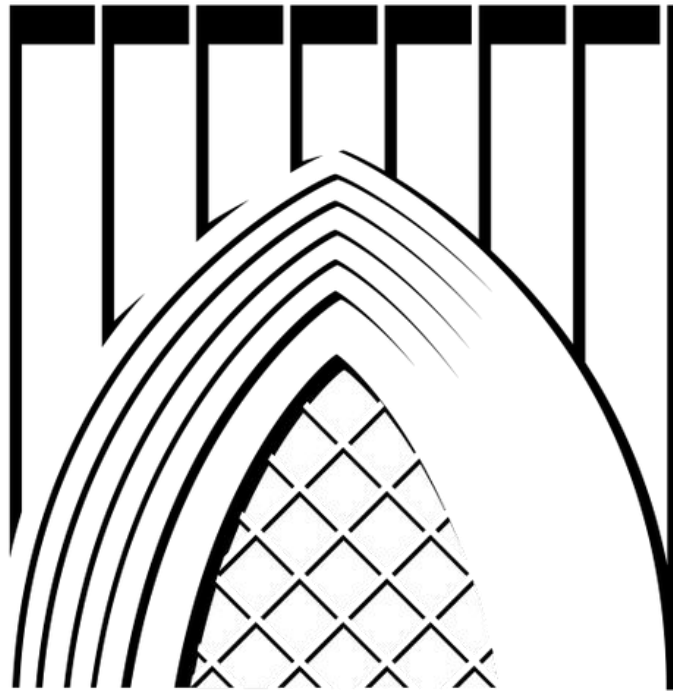


First Parish CHURCH BRUNSWICK, MAINE



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 2, 2022

Welcome to worship! We are glad you are with us!

First Parish Church is open to everyone and welcomes participation in the full life, leadership, and ministry of the Church. We are a diverse congregation. We welcome persons of any race, gender, ethnic origin, mental or physical ability, religious tradition, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and economic circumstances. We affirm that the love of Christ for each person knows no bounds.

WELCOME

Francesco Marshall

PRELUDE

Of the Father's Love Begotten
Dr. Jane Hagness, organ

setting, Wilbur Held

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Laura Lee

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

****CAROL**

Love Came Down at Christmas

NCH #164

PRAYER

**God of all beginnings,
At the start of a New Year; we meet to seek your grace for the time that is before us.**

**Grant us your wisdom as we encounter the mystery,
Send your holy spirit as guide, for all that will test us.**

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1: 1-18

Todd Rider

SERMON

"Christmas Continued... Light Sustained"

Francesco Marshall

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Bold text = Please join us in voice!

****** = Please rise as you are able

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our God, 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.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Wonder As I Wonder
Robert Beaumont, soloist

Appalachian Carol
arr. John Jacob Niles
and Lewis Henry Horton

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die
For poor on'ry people like you and like I...
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

*When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
And the promise of ages it then did recall.*

*If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,
He surely could have it, cause he was the King.*

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die
For poor on'ry people like you and like I...
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE

(Veni Emmanuel)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to you, oh Israel.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Francesco Marshall

