



COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH
Hospitality • Faith • Compassion

Covenant Community Church



Rev. Jeannette Conner, Pastor
Pastor Email
1 Whitcomb Meadows Lane
Essex Junction, VT 05452
Website
Church Phone
Church Secretary

cell (802) 238-7222
cccpastorjeannette@gmail.com
www.covenantchurch.org
(802) 879-4313
admin@jerichocovenantchurch.org

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

We Gather

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of Fourth Advent Candle Bob and Joan Bates

*Call to Worship

Leader: We will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;

People: Our souls magnify the Lord;

Leader: With our mouths we proclaim God's faithfulness to all generations

People: Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

Leader: We declare that our steadfast love is established forever;

People: His mercy is to those who fear him from generation to generation.

Leader: Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

People: He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

ALL: You are our God and the Rock of our salvation.

*Opening Hymn #140 *Jesus Came the Heavens Adoring*

*Hymn #145 *My Soul Proclaims with Wonder*

*Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer (see insert)

We Hear the Word

*Scripture Lesson Luke 1:26-38
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Mary Full of Grace

Interlude

We Respond

Prayers of the People

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*Offering Response: 151 (vs. 4) *In the Bleak Midwinter*

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

We Are Sent Into the World

*Closing Hymn #146 *Joy To The World*

*Benediction

*Response (*our tradition is to face and bless each other as we sing*)

The Lord bless you and keep you,

The Lord make his face to shine upon you

and be gracious, gracious, gracious to you,

the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,

And give you, give you, give you peace.

Leader:

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

*Denotes all who are able, please stand

Helping Us to Worship

Ministers to the World: The Congregation

Minister to the Congregation: Rev. Jeannette Conver

Music Leader: Patty Woodham

Scripture Reader: Wayne Border

Greeters: Gordon and Josy Moore

Church Cleaners: Billie Hall and Sue Grab

Luke 1:26-38 New Living Translation (NLT)

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. ²⁸ Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

²⁹ Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. ³⁰ "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"

³⁴ Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."

³⁵ The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. ³⁷ For the word of God will never fail."

³⁸ Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.

Welcome!

Greetings! And a warm welcome to you!
We are glad to have you here—we are better together.
If you are visiting us for the first time,
please sign our guest book at the entrance,
and complete a visitor's card

Please join us for coffee or tea after worship.
We would like to get to know you.

Child care (infant through pre-K) is provided
during the worship service.
We ask that you please pick up your child
promptly after church.

This Week's Events

Sunday, December 23rd

Adult Study, 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.

Monday, December 24th

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 29th

Movie Night at Bill & Patty's home, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship—December 30, 2018

Greeters: Wayne & Diane Border

Church Cleaners: Needed

(December 17-31)

If you have announcements, prayer requests or other special needs
contact Pastor Jeannette Conner, 879-4313 (church) or Diane Border,
Church Administrative Assistant 879-4313

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 30th

Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 7th

Adult Study, 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.

Announcements

- A sweet gift **from** all of you! We are expecting lots of friends, family and visitors to our Christmas Eve service (December 24 at 7:00 p.m.). Would you please bring a batch of cookies as part of your offering on for Covenant Community Church to serve on Christmas Eve? It could be your Lucia act of kindness! Thank you **very** much!
- **World Vision Christmas Opportunity:** Gary Coryer has set up in the lobby an opportunity for us to provide a family with a gift this Christmas. Please see his display under the window and by the Christmas tree. You can purchase some items that will help a family in the poorer areas of the world. Items such as fish, goats, mosquito netting etc. Gary has a great display, please visit it and considering helping out a family.
- **Celebration of Sancta Lucia:** In commemoration of our historical celebration of Sancta Lucia, Covenant Community Church would like to challenge everyone during this season of Advent to become “Lucia” to our needy world.

Therefore, before Christmas Eve perform an act of mercy, generosity, kindness (meet a need) that you identify. Share your story in a few sentences on the back of the insert and place this paper in the basket next to our Lucia doll. You may remain anonymous if you choose however sharing your experience often encourages others. May you become light in the darkness

- **2019 Commitment Cards:** Reminder to turn these in. They may be left in the Treasurer’s mailbox in the office. If you need one, see Diane Border.
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, December 24, 7:00 p.m.:** We invite you to join us for our annual Christmas Eve service. Bring your family, friends, neighbors.
- Pastor Jeannette & Lynn will be away on vacation December 25-January 5, 2019. If a need arises, contact Wayne Border, Leadership Team Chair.
- **Saturday, December 29, at Patty & Bill's home:** An evening of adult fellowship. Good movies, good food, and good conversation! Movie night at Patty Woodham and Bill Wiltshire's home. Bring a dish to share. Movie at 4:30 p.m., potluck and conversation to follow. Please note that this is an adult gathering.

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 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,
for ever. Amen.