

Our Service of Worship on the Lord's Day (Rom. 12:1 – NAS)

Sunday 10:27 a.m.

December 21, 2025

Pastor: Gary Kiontke

Phone: (978) 660-7557

Pianist: [on CD]

Jesus Is Lord

Sing Praises & Prayers to: Father-JesusChrist-HolySpirit

**** Prelude: #71 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”**

Call to Worship: Isaiah 53:10-12 (RSV)

**** Opening Hymn: #205 “The First Noel” (verses 1-2, 5-6)**

**** Invocation**

Congregational Prayer of Confession (Bulletin Insert)

We sing of Jesus' love on the Cross, why He was born:

**** #239 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”**

Scripture: 1 John 4:7-20 & Psalm 65:1-5 (KJV)

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

We sing of the great love of the Savior born of Mary:

**** #196 “Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming”**

Message: God covers the transgressions of all who pray in faith

Responsive Reading: Isaiah 43:1-5 (NAS, See Bulletin Insert)

Light Advent Candle of Love-Emmanuel

We prepare our hearts for Communion:

**** #258 “We Come as Guests Invited”**

Responsive Reading (Bulletin Insert)

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

**** Closing Hymn: #194 “Joy to the World”**

**** Benediction: Lamentations 3:19-24 (RSV)**

**** Postlude: #131 “This Is My Commandment”**

**** Congregation Please Stand**

We welcome you to our time of worship this morning. Thanks for being with us today!

People arriving after 10:15 are encouraged to join in singing to the Lord, or to focus on the Lord by reflecting on the words of the songs, or otherwise communing with God.

This Week at the Church

Wednesday 7:00 PM -- *Christmas Eve Candle-light worship*

Sunday 9:30 AM -- *Music Team Practice*

10:30 AM -- *Sunday Morning Worship*

Friendships survive forced separations

There will be no midweek Bible study or prayer meeting this week because of Christmas Eve and Christmas.

We are holding a Christmas Eve Candle-light service on Wednesday at 7:00 PM, downstairs. We will consider how Jesus' birth fulfilled centuries old prophecies. The Haitian Church of the Nazarene has been invited to join us and is scheduled to do two Christmas carols from Haiti, singing and instrumental.

We are giving people the opportunity to worship virtually.

Go to: www.facebook.com/pg/FCCClintonMA at 10:27 AM on Sunday mornings to watch the worship service live. The video of the service is also available to watch at any time.

A video of our worship (on a one week delay) airs on Comcast (Xfinity) Clinton channels 8 and 99 on Mondays at 8:00 PM, Tuesdays at 6:30 AM, and Sundays at 5:30 AM.

To listen to last week's sermon: Go to fccclintonma.org. On the left hand side go to 'Blog Postings' and click on 'Sunday Services'. Under 'Sunday Service – month, day, year' hit the prompt 'Continue Reading ->'. This will bring up PDFs of the Bulletin and Sermon Outline as well as two audios. Click on the big arrow on the left and it will start to play.

***Because of Jesus' sacrificial love,
we can love***

1 John 4:7-20 & Psalm 65:1-5

Notes:

Prayer: To have a request included in the ***Pastoral Prayer***, phone the church office and leave a message any time before 9:00 AM on Sunday morning. *Or*, fill out a green 'Prayer Request' card on the back table as you come in and give to Pastor Gary up front before 9:25 AM.

Text for the week:

So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:19-22 (RSV)