURCH FOR FELLOWSHIP IN OUR PARISH HALL.  
*PLEASE JOIN US!*



## **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **NURSERY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

Teri Manning will be giving tours of the First Congregational Church Nursery School weekdays at **10:00 am from 12/1 - 1/12**. If you are interested, or if you know someone who is interested, in applying for the school year 2015-2016, please call the school (203) 655-3150 to schedule a tour. Church members receive priority placement!

### **2015 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

If you made a pledge for 2015, your Offering Envelopes are available for pick-up and can be found on the stage, in the Parish Hall.

### **LOOKING FOR A NEW CHURCH? ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!**

Want to learn more about becoming a member of First Congregational Church? Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. Join us at noon on Saturday, January 24 for a conversation on what membership means at FCC. This informational gathering is open to anyone who would like to understand how the church can play a more meaningful role in their lives. Lunch and child care available. If you'd like to learn more about this gathering, please contact Pastor Rosenberger at [drosenberger@uccdarien.org](mailto:drosenberger@uccdarien.org).

The First Congregational Church of Darien  
invites you to a series of Sunday afternoon

## Come As You Are Services

January 11, January 18, January 25, and February 1  
4:30 p.m. in the Circle Room of Parish Hall

We know that traditional Sunday morning worship doesn't work for everyone so we will be offering a *Come As You Are* worship service this winter on Sundays 4:30 p.m. We'll begin this four-week experiment on January 11 and see where we go from there. Key elements of the service include:

- A casual and more contemporary worship service, lasting about 45 minutes.
- Designed for people of all ages, from teens and young adults, to families with young children and empty-nesters.
- Led by our Youth Minister Justin Inners, with a short message and a combination of contemporary music, familiar hymns, upbeat choruses and prayerful songs.

Join us wearing jeans and sneakers, t-shirts and winter boots, or whatever else you have on; whether you're coming from the slopes, the city, a game or just hanging out at home, come just as you are to this welcoming and friendly worship service.

Our last trial Sunday will conclude with a potluck dinner. We may watch the Super Bowl together if we can figure out the TV, or at the very least we'll get you home for in time for kickoff.



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## **WELCOME TO THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN**

We are an accepting community where faith in Christ makes a difference. We welcome you to worship with us wherever you are on your journey. As a spiritual home, our hallmarks are education, fellowship and pastoral care. Children have a special place in our church family, and are embraced with love, guidance and opportunities for spiritual growth. We are a church of conscience, unafraid of the issues of today and serving as a reconciling force among different faiths.



**Ministers:** Every member of the congregation.

### ***Clergy and Staff:***

The Rev. Dale Rosenberger, *Pastor (emergency pager)* 1- (203) 368-7789

The Rev. Ronald T. Evans, *Pastor Emeritus*

Sally Bassler, *Lay Minister for Pastoral Care* (cell) (203) 554-1724

Daniel Hague, *Music Director* Maxim Pakhomov, *Organist*

Kate Nelson, *Church School Director* Justin Inners, *Youth Minister*

Teri Manning, *Nursery School Director* Karen Hansen, *Treasurer*

Dennis Hanlon, *Church Administrator*

Tim Wilson, *Sexton*

Carlos Maya, *Saturday Sexton* Ulises Mendez, *Sunday Sexton*

Find "The First Congregational Church of Darien"  
on Facebook, Google+, Vimeo and "@UCCDarien" on Twitter.

