

LITURGY OF THE WORD
DECEMBER 28, 2025
1ST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1000 Gravenstein Hwy North ☎ 707.823.2484 ☎ www.uccseb.org

PIANO PRELUDE *The Little Drummer Boy* – Harry Simeone

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Bob Curtis

* CAROL *Angels from the Realms of Glory* #149

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE The SALT Project
Introduction / Poem / Candle-lighting / Prayer

* CAROL *Once in Royal David's City* #165, vv. 1 & 2

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION Feasting on the Word
One: Merciful God, in great love you claim us as your children, but we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Complacent in the presence of injustice and violence, we fail to recognize the roles we play.
Many: **Forgive us, especially when we fail to protect children, so vulnerable and precious in your sight. Do not be ashamed of us but strengthen us in our time of testing. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who shared our flesh and blood... (silent prayer)**

* ASSURANCE OF GRACE

* CAROL *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* #153, vv. 1 & 4

* PASSING THE PEACE The Peace of Christ be with you: **And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Kathy Bell

CHILDREN'S PRAYER ending with *The Lord's Prayer*
**Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin'dom 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 kin'dom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

* CAROL *We Three Kings* #172

GOSPEL READING *Matthew 2: 13 – 23* Pew Bible, NT, p. 2

SERMON *Out of Egypt* Rev. Brian Plaugher

PIANO INTERLUDE *There's a Song in the Air* – Holland & Harrington

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING Ainsley Curtis

OFFERTORY *Children, Go Where I Send Thee* Trad. African American

* DOXOLOGY *In the Bleak Midwinter* – Christina Rossetti

**In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan; Earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter long ago.**

**What can I offer, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise one, I would do my part; but what can I offer: all my heart.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Matthew 2:21–23

One: In this gifting season, O God, we are grateful for your gift of Jesus the Christ,
who came as a refugee out of Egypt and settled in Nazareth.

Many: Receive these offerings we bring in honor of the Vulnerable One and his
family for the sake of all the vulnerable ones. Amen.

PRAYER PRACTICE Reena Burton

* CAROL *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* #167

* BENEDICTION

PIANO POSTLUDE *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* African American spiritual

*Following worship, all are invited to Kinship Hour in the Bell Tower Courtyard and,
when the bell rings, to Faith Formation Hour offerings.*

WORSHIP LEADERS



Piano J. Althea
Liturgists Ainsley, Bob & Eliana Curtis
Children's Message Kathy Bell
Preacher Rev. Brian Plaugher
Prayer Practice Reena Burton
Worship Music All Things New Band
Song Leader Andy DelMonte
Tech Team Eliana Curtis
Chancel Flowers Kathy Matthies

STAFF TEAM

Lead Minister Rev. Dr. Benjamin Broadbent
Associate Minister Open
Congregational Administrator Joy Richards
Faith Formation Coordinator Tirza Dawn
Choral Director Andy DelMonte
Keyboardist J. Althea
Handbell Director Karna Roa
Bookkeeper Deanna Euritt
Custodian Paul Loudon



Our mission is to worship God and share the love of Jesus Christ,
teaching the message of Jesus to all ages and putting our faith into action.

An Open & Affirming congregation in the United Church of Christ,
we welcome and affirm people of every religious background,
family composition, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability,
ethnicity, age, gender identity and expression.

A Sanctuary congregation in the Sonoma County Sanctuary Coalition.

Cover Image: "La Sagrada Familia," Kelly Latimore