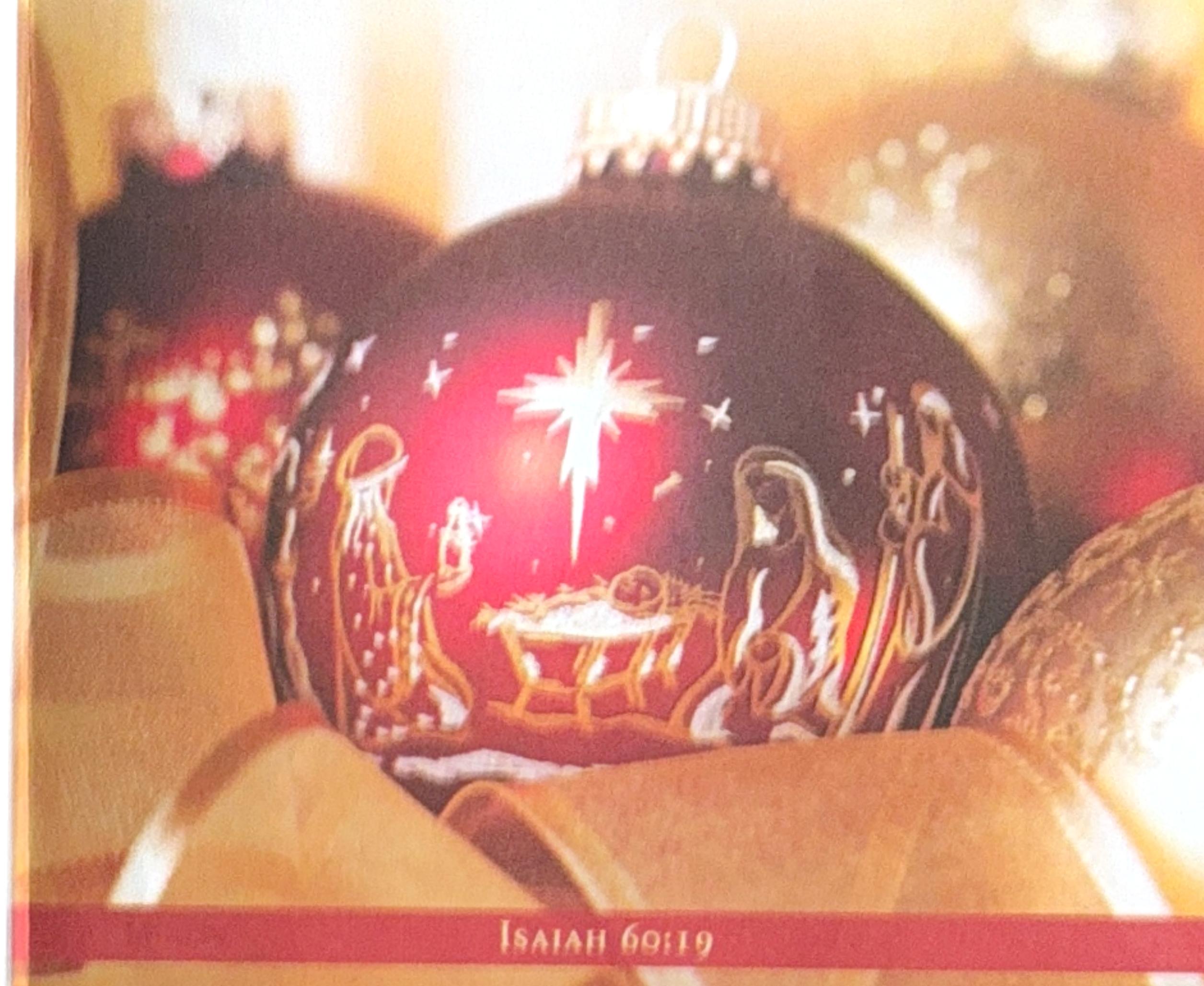Ministers: All the Members of the Church
Pastor: Rev Carlos Jauhola-Straight
Seminarian: Heather Ivone Milliken
Director of Music: Tom Seniow
Organist: Carolyn (Sue) Howard
Bell Choir Director: Sharon Hone
www.uccpelham.org   uccpelham@gmail.com

