



Reaching Out with Nurturing Love to All God's People



December 11, 2016 | Worship 10 am
Third Sunday of Advent

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

***Children with you?** Activity materials for young worshippers are in the entry way. **Childcare and Sunday School** are provided during the service. **Assistance needed?** Large print bulletins and hearing devices are available from the ushers.*



CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE "The Shepherds" by J.F.Dandrieu - arr. by Willard I Nevine

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please sign the red friendship pad and pass it along for the whole pew to sign.)

MOMENT FOR MISSION Joy Offering Jonathan Steele

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES Hunger Task Force 25cents/day collection

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING LITURGY – Joy (from Isaiah 42)

One: People of God, Isaiah promised a servant God who would come to save us.

Many: **The Savior will be a light to the nations.**

One: People everywhere are eager for the justice he will teach and the joy he will bring.

Many: **We will see prison doors opened and people set free.**

One: Today we light a candle to symbolize the joy we anticipate.

We hope in the One who will come. We pray for God's peace to prevail.

Our joy will come with God's servant.

(Light the candles of Hope, Peace and Joy.)

One: People of God, great change lies ahead as we light the path for Jesus.

Many: **We wait to see and hear and follow Christ's light with joy!**

INTROIT "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus" by Christian Gregor, 1784

**CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)*

Into our world

Come Lord Jesus

Into the forgotten places, as into the manger

Come Lord Jesus

Into the lives of the poor bring hope; into the lives of the weary, bring rest;
into the lives of the wise bring mystery, and into our lives and longing....

Come Lord Jesus

This is the Good News! Christ is coming! Blessed are those who wait on the Lord!
Come quickly Lord! With great joy, let us worship God!

*HYMN#105

“People Look East”

French folk melody

*CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER (*responsively*)

Open our eyes, Lord, because we are tired of looking and fear to see too much;
because yesterday and today and tomorrow may be filled with the same pain,
because when we look we see what we want to see.

**Open our eyes, Lord, to gently scan the life we lead, the home we have,
the world we inhabit, to find places that need faithful transformation
and places that inspire hope and joy.**

Give us whose eyes are dimmed by familiarity, a bigger vision of what you can do with
us, even with what might seem to be hopeless cases and lost causes and people
of limited ability.....

**Show us the world with your true sight, riddled by debt, deceit, and disbelief,
and yet also, full of possibility, renewal, redemption.....**

Open our eyes to one person, or one place,
where we might identify a potential for hope, peace, and joy.

And with all this open our eyes in yearning for Jesus!

Help us truly see him, on the mountains, in the cities, through the corridors of power,
and streets of despair, to help, to heal, to confront, to console.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel! Amen

*WORDS OF AFFIRMATION (*responsively*)

God is good! All the time! I declare to you,
in the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God for mercy, grace, and second chances.

Let us live lives worthy of such amazing grace and steadfast love!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #579

Gloria Patri

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY *“Away in a Manger”* by William Kirkpatrick arr. Richard Warner

**DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

HYMN #450 verse 2 PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 146:5-10

This is the word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 1:46b-55

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

SERMON

“Mystery at the Manger” Rev. Dr Cynthia J. Alloway

**HYMN#87*

“Comfort Comfort Now My People” Geneva Psalter, 1551

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

We bless you, our God, mighty sovereign, power, gentle caring mother.
You do not forget your children.

**We bless you our God, for your great gifts to us:
creation—fragile and fascinating, Scripture—revealing your truth.**

And you bless us with your forgiving love, with the vision of your kingdom,
shedding light in our darkness.

**Bless us and disturb us O God with that vision of your kingdom and as we voice
our hopes to you now, may they strengthen us, reassure us and move us...**

(Silence)

We pray for those caught up in wars around the world; soldiers, refugees
and those who hold fast to the reasons for the fighting.

**We pray for the homeless - excluded from what the rest of us are doing,
cold, struggling to keep a hold of who they are...**

(Silence)

We pray for those who are ill, coping with pain, fearing the worst,
and for health professionals who worry for the future...

(Silence)

**We pray for those people struggling in relationships,
especially at this ‘family time’, when the cracks are kept just below the surface...**

(Silence)

And for the deepest hopes of our hearts, we pray for now in silence....

**Into the mess of this world a fragile child will come -
yelling in the night for his mother, needing milk and clean linen.**

We pin our hopes on you, little baby, our God - pushed out into the world,
through pain and into poverty.

Our God is with us and our hope is re-born. (The Lord’s Prayer) Amen.

