



25 DECEMBER 2022 REV. STEVEN PROTZMAN



Unwrapping  
Christmas

# *Unwrapping Christmas*

Order of Service

December 25, 2022

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The winter trees stand watch  
haloed in the last gleams of the slanting sun.  
Glory sings here.  
Heaven echoes the call:  
Repeat the sounding joy.

—Rev. Rebecca Parker

Music for gathering

Welcome

Rev. Steven Protzman, Minister

Chime

Prelude

Words of Gathering

Heidi Shaffer Bish,  
Worship Associate

Chalice Lighting

As a sign of our covenant one to another  
As a symbol of this season's message of love and hope  
As a witness to the light of truth within and among us  
With a joyful spirit on this Christmas Day  
We kindle our flame.

Opening Hymn

*#245 Joy to the World*

## **Reflecting**

Our service will include these elements but not in this order. We'll unwrap gifts to see how the service unfolds!

Holding One Another in Care and Compassion

*A time of silence, sharing our sorrows and losses,  
pastoral prayer, and sharing our joys, wonder and awe*

Music Meditation

Readings

*The Gospel of Matthew*

*The Camels Speak*  
by Rev. Lynn Ungar

*A Winter Blessing*  
by Rev. Rebecca Parker

Carols:

#259 *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

#237 *The First Nowell*

Conversation: What's a favorite Christmas memory?

Offering

### **Returning**

Extinguishing the Chalice

We extinguish this flame  
But not the light of truth, the spirit of joy,  
the warmth of community  
Or the fire of Christmas hope  
All these we carry in our hearts and minds  
Until we are together again.

Closing Hymn

*We Wish You a Merry Christmas*

Benediction



*New Year's Day January 1, 2023*  
*10 am in the sanctuary*  
*Led by Rev. Steven Protzman and Kathy Kerns*

## Calendar

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Today, Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup> | Service at 11 am, Hobbs Hall<br>Social Hour   |
| Dec. 28 <sup>th</sup>        | Board Meeting, Hobbs Hall   |
| Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>        | New Year's Eve  |
| Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>         | Service at 10 am, the Sanctuary<br>Social Hour, Hobbs Hall<br>UUYJ at 4:30 pm, Fessenden Hall |

**Church Address:** Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent  
228 Gougler Avenue, Kent, OH 44240.

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Email – [churchoffice@kentuu.org](mailto:churchoffice@kentuu.org)

On the web – <https://kentuu.org>

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/uuchurchofkent](https://www.facebook.com/uuchurchofkent)

**Church Office:** The church office is located in the Eldredge Annex  
(yellow house) next to the church building



### CHURCH STAFF

|                                 |                        |  |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Minister                        | Rev. Steven Protzman   | <a href="mailto:revsteven@kentuu.org">revsteven@kentuu.org</a>       |
| Accompanist                     | Vanessa Vesely         |  |
| Congregational Administrator    | MaryBeth Hannan        | <a href="mailto:churchoffice@kentuu.org">churchoffice@kentuu.org</a> |
| Campus Use Manager              | Katie Kuras            | <a href="mailto:rentals@kentuu.org">rentals@kentuu.org</a>           |
| Dir. of Religious Education     | Colleen Thoele         | <a href="mailto:colleen@kentuu.org">colleen@kentuu.org</a>           |
| Music Director Pro Tempore      | Katie Grigg-Miller     | <a href="mailto:music@kentuu.org">music@kentuu.org</a>               |
| Nursery Staff                   | Michelle Bores         |  |
| Sexton                          | Brian Mulloy           | <a href="mailto:sexton@kentuu.org">sexton@kentuu.org</a>             |
| Tech Manager                    | Julie Swango           | <a href="mailto:tech@kentuu.org">tech@kentuu.org</a>                 |
| Affiliated Community Minister   | Rev. Renee Ruchotzke   | <a href="mailto:rruchotzke@uua.org">rruchotzke@uua.org</a>           |
| Affiliated Community Minister   | Rev. Christie Anderson |  |
| Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM) | Lori Mirkin-McGee      |  |
| Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM) | Kathy Kerns            |  |

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2021 – 2022

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| Board Asst. Moderator | Kara Kramer        |  |
| Board Co-Secretary    | Susanna Smart      |  |
| Board Co-Secretary    | Carol Weigand      |  |
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## Joy to the World

Joy to the world! For love is come:  
let earth with praises ring.  
Let every heart prepare a room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven  
and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! Now gladness reigns:  
let hearts their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat  
the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground.  
Let righteousness its glories show  
as far as love is found,  
as far as love is found,  
as far, as far,  
as love is found.

## The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds, in fields as they lay,  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the king of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star,  
shining in the east beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the king of Israel.

And by the light of that same star,  
three magi came from country far;  
to seek a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the king of Israel.

## We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of light,  
star, with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a Deity nigh.  
Prayer and praising, all are raising,  
worshiping God most high.

Refrain

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
love forever, ceasing never,  
within our hearts to reign.

Refrain

## We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas  
We wish you a Merry Christmas  
We wish you a Merry Christmas  
And a Happy New Year.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin  
Good tidings of Christmas and a Happy New Year.