

Join us as we watch
Season 2
of
The Chosen



Every week on Thursday
from 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
together we view this award winning production
in the Pastor's Outer Office
All are welcome.
Please join us,
even if this is your first time in discovering the series.
A brief time of discussion and sharing
will accompany the viewing.

To sign up please call (781) 334-3050
to leave your name with our church office –
and please feel free to leave a message.
Blessings to you on your Journey in the Spirit!

Worship Notes.

Music licenses: One License with license #A-733437,
and CCLI License #A-2267261 and Streaming
#CSPL169342, Size A

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ
5 Summer St. Lynnfield MA 01940
781-334-3050 [www. Centre-Church.org](http://www.Centre-Church.org)
We Welcome Everyone: An Open and Affirming Church

Rev Thomas Bentley, Pastor
Douglas W. Hodgkins, Organist/Choir Director
Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School
Bella Travaglini, Administrative Assistant



“The Light Within and the Light Without”

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

December 29, 2024

10:00 am in the Chapel

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship Jim Marshall

Leader: Praise the Lord of the whole universe - the heavens, the angels, the sun, moon and shining stars.

People: the earth and everything within it - every animal and bird, every fish and creature of the seas;

Leader: every mountain and hill, every tree and plant, every ocean, river and stream, praise the Lord

Leader and People: Praise the Lord every ruler and government, all people of every age and every color. Praise the One whose glory the angels sang.” Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace, goodwill among all people.”

Opening Prayer (*in unison*) Jim Marshall

Gracious and loving God, on this day we sing glory with the angels to the new born King, ever marveling at the greatness of your love for us. Each year the breadth of your love brings forth from us a response of praise as we sing traditional carols and hear words of scripture. We praise you for your great gift of love in Jesus Christ, who brings to birth in us love for you. On these last days of this year, as we look to a new and unknown future. we know we can embrace the unknown with confidence. You have empowered us with your Spirit to face whatever the future holds. For these blessings we offer our praise and thanksgiving in Jesus’ name and for his sake. Amen

The Lord’s Prayer (*in unison*) Jim Marshall

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.

*Opening Hymn. “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” #144

*Stand as you are able

“Go Tell it on the Mountain” #154

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills, and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o’er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light.

Refrain

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior’s birth.

Refrain

3 Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #144

**1 Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the Christ-child bring:
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinner reconciled!"
Joyful, all you saints arise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angel host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

***Refrain:*
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the Christ-child bring!"**

**2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time the Savior comes,
offspring of the Virgin's womb.
veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased on earth with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.**

***Refrain*
3 Hail the bearer of God's Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life our Savior brings,
risen with radiant, healing wings.
Mildly laying glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us all from the earth,
born to give us second birth.**

Refrain

5

**New Testament Reading
Colossians 3:12-17**

**Jim Marshall
*The Message***

So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with each other, in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God! Let every detail in your lives—words, actions, whatever—be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God the Father every step of the way.

Children's Time
Children ages 4 and up are invited to join us for the Kid's Classroom in Room 10 with Barbara Langill and Christine Marshall.

Call to Offering

Offertory "Savior God Above" #602

***Hymn of Praise (in unison)**
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Living God, whom we adore.**

Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Anthem

Gospel Reading
John 9-13

Jim Marshall
The Message

The Life-Light was the real thing:
Every person entering Life he brings into Light. He was in the world, the world was there through him, and yet the world didn't even notice. He came to his own people, but they didn't want him. But whoever did want him, who believed he was who he claimed and would do what he said, He made to be their true selves, their child-of-God selves. These are the God-begotten, not blood-begotten, not flesh-begotten, not sex-begotten. The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish.

Message: "The Light Within and the Light Without"

*Closing Hymn: "Go Tell It on the Mountain" #154

Benediction

Postlude

Our ushers today are
Jeff Langill and Kathi Martin.

Please join us for Coffee Hour hosted by Barbara and Jeff Langill.