****CAROL**

The First Nowell vs. 1,3, and 5

NCH #139

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Dr. Jane Hagness, organ

setting, Hugo Gehrke

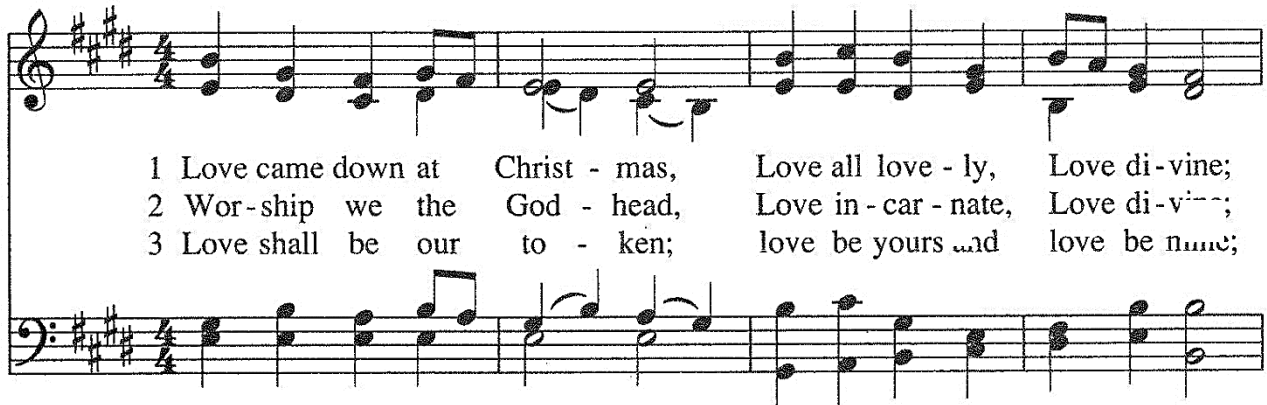


First Parish Church
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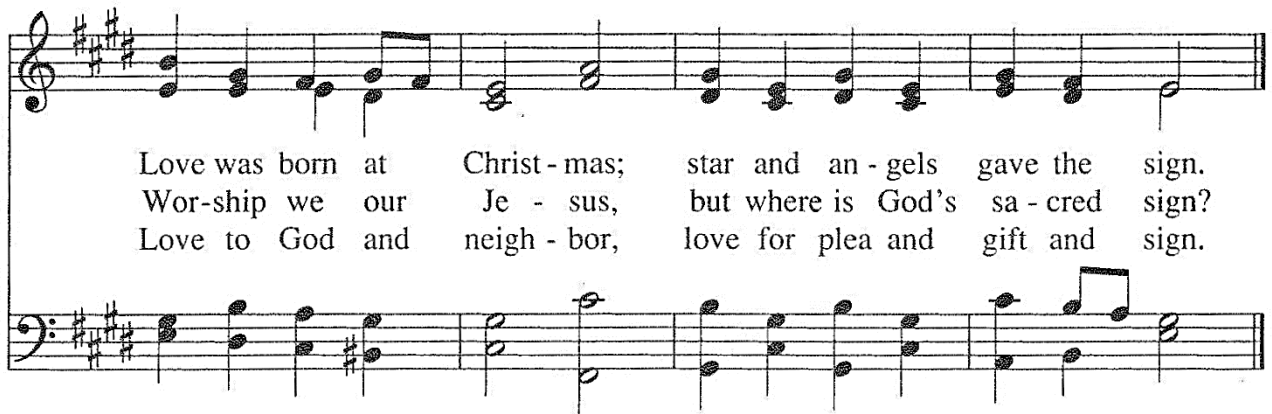
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Love Came Down at Christmas

*Matt. 2:1-11; Luke 2:8-18**Christina G. Rossetti, 1885; alt.*


1 Love came down at Christ - mas, Love all love - ly, Love di - vine;
 2 Wor - ship we the God - head, Love in - car - nate, Love di - vine;
 3 Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and love be name;



Love was born at Christ - mas; star and an - gels gave the sign.
 Wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where is God's sa - cred sign?
 Love to God and neigh - bor, love for plea and gift and sign.

Christina Rossetti, author of the more familiar carol "In the Bleak Midwinter," lived a very quiet life in England. This text has been described by the noted editor Percy Dearmer as a "gem, where so much is said in so little space."

Tune: WHITNEY 6.7.6.7.
 Maurice C. Whitney, 1962

Luke 2:8-20; Matt. 2:1-12

Traditional English carol; alt.

Descant

1 The first Now - ell, the an - gel did say,
 2 They looked a - bove and saw a star
 3 And by the light of that same star
 4 This star shone bright in the north - west,
 5 Then en - tered in those ma - gi three,

was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 shin - ing in the east, be - yond them far,
 three sag - es came from coun - try far,
 o'er Beth - le - hem it seemed to rest,
 and bend - ing low up - on their knee,

In fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep,
 And to the earth it gave great light,
 To seek for a king was their in - tent,
 And there it did both stop and stay,
 They of - fered there, in great rev - erence,

on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense.

Refrain

Refrain

Now - ell, now - ell, now - ell, now -

ell, born in a man - ger, Em - man - u - el.

Though perhaps of earlier origins, this anonymous English carol first appeared in print in the nineteenth century. "Nowell" stems from the Latin novellae (news) and is used as a joyous greeting to celebrate Jesus' birth.

Tune: THE FIRST NOWELL Irr. with refrain
Traditional English melody
 Harm. Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871
 Descant, Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937

Church Contacts:

CHURCH LEADERS

2021-2022

Church Council

Laura Lee
council@firstparish.net

Deacons

Juley Salisbury

Finance

Randall Anderson

STAFF

Rev. John Allen – Senior Pastor - *jallen@firstparish.net*
Francesco Marshall - Minister of Pastoral Care - *fmarshall@firstparish.net*
Dr. Jane Hagness - Minister of Music - *jhagness@firstparish.net*
Sarah Mills - Office Administrator - *office@firstparish.net*
Jared Morneau - Worship Broadcaster - *jmorneau@firstparish.net*

CHURCH SCHOOL STAFF

Bridgette Hodgkins - Lead Teacher, Grades 5-7 - *bhodgkins@firstparish.net*
Jocelyn Hooydonk - Infant & Toddlers
Erin Scott - Preschool-Kindergarten
Carley Senecal - Grades 1-4

SUNDAY SERVICE

Fred Dickey - Opener
Greeters – Liz Newman and Ruth Thibodeau

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Epiphany Service Thursday Jan 6 @ 7PM

This year John will be leading us in a new service on the evening of Epiphany. Join us for this special evening worship service of radiance and beauty. On Epiphany we celebrate how the light of Christ begins to spread throughout the world. This service is great for people of any age, will engage our hearts, minds, and senses in message of this sacred season. *The service begins in the vestry and ends in the sanctuary.*

Donations Needed at The Gathering Place

We have learned that there is currently a great need for folks to donate sleeping bags and tents to The Gathering Place. If you are able to help the guests of The Gathering Place, donations can be dropped off at their building (5 Tenney Way, Brunswick). Thank you to members of Jane's Team for passing along this information.

From the Development Team:

Pledges in support of the 2022 Operating Budget are continuing to come in -- thank you! At present we have 193 pledges totaling \$460,143. Our 2022 budget will likely be \$590,000, so we do have a ways to go. If you haven't yet pledged OR if you have recurring e-giving in place and intend to continue with that arrangement, we'd love to hear from you, as it helps the Finance Committee and Church Council to draw an accurate financial picture. We're excited for the coming church and calendar year. Your financial support makes these gifts of ministry possible. Thank you. We are grateful.

Have an item for the Sunday bulletin, Friday newsletter, or Life of the Church?

Be sure to email your proposed announcement to our Office Administrator, Sarah Mills, at *office@firstparish.net* by **5pm on Wednesday** so it can be included in that week's messaging!

Archive Display: "What's in the church's 1969 time capsule?"