

## Benediction

**\*Pastor:** The Peace of Christ be with you. **Congregation:** *And also with you.*

## \*Postlude

Sylvia Lee

### Announcing “ConGo Enjoy-Meant” Events

We are “ConGo” (Christians on the Go) and meant to go and enjoy good food and fun activities together!

“Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” Neh. 8:10

“Go and enjoy”:

**Sunday January 12-** Lasagnarama and Hymn Sing, 5:30-7:00pm- Let's come together and warm our bodies and bellies with some delicious lasagnas and warm our souls and hearts with some inspiring hymn singing... or just listening! Volunteers needed to make the lasagna your family loves or maybe a different, unique, kind of lasagna? If you are willing to share give Mat a call at 231-414-7501.



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**Welcome Guest, We are so happy that you are here today. If you would like more information about the First Congregational Church, please fill out the note below and place it in the offering plate.**

**Your Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number and or email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments/Prayer Request** \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you like someone to contact you?** \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

## The First Congregational Church



Then **Joseph** Got Up,  
took the child and his mother by night,  
and went to **EGYPT.**

Matthew 2:14, NRSV

***First Sunday after Christmas***

***December 29, 2019***

***10:00 a.m.***

As you enter the sanctuary, please be mindful of those already seated who want a quiet place to pray.

**The Order of Worship**

\* those who are able, please stand

**Prelude**

**Sylvia Lee**

**Special Music**

**Praise Group**

“What a Glorious Night”

**Welcome/Opening Prayer**

**Opening Hymn**

**Praise Group & Congregation**

“God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman, He Has Come for Us”

**Congregation & Praise Group**

**God rest ye merry gentlemen let nothing you dismay**

**Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day**

**To save us all from Satan’s power when we were gone astray**

**O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,**

**O tidings of comfort and joy.**

Praise Group

He has come for us, This Jesus. He’s the hope for all mankind

He has come for us, The Messiah Born to give us life

**Congregation & Praise Group**

**From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came**

**And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same**

**How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name**

**O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy**

**O tidings of comfort and joy.**

Praise Group

All the angels sing Hallelujah, Jesus Christ is born

All the children sing Hallelujah, He is Christ the Lord.

**Invitation to Prayer**

**Praise Group**

“Born in Bethlehem”

**Prayer of Confession**

**Pastor Mark Jarvie**

**Congregation - Unison**

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in the newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Story Bell**

**Mat the Mime**

“Stormalong”

**Hymn of Preparation**

**Blue Hymnal #256**

“Love Has Come” (verse 1)

Love has come - a light in the darkness!

Love explodes in the Bethlehem skies.

See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;

Hear how their song of joy arises: Love! Love! Born unto you,

a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

**Scripture Reading**

Genesis 1:1-5

O.T.1

Matthew 2:13-23

N.T. 2

**Message**

**Pastor Mark Jarvie**

*A Light in the Darkness*

**Hymn**

**Blue Hymnal #282**

“O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful”

**Prayers of and for the People and Silent Prayers**

**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**

**Sylvia Lee**

**\*Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Closing**

**Blue Hymnal #258**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;

Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching, O’er silent flocks by night

Behold! thro’out the heavens There shone a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;

Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born!

*Welcome, on this final Sunday of 2019, as we continue to celebrate the Christmas season during worship.*

\*Visitors ~ Welcome! There is a Welcome Packet in the pew rack for you. Please fill out the Guest Information insert, place it in the offering plate and take the packet home for review of the other information. We are thankful you are here and hope that your time here is a special blessing to you and your family. Please let us know how we can best serve you.

\*Large print Bibles and bulletins are available from the ushers. Quiet bags for children to use while they are in the worship service are available on the table in the narthex.

\*Children are an important segment of the living body of Christ, so we welcome them in our worship services and grant to them the blessing of worshiping along side their parents, siblings and family in Christ. Families with young nursery age children are also welcome to use the "Family Room" in the balcony located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

\*Our sanctuary is equipped with a T-Coil Hearing Loop. Please turn your hearing aid to the T-Coil position to access this feature. Other hearing devices are available at the sound booth upon request.

*Following the worship service you are invited to join us in Fellowship Hall. Come meet new friends and have some refreshments. We look forward to meeting you.*

***Serving Us:***

Altar Rep:	Jim Rynberg
Altar Flowers:	(today) (next week)
Greeters:	(today) (next week)
Ushers:	(today) (next week)
Compassion:	All Deacons
Keyboard:	Sylvia Lee
Sound System:	Rick St. Peter
Coffee Hosts:	(today) (next week)

***Celebrating this week:***

*Happy Birthday to ~*

Deb Emerick (30)

*Happy Anniversary to ~*

Van & Judy Nadeau, Robert & Anne VandeKieft(2)

***Prayer Requests ~***

The family of Frank Blain. Frank passed away on Sunday, December 22. Services were held on Friday at the funeral home.

