

**The Federated Church of Orleans
United Church of Christ and Unitarian Universalist Association
162 Main Street P.O. Box 761 East Orleans, MA 02643**

January 1, 2012

10:00 A.M.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
NEW YEAR'S DAY**

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring in the valiant one and free,
The larger heart the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

(excerpt from "Ring Out Wild Bells" by Alfred, Lord Tennyson)

As we enter the sanctuary to praise God and the prelude begins, please observe a respectful silence for the sake of those who use this time for prayer and meditation.

*Congregation invited to stand
indicate unison readings

words in bold print

ORGAN PRELUDE *Go Tell It On the Mountain trad. spiritual arr. Huggins*

OPENING WORDS OF PRAISE

*HYMN 167 *Go Tell It On the Mountain tune: :trad. spiritual.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Stoeckert, liturgist

One: Sing to God a new song, for God has done wonderful things!

All: Christ is born! It is a new year! New hope, new possibilities, new life!

One: Sing to God with joy, all the earth! Praise God with songs and rejoicing!

All: Our hearts are uplifted with good news and goodwill to all!

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who makes all things new, we bring before you the year that has just ended. For life which has been full and good, for opportunities which have been recognized and taken, for love which is known and shared, we thank you. Where we have fallen short, forgive us. When we worry over what is past, free us. As we begin again in the new year, we ask for courage, wisdom, and the love of the Christ Child. May we journey forward with your peace as our guiding star. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

GREETING AND PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Call to Offering
Offertory

Japanese Christmas Carol
The Chancel Choir

Lee

*Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 46

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SOLO

Go forth now, Sweet Mary
Bonnie Brenner, soprano

Hugo Wolf

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 21: 1 – 6a

Pew Bible Page 1085

NEW YEAR'S REFLECTION

Rev. Norris

* HYMN OF PREPARATION 164

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
tune: In Dulci Jubilo*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(We will receive Communion by intinction.)

Please come forward and take a piece of bread and dip it in the cup)

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's
journey, you are welcome here.*

United Church of Christ

*SENDING FORTH HYMN 168 *Down to Earth* *tune: Personent Hodie*

*BENEDICTION

PIANO POSTLUDE *For Unto Us A Child Is Born* *Handel arr. Tornquist*

(Please remain seated for the postlude. You are invited to use these
moments for prayer and meditation.)

We welcome all our guests this morning and ask you to sign our guest
book in the lower narthex. If you would like to give us more information
about yourself or if you would like further information about the church
we invite you to fill out the card in the pew rack and place it in the
offering plate. The pastor and liturgist will greet you after the service.

The Prayer of Confession is adapted from a prayer by Francis Brienen
found in *The Complete Book of Christian Prayer* (New York: Continuum,
2000)