

The Tree that was Meant to Be



21 December 2025
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

The Tree that Was Meant to Be

Order of Service: 11:00 AM

December 21, 2025

Music for Gathering

Carol of the Bells
Iona Packer & Friends

Jingle Bells
Simon and Kate Garner

Welcome

Colleen Thoele, Director of Religious Education

Chime

Chalice Lighting

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

Joy's Christmas Round
by Joy Juckes

Act: One *The Tree*

Song of Woe

River
by Joni Mitchell

Joys and Sorrows

Music Response

There is a Love
Elizabeth H. Norton and Rebecca Ann Parker

Act Two: *Community of Care*

Winter Solstice

by Linda Koehler
Lo Thoele, soloist

As We Carry this Flame Forward

words by Wesley King
music by William Moore
Rafael Gregorius, soloist
Emily Hall, Director of Music Ministries

Be the Light

by Neal Katz
Avian Gillig-Monroe, soloist

Act Three: Sharing the Light

It's in Everyone of Us

by David Pomeranz
Caleb Parker, soloist

Offering

Offertory

The Christmas Wish
by Danny Wheetman
Avian Gillig-Monroe, Rafael Gregorius,
Caleb Parker, and Lo Thoele, vocals
Kailani Walker, guitar

Act Four: The Tree That Was Meant to Be

Closing Music

Christmas is...
by Teresa Jennings

Extinguish Chalice

We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. May we carry these in our hearts and minds until we are together again.

Benediction

Postlude



Upcoming Services

December 21, 2025

7:00 PM in the Church Sanctuary

The Longest Night: A Winter Solstice Gathering

Led by Rev. Kristina with Dir. of Music Ministries Emily Hall

December 24, 2025 Christmas Eve Services

All is Hushed; All is Still

6:00 PM: Family Friendly Candlelight Service

8:30 PM: Candlelight Service

Led by Rev. Kristina Church

December 28, 2025 When Hope is Hard to Find

11:00 AM in Hobbs Hall (one service only)

Led by Rev. Renee Ruchotzke

Today, December 21

The Tree that Was Meant to Be

Credits

Today's production was written by Sandy Eaglen, adapted from the storybook, *The Tree That was Meant to Be*, by Yuval Zommer

Cast of Characters

Avian Gillig-Monroe	Iona Packer	Raylynn Rome
Lo Thoele	Benny Hovancsek	Rafael Gregorius
Katie Hovancsek	Gareth Gulick	Jo Brannan
Björn Tyrsinn	Adi Gleason	Simon Garner
Caleb Parker	Mal Gleason	Rhya Tyrsinn
Fae Tyrsinn	Milo Hook	Jameson Reilly

Special Note from Sandy and Colleen:

It takes a village to create this service each year. Between rehearsals, feeding the players, props and music there are behind-the-scenes worker bees. Thank you to all the grown-ups who helped to bring today's service to life:

Kate Garner: assistant director extraordinaire
and feeding these kids

Val Henry: costume queen

Vanessa Vesely: musical genius

Serena & Nathaniel Gulick: feeding these kids

Parents and Caregivers: for sharing your kids with us



Visit the QR Code link to learn about
December Holiday Happenings:
see kentuu.org/posts/ for details



Sunday, December 28, 2025
When Hope is Hard to Find
led by Rev. Renee Ruchotzke
Service: 11:00 AM (one service only)



Tarnished Brass Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 21
3 PM in the Church Sanctuary
Suggested Donation \$20



Christmas Dinner Potluck
12/25 from 1-4 PM in Hobbs Hall
More info on the website. A Sign-up is
also available.



Joy's Christmas Round

by Joy Juckes

Here will I stay and sing a while
And make your spirits bright
To warm your hearts with simple song
On this frosty winter's night

There is a Love

by Elizabeth Norton

There is a Love, holding us
There is a Love holding all that we love
There is a Love holding all
We rest in this Love.

Christmas is . . .

by Teresa Jennings

Christmas is love. Christmas is caring.
Christmas is friends together sharing.
Christmas is time for children to sing
songs of the happiness Christmas will bring.

Christmas is laughter, hope and joy
filling the hearts of all with joy.
Christmas is what our dreams are made of.
But more than anything Christmas is love.