Christmas Flowers

In Honor of our Grandchildren- by Ron & Debbie Schneider

In Memory of Leo & Alice Symonovit and Connie Hennessey
   by Dave & Alicia Hennessey

In Memory of Bill, Greg and Stefen McDevitt - by Joyce McDevitt

In Memory of Pete Bennett - by Polly Bennett

In Memory of Diane Legg and Jack Nugent - by Jessika Welch

In Memory of Bob Schweida - by Marilyn Schweida

In Memory family and friends- by Al & Susan Steward

In Memory of Loved Ones - by Sue & Gary Collins

In Memory of Loved Ones - by The Ambargis Family

In Memory of James Fowlie - by Paula Fowlie

In Memory of Manuel & Lilia Carreiro and Wilkerson Loved Ones
   by the Wilkerson Family

In Memory of Priscilla Currier - by Phil Currier

In Memory of George Lefort - by David & Maria Goddard

In Honor of Ana & America Afonoso - by David & Maria Goddard

In Memory of Ronald and Doug Bedard - by Bobbie Bedard

THE LORD
shall be unto thee
AN EVERLASTING
light.

ISAIAH 60:19

First Congregational Church of Pelham
United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Church - Sharing What God's Love Looks Like
CHRISTMAS EVE FESTIVAL LESSONS AND CAROLS - 4pm

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

INTROIT   "He Comes In Love"   Michael Burkhardt

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES   The Wilcox Family
The journey of life requires the light of
Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love shining out into the world.
On our way to Bethlehem, we search for the star that lights the path.
The road can be difficult, and the search for home can be elusive.
We are a people who look for Good News for all people.
There are milestones–signs and markers–that can guide us to a better day.
God's light goes before us, we are not alone.

SILENCE

CAROL   "People, Look East"   #83

THE FIRST LESSON   Genesis 1:26–2:4   Dot Hill

ANTHEM "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"   Michael Burkhardt

THE SECOND LESSON   Isaiah 9:2, 6–7   Cheryl Andrews

CAROL   "O Holy Night"   #113

THE THIRD LESSON   Luke 1:26–38   Heather Ivone Milliken

ANTHEM   "Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming"   Michael Burkhardt

THE FOURTH LESSON   Luke 2:1–20   Lucy Wilkerson

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

CAROL   "Angels We Have Heard On High"   #121

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO THE CHRIST CHILD

OFFERTORY

venmo

+SUNG RESPONSE   "Away in a Manger"   #132
Bless all the dear children in Your tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with You there.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(Unison)*
With these gifts, dear God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts, which rejoice in your goodness and love. Let our gifts point to your presence in the world, and further your dream for the world through Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Amen.

THE FIFTH LESSON   John 1:1–14

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE   The Wilcox Family
O God, now we light the candle of your nativity!
We rejoice, the light has come into the world.
This is the time of light and resplendent joy, we behold God's glory— full of grace and truth.
God, our Life and Light, thank you for coming to us. Thanks for touching all heaven and earth with your splendor. In every corner of the world, shine this night with your peace. In every corner of our hearts, shine this night with your grace. Amen

A MOMENT OF SILENCE

THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT
The Pastor will take the light from the Christ Candle and pass it to the candle lighters, who, in turn, will light the candle of the end person in each pew. The lighted candle should be held upright, and the candle to be lit, held horizontally. Parents are asked to assist their children with the candles.

CAROL   "Silent Night" #135

THE CHRISTMAS BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE   "Joy To The World"   #107 vs 1
Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.

Please extinguish your candle following the benediction.

POSTLUDE