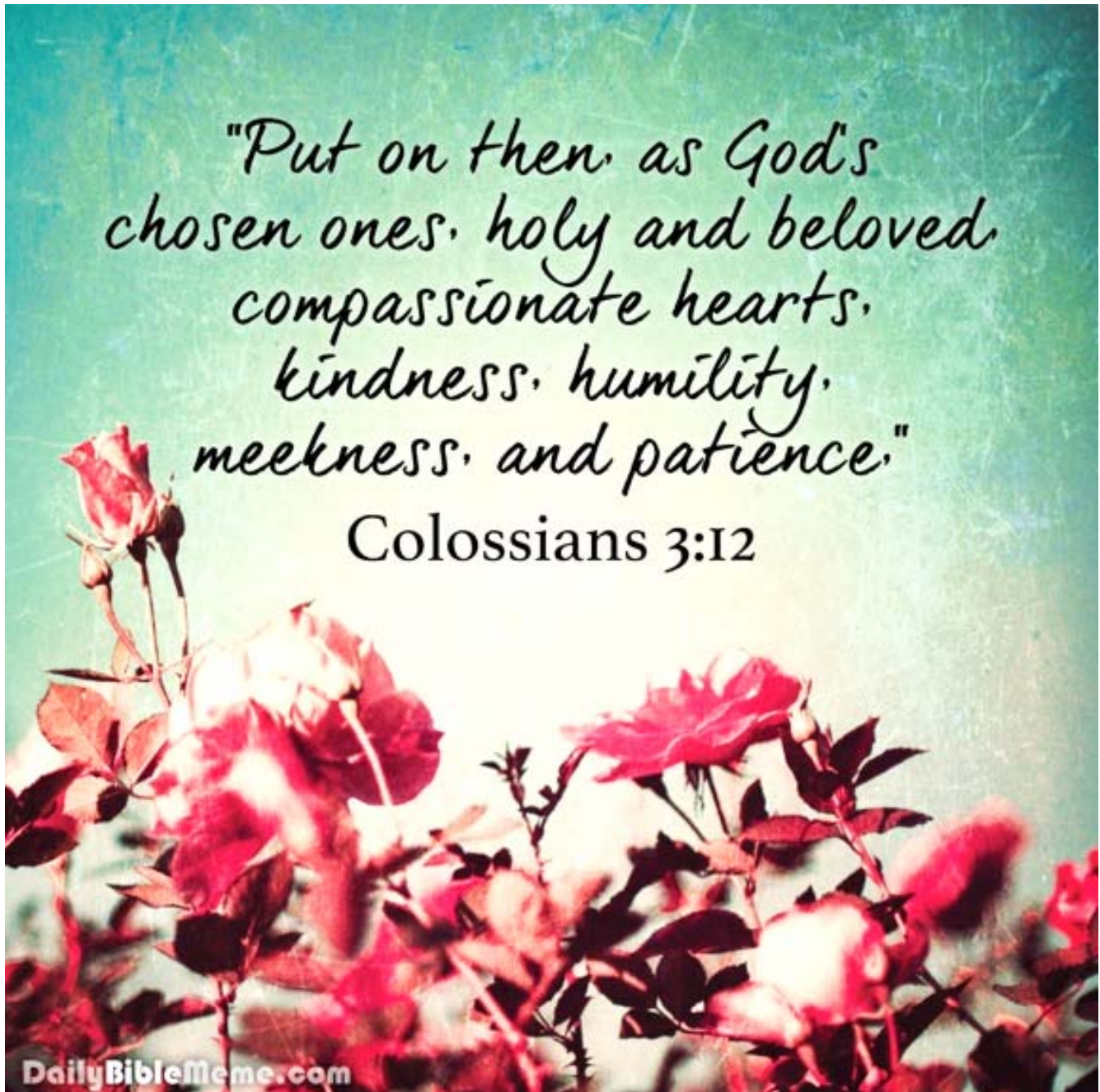




Reaching Out with Nurturing Love to All God's People



**December 27, 2015
10:00 a.m. Worship**

First time here? We are happy to have you visit with us today and hope that your worship experience is blessed. Please pick up a free visitor bag in the narthex. All are invited for coffee and fellowship in Bowen Hall after the service.

***Children with you?** Activity materials for young worshipers are in the entry way. Child care (2-3yrs) and Sunday School are provided during the service. Infants with a parent may enjoy our quiet room while listening to the service.
Assistance needed? The ushers have large print bulletins and hearing devices for you.*

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

**One asterisk signifies the congregation stands if able. Throughout the service the bold type is spoken by the congregation*

PRELUDE “Serenade to the Holy Family” by Hector Berlioz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please sign the red friendship pad and pass it along for the whole pew to sign.