*HYMN#106 “Prepare the Way O Zion” *Then Svenska Psalmboken, 1697*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Noel Suisse” *by Louis - Claude Daquin*

Why do we light the Advent Wreath: The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In commemoration of that coming, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and reflect on the coming of Christ. It is significant that the church has always used that language—the coming of Christ—because it speaks to a deep truth. Christ is coming. Christ is always coming with healing and hope, always inspiring our troubled world to bring peace.

Liturgist: Kim Seamans



*Flowers are given by
Kim Seamans
in honor of her parents,
Ed and Jo McMahan.*

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The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Alloway, *Pastor*
Cassie Carroll, *Director of Young Adults &
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Barbara McElroy, *Director of Music*

Althea Wright, *Accompanist*

Chelsea Howard, *Sunday School Teacher*

Eddie Seamans, *Director of Youth Activities*

Ruth Canniff, *Office Administrator*

Nancy Morgan, *Finance Administrator*

Jami Knuthson, *Receptionist*

Susan Jenkins, *Rosebud Preschool Director*

Music & Video License numbers:

CCLI#1153510 & CVLI#503696701



PRAYER REQUESTS: *Please include in your prayers
Those mourning the loss of a friend or family member*

- ❖ Please pray for the family of Mel Jones who passed away recently.
- ❖ Please pray for the family of Betty Smith who passed away recently.
- ❖ Please pray for the family of Barbara Saunders, who passed away Nov. 19th.
- ❖ Please pray for the family of Marti Sepulveda, who passed away November 3rd.
- ❖ Please pray for the family of Jim Taylor, whose sister-in-law Julie, passed away.

Please pray for those facing health issues

John Baker
Judy Bello
Dan Boland
Bob Bunting
Helen Burns
Jim Chestnut
Vern Cooper
Jackie Del Carlo
Wendy Galde

Sheryl Gobble
Sam Imbimbo
Helen MacKenzie
Ted McCarthey
Bill Moberly
Marie Patchin
Randy Pierce
Albert Reil
Virginia Rylett

Pamela Sage
Vera Patten
Rhonda Patton Knoles
Bob Simmons
Ed St. John
Ines Teague
Bob Weber

Those serving in our military

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

THE OFFICE WILL BE PRINTING NEW DIRECTORIES (no photos). If you would like to change your Preferred contact information or add a cell phone of email address, please contact the office. *Thank you.*

Presbyterian Women

**Tuesday, December 20
Bible Study 10:30 a.m.**

**Christmas Luncheon
12:00 noon**



Do NOT bring food.

- THE GIVING TREE /ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS & FAIR TRADE: Dec. 11th
- PAINTING THE STARS: Wednesdays Science & Theology Advent Study 7 pm
- VOENA CHILDREN'S CHOIR RECITAL: Dec. 14th at 5 pm in Bowen Hall
- HOLIDAY CRAFT NIGHT & POTLUCK Preschool & PCOR: Dec. 15th 5:30 pm
- JOY OFFERING: collected Dec. 18th
- THREE CHOIR CHRISTMAS CANTATA "*Journey to Joy*" arranged by Barbara McElroy. Three Concerts! All proceeds go to benefit F.I.S.H., the largest Food Pantry in the Redwood Empire.
Friday, December 16, 2016 at 7:30 pm at the Glaser Center,
 547 Mendocino Ave. Santa Rosa
Saturday, December 17, 2016 at 7:30 pm at First United Methodist
 Church, 1551 Montgomery Dr. Santa Rosa
Sunday, December 18, 2016 at 3:00 pm here at Presbyterian Church of the
 Roses, 2500 Patio Ct. Santa Rosa
*Presented by the Choirs of Faith Lutheran Church, First United Methodist
 Church, Presbyterian Church of the Roses.*
- PW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON – NOT a potluck! Dec. 20th noon
- BOOK CLUB: Dec. 15th 3:30 pm
- FILM CLUB: No movies in December.
- WIDOW SUPPORT GROUP: Meets 4th Thursdays at Adel's Diner 11:30 am-1pm
- NO MHS BREAKFAST Dec. 23rd – Jan.6 (resumes Mon. January 9th)
- **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: Dec. 24th at 7 pm.**
 Celtic harpist, Sing the carols, Family friendly
- CHRISTMAS DAY: Dec. 25th at 10 am
- EPIPHANY VESPERS EVENING SERVICE: Friday, January 6th, 5:30-6:15 pm
- SENIOR EXERCISE: Mondays at 10 am. Enter through parking lot.
- BEING MORTAL SERIES: Learn about our health care system and it's limitations. Being well informed will not hasten your death, we promise!
Sundays, Jan.8th, 15th & 22nd from 11:30–12:45 includes luncheon. Look for RSVP inserts in upcoming bulletins! If you RSVP, you will receive a book that summarizes the bestseller by practicing surgeon, Atul Gawande.