The family of Jim Rynberg. Jim's brother, John passed away December 24. Services will be held January 18 at the Crandell Funeral home.

Jerry Miller passed away. A Celebration of Life service will be held in the Spring of 2020

Jack Tittle - recovering from hip surgery

Ann Jeannero - Ann broke her hip. She is under Hospice Care

*Our shut-ins:* Bob Erber, Ann Jeannero, Barb Lindner, Jean Morse, Pat Peccia, Siria Pinnick, Don Potter, Norma Purvis

**This Week's Calendar**

**Sunday, December 29**

8:45 a.m.	Praise Group Rehearsal - sanctuary
10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall SCRIP is available for purchase

**Monday, December 30**

9:00 a.m.	Woodshop Open
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**Tuesday, December 31- Church Office Closed**

1:00 p.m.	Woodshop Open
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**Wednesday, January 1 - New Year's Day**

**Thursday, January 2 - Church Office Closed**

1:00 p.m.	Woodshop Open
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**Friday, January 3**

9:00 a.m.	Woodshop Open
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**Saturday, January 4**

**Sunday, January 5**

10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall SCRIP is available for purchase

## **Our Church News**

**Thank you to Rev. Mark L. Jarvie who will be leading us in worship today and next Sunday, January 5** - Rev. Mark L. Jarvie (semi-retired) received his initial training in pastoral ministry through the Lay Ministry Training Program of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. While enrolled in this program he served a three-year internship as an associate pastor with the First Congregational Church of Vermontville. Upon his graduation from the LMTP Rev. Jarvie was hired and ordained as pastor of the First Congregational Church in Lake Odessa, where he has continued to serve since 2003. While working in Lake Odessa, pastor Jarvie has earned a Master's Degree in Spiritual Formation and Leadership from the Theology department of Spring Arbor University, which he followed with 2 years of formal training in Spiritual Direction through the Sustainable Faith School of Spiritual Direction. In preparation for full retirement this coming spring, pastor Jarvie has recently turned over the senior pastor position at Lake Odessa to the Rev. Dr. Marilyn Danielson. He is now just "helping out" in Lake Odessa until his wife, Kathryn, retires from Kellogg Community College in March. They will then make a permanent move to their beautiful lakeside home near Cheboygan Michigan, a place where they hope to find new ways to serve the Lord - and do a bit of fishing as well.

A **special word of Thanks to everyone** in the congregation for your Christmas gift. Our Sincere appreciation for your generosity, love and care! Your staff: Deb & Mat, Lorene, and Sylvia

**Special thanks to everyone who** helped and participated in the Christmas Eve Service !

**The Congo Kids Christmas Party was a Success!** Over 20 kids came varying in age from infant to preteen. Much fun and laughter happened and treats were eagerly enjoyed. The Gospel was shared utilizing the beautiful Nativity set in the trophy case. The kids listened well. Santa, Gary Hooker and Mrs. Claus, Beth Hooker were enthusiastically greeted by the kids. His gifts were appreciated and many pictures were taken with him. Great thanks to Judy and Van Nadeau and Bernie Denney for their partnership in planning and facilitating, Women's Fellowship for financial support and to all who brought kids or told others about it.

**Thank YOU! members and friends** so much for your contributions to Plum Pudding. We had a very successful year. Special thanks to my committee. I could not have done it without you. Christmas Blessings to all.  
Mary Butterick, Plum Pudding, coordinator.

**THANK YOU to** all of you ladies that provided a dessert for the "Tea Shoppe!" Special thanks to Sally DeShetler, Van Harden and Marj Salata for serving the coffee and tea.  
Shelli Waldo

**Mat Emerick has been working** as a substitute teacher. With the Christmas break coming up he will be without work. If you have an odd job or a need for help with something feel free to give Mat a call at 231-414-7501.

**We recently purchased a new higher-powered** projector and a new Mac computer that will be used exclusively for files and programs used with the projector for visual projection in the sanctuary. Currently, Deb, Karen/Tim Roggatz along with Jeff Stewart's help, are learning how to do this. Karen has experience with the new program we purchased, however, what she has done is the past is put together all the visual projection from an existing library of information, scriptures, songs, special effects etc. We are starting from scratch with no library to draw from, so she is working on the input. There have been a few glitches in our program and Tim has spent a lot of time on the phone with the program help desk to work out the bugs, they also got in touch with the person at their past church who does all the data input, he has been a big help as well. After the holidays, we are going to Spring Lake to meet with him in hopes that he will teach us a few short cuts. Deb is working on the photos of our events and ways to input them for use. Our goal is to eventually be able to train others so that this will be a shared ministry. For now, we are working diligently to learn how to use the tools that we have as effectively and efficiently as possible. We appreciate your patients as we continue to explore this medium for worship. Special thanks to Jack and Jeff Stewart, Tim and Karen Roggatz and Deb for all the late nights, frustrating moments and extra time dedicated to this ministry. It will be awesome!