Ring of the Bells

INTROIT “How Great Our Joy!” arr. Hugo Jungst

**CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)*

We are here because we have heard a promise of peace

and we have faith its day will come

we have heard a rumor of justice

and we have faith its day will come

we have heard a whisper of hope

and we have faith its day will come

we have heard a hint of love

and we have faith its day will come

we have heard of the birth of the Christ-child

and we have faith his day is here.

Welcome to Christmastide!

Let us worship God!

**HYMN # 143 “Angels from the Realm of Glory” by Henry T. Smart, 1867*

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER (unison)*

Eddie Seamans

On this the first Sunday of Christmas, as another year draws to a close,

we come together before God and with one another, acknowledging:

the ways in which we have been caught up in the frenzied spirit of the holidays and turned away from Your Spirit of Peace.

We are sorry for the times we have focused on our own lives and desires, and

**neglected the voices of your children who cry out for Justice.
in our focus on making the season perfect, we ignored the hurting people and
broken places in our world in need of Healing. At times we have dismissed
Christmas as a time only for children, and we have stubbornly closed our hearts to
your amazing gift of Love. O Holy Child of Bethlehem, Word Become Flesh, our
Savior and King, hear us as we humbly pray,
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. (*silent confession*) Amen.**

**WORDS OF AFFIRMATION (responsively)*

Hear the good news of Christmas. Today God reveals to us the wonders of divine love.
**For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given. His name shall be called
Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**
Thanks be to God for the greatest gift ever given! **Alleluia!**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE*

#581

Gloria Patri

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“No Room”

by John Peterson arr. Fred Bock

**DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Please be seated)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Hymn #451 (Verse 2)

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 148

This is the Word of the Lord! Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM “What Can I Give Him?” David & Bonnie Huntsinger arr. by Tom Fettke

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Colossians 3:12-17

This is the Word of the Lord! Thanks be to God!

SERMON:

Is It Over? Or A New Beginning?

Rev. Dr Cindy Alloway

**HYMN#118 “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night” by George Handel*

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION FOR CHRISTMAS

Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus: Gracious God, as a star
rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ-
child; Draw us, your Church, and all of your people to you – that we might be the Church
and the People who you call us to be. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your Presence; Fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As angels sang ‘glorias’ to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; Bring us your peace, and bring an end to and terror and strife. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn; Be especially present with those who have nowhere to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands; Bless all families, especially the families of our church, and protect those who travel. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As your son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of Life Eternal; Give to the departed eternal rest and let Light perpetual shine on them. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

For those who are sick, For those who are serving in our armed forces...For those who have died.....In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Lord our God, may the Light and Hope of this season, and of your Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that your love will be with us always, even to the end of the age. We pray in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray: **(The Lord’s Prayer) Amen.**

*HYMN#145

“What Child Is This?” *English ballad, 16th cent. arr, 1871*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Hallelujah” (*Chorus from Messiah*) by George Frideric Handel

Did you know? Christmastide is the festival season from Christmas Eve until after Epiphany. The hymn: "What Child Is This?" was derived from a longer poem, "The Manger Song." It was first published in 1865. William Chatterton Dix fell seriously ill, and was confined to his bed for an extended period of time. He underwent a true spiritual crisis during this illness, and spent much time in prayer and the reading of Christian literature. He came through the crisis and devoted much of his later poetry to Christian themes. He wrote a number of hymns including: "As with Gladness, Men of Old."

References: **Call to Worship**— by Cheryl Lawrie, on blog <http://holdthinspace.org.au/>

Congregational prayer — Rev. Nancy J, on blog, wonderings through life and other such nonsense.

Prayer of the People — written by Fr. Rick Morley, and posted on his [Rick Morley](#) blog.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please include in your prayers

Those mourning the loss of a friend or family member

- ❖ Please pray for the family of Mary Alice Harker who passed away on Tuesday. *Her memorial will be here on Saturday, January 9th at 1 pm.*
- ❖ Please pray for the family of Joseph Marzak who passed away last weekend.
- ❖ Please pray for the family of Ed Le Du who passed away recently.
- ❖ Please pray for Julie Bright's family as they mourn her father's passing.
- ❖ Please pray for the family of Steve Cairns who passed away on October 3rd.

Please pray for those facing health issues

John Baker
 Judy Bello
 Dan Boland (*Kathryn
 Fenner's friend*)
 Cindy Goede
 Krissy Healy
 Jim Mason
 Sam Imbimbo

Jim Chestnut*
 The Conley Family *
 (**Friends of the Fenners*)
 Chris Hilen
 Ron Kram
 Marie Patchin
 Albert Reil
 Alan Reil

Pamela Sage
 Carole Somer
 Vera Patten
 Ed and Fay St. John
 Laurie Villareal (*Shirley
 Weber's family friend*)
 Sylvia Turner

Those serving in our military

Sgt. David A. Dickens, USAF Jason Morse, US Navy Jason Imbimbo, Coast Guard Lt. Ian Alloway Culver, Lt. Col. David Trowbridge, M.D. is stationed at the Joint Air Force Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska and serves as a Cardiologist with the Alaska Native Medical Center.

