

State University of New York College at Buffalo - Buffalo State University

Digital Commons at Buffalo State

First Unitarian Church of Niagara Falls

Church Collections

12-23-1979

Pamphlet; Service; 1979-12-23

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara Falls

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/first_unitarian_universalist



Part of the [History Commons](#), and the [Religion Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

"Pamphlet; Service; 1979-12-23." First Unitarian Church of Niagara Falls. Digital Collections. Monroe Fordham Regional History Center, Archives & Special Collections Department, E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State.

https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/first_unitarian_universalist/36

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Church Collections at Digital Commons at Buffalo State. It has been accepted for inclusion in First Unitarian Church of Niagara Falls by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons at Buffalo State. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@buffalostate.edu.

Order of Service (continued)

December 23, 1979

"A Celebration of Christmas"

OPENING MUSIC

CHORALE "Caroling, Caroling" Alfred Burt

OPENING WORDS - "The Lights" by Paul Engle

CAROL - "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear" #287

Christmas Thoughts by Unitarian Universalists

A poem by Barry Taylor

Memories from Jackie Shirk

A Christmas Meditation by Rev. Dick Gilbert,

First Unitarian Church of Rochester, N.Y.

(contributed by Lucile McElwain)

RESPONSIVE READING by Sue Stone

(Reader and CONGREGATION)

Christmas represents the rebirth of light,
the return of the sun, the promise of spring.
Even now, as winter begins, the days are already
growing longer, and we know, even as we face
blowing snow and freezing winds, that the warm
sunshine and fragrant flowers will come again.

AS WE LIGHT OUR CANDLES THIS CHRISTMAS
MAY WE REMEMBER THAT EVEN IN THE DARKNESS OF
DESPAIR AND DEATH THERE IS A PROMISE OF LIGHT AND
JOY.

Christmas represents the birth of a child,
the coming of love to the world, the giving and
receiving of precious gifts. As the child was
born, may love be born in our hearts, and like
the star that burned in the Christmas sky, may
it light the world around us.

AS WE EXCHANGE OUR GIFTS THIS YEAR MAY WE
REMEMBER THAT THE MATERIAL THINGS WE GIVE EACH
OTHER ARE BUT SYMBOLS OF THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT
OF ALL, THE GIFT OF LOVE.

Responsive Reading (continued)

Christmas represents a message of goodwill, a
promise of peace, a song of hope for the world.
Though this hope seems sometimes lost, always it
lives in our hearts, and as we learn to find peace
with ourselves and peace with each other, we create
the possibility of peace among nations.

AS WE HEAR THE CAROLS THIS CHRISTMAS, MAY WE
REMEMBER THAT "PEACE ON EARTH, GOODWILL TO MEN" IS
NOT JUST A HOPE FOR THE FUTURE, BUT A REALITY WE CAN
CREATE IN OUR OWN LIVES.

THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS ARE JOY, LOVE AND PEACE.
MAY WE RECEIVE THEM THIS YEAR.

ANTHEM: "Choose Something Like A Star"

R. Thompson & R. Frost

"The Meaning of Unitarian Christmas - Holy Night -
Weinacht" by Albert Hartl (contributed and
translated from the German by Sigrid deNeufville)

"The Sheep Herd" - a poem by Sister Mariella

A Letter by Ralph W. Sockman

CAROL - "O Little Town of Bethlehem" #286

Children's Story - "Mr. Willoughby's Christmas Tree

A Little Laughter

A Letter to Santa Claus by Art Buchwald

"Christmas Hash" by Ogden Nash

OFFERTORY "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Ives

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Two Kinds of Christmases" - a letter to Adlai
Stevenson by John Steinbeck

Two poems by Rod McKuen

"A Gift Without Strings"

"A Hand To Hold At Christmas"

The Giving Tree

CAROL - "Joy To The World" #299

CLOSING WORDS - a letter from Henry Van Dyke

CLOSING MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE HOUR - Following the service, everyone is invited downstairs to Unity Hall for refreshments and conversation. A special welcome is extended to our guest this morning.

DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE - 7 P.M. Christmas carols, the choir, the candlelit church and -- our Sunday School presents an unusual Christmas Play. Cookies and punch afterwards.

COMING UP: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1979

9:30 A.M. Pancake Breakfast preceding the

11:00 A.M. Fire Communion Service

Come One! Come All!

Sign up!

DECEMBER 23 - Open House at Ingyar Swensson's, Apt. 28 C, Southgate, Unity Park, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 1 - 4:30 P.M. - 284-5396.
