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**December 27, 2020**  
**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

**PRELUDE***"Here is Now the Divine Infant"**- Busser***OPENING HYMN** "Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

Good Christian men, rejoice,  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today;  
Man and beast before Him bow,  
And He is in the manger now,  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice,  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave;  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all,  
To gain His everlasting hall,  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Praise the Lord from the highest heaven.  
The sun and moon, and all the stars in the sky, sing praises to our God.  
Praise the Lord from the deepest valley.  
The mountains and hills, and all the trees in the forest, worship the Lord on high.  
Praise the Lord from heart filled with song.  
The old and young, and all the saints of God, sing with songs of joy.

**GATHERING PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, we go in peace, for we have seen the salvation of our God. We go with joy, for Christ has clothed us with love. We go in hope, for the Spirit shows us our glorious inheritance in the Lord. We go with You, God, into a new year, the year You have provided. Amen.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS****SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 61:10-62:3  
Psalm 148  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:22-40

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "O Tannenbaum" (arr. Carl Burkel)

– Central UCC Choir

**SERMON**

Rev. Dr. Judith Scott

## **\*THE NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost and of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried, and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; from thence he shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. In one holy catholic and apostolic Church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

The Nicene Creed, as we know it, actually is named the "Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed." It was produced at the Council of Nicaea (325). It was assumed that the version with which we are familiar was decided upon at the Council of Constantinople (381) with the objective of bringing the Creed of Nicaea up-to-date with regard to heresies about the Incarnation and the Holy Spirit that had arisen since the Council of Nicaea. More recent research suggests that its development is somewhat more complex. The so-called *Filioque* clause (Latin *filioque*, "and the son"), inserted after the words "the Holy Spirit,...who proceeds from the Father," was gradually introduced as part of the creed in the Western church, beginning in the 6<sup>th</sup> century. It was accepted by the papacy in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, and has been retained by the Roman Catholic, Anglican, and Protestant churches; however, the Eastern churches have rejected it on theological grounds and consider it an unauthorized addition to a venerable document.

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **THE 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.

### **OFFERTORY SCRIPTURE**

1 Corinthians 10:24 "Do not seek your own advantage, but that of the other."

### **CLOSING HYMN "Joy To the World!"**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*“Rejoice”*

*- Van Hulse*

*(All Hymns and Songs reprinted under CCLI)*

***Our WORSHIP is ended...our SERVICE now begins.***

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Pastor – Rev. Dr. Judith Scott  
Young Youth Director/Bell Choir Director – Rene Miserez  
Organist – Shirley Klein

*Please keep each other in prayer, particularly those for whom God's healing touch is of special comfort.*