Do you need a chair lift? Please contact the office or Pastor Cindy if interested.

Liturgist: Chris Rhodes



Flowers are given by Jonathan Steele to the glory of God and in memory of his father, Ben Steele and honoring mother, Joy Steele.

Presbyterian Church of the Roses
 2500 Patio Court, Santa Rosa, CA 95405
 Office hours: 9 – 3 pm, Tues–Thursday
 10 am – 2 pm, Fridays
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The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Alloway, *Pastor*
 Barbara McElroy, *Director of Music*
 Althea Wright, *Accompanist*
 Ruth Canniff, *Administrative Assistant*
 Susan Jenkins, *Rosebud Preschool Director*
 Eddie Seamans, *Director of Youth Activities*
 Email: office@churchroses.org
 For more information visit
www.churchoftheroses.org
 Music & Video License numbers:
 CCLI#1153510 & CVLI#503696701

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sundays

ADULT FORUM 11:30 am January 10: *What's New at Westminster Woods?*

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS 4TH Sundays in the library after church

KERYGMA BIBLE STUDY 8:15 am "*Amos and Hosea*" **NOT MEETING IN DECEMBER**

MUSIC MEMORY WORKSHOP 9:00 am *Learn the Ukulele! in Sunday School Rm.*

WORSHIP 10 am

Mondays

SENIOR EXERCISE 10 am *in the Rose Rm.* **NOT MEETING DEC. 21ST**

PW EVENING BIBLE STUDY 3rd Mondays at 7 pm

Tuesdays

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: **NOT MEETING DEC. 22ND OR DEC. 28TH**

PW WOMEN 3rd Tuesdays Bible Study at 10:30 am and Potluck Luncheon 12:15 pm.

Wednesdays RESUMES IN JANUARY

GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP 4–6 pm *Help and encouragement after the loss of a spouse, child, family member, or friend to death, dementia or separation.*

CULTURAL LITERACY RELIGIONS 7 pm

Everything the well-educated person should know. Experience the breadth and depth of the world's religions from all angles—historical, theological, and cultural. A Great Courses Video class with Prof. Berkson of Hamline Univ.

Thursdays

CULTURAL LITERACY RELIGIONS 9:00 am **RESUMES IN JANUARY**

See Calendar for special practice dates during December. BELLS PRACTICE 6 pm
and CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 pm *Welcome!*

BOOK CLUB 3rd Thursdays at 3:30 pm Dec. 17 – *The Snow Child* by Lowyn Ivey

FAVORITE FILM SERIES 4th Thursdays at 2 pm: **NO FILMS IN NOV. OR DEC.**

Fridays Not meeting on Dec. 25th or Jan. 1st

Noon Hour of Prayer & Encouragement: Meditative music and readings. Join us!

If you ordered a memorial poinsettia, you may take it home after the service.

No MHS BREAKFAST DEC.18 – JAN.1

TAX TIP!

In case you want to save on your taxes, Congress reinstated the IRA Charitable Rollover Provision. This allows those over age 70½ to have a distribution of up to \$100,000 made directly from their IRA to the Presbyterian Church of the Roses. They will not include the distribution as income, but still count the amount towards satisfaction of the required minimum distribution amount. By not including this income, you may be driving down your overall marginal tax rate. Please act before December 31, 2015 to take advantage of this provision if possible! We would appreciate it, too! *(Thanks to Dan Bargar for this information!)*



**What's New
at Westminster Woods?**
Ask Executive Director Chris Rhodes

**Sunday Jan. 10
11:30 a.m.
in the Rose Room**



Epiphany Service: Jan. 10th, 2016

CALLING ALL VOYAGERS!

It's time again for our annual planning meeting for events during 2016.

Come to the Rose Room after church on **Sunday, January 17th** with ideas and calendars.

We'll have a light lunch while we do our planning. Be thinking about what event you can host, and also consider being the incoming coordinators for the group. *Any questions, call Gene and Carole Michel, 542-5572*

CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Tues. 12/29 OPEN 9-NOON

Wed. 12/30 OPEN 9-NOON

Thursday 12/31 OPEN

Friday 1/1 CLOSED

LOST at Cantata

**Black Motorola Cell Phone
Black Gloves that hook**

**PLEASE PICK UP YOUR BOX OF
ENVELOPES AFTER THE SERVICE.**