



PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
OF THE ROSES

*Reaching Out with Nurturing Love to All God's People*



**December 23, 2018 | Worship 10 am  
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**First Time Here?** Thank you for coming! Please pick up a Welcome Bag in the narthex. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in Bowen Hall.

**Assistance needed?**

Large print bulletins and hearing devices are available from the ushers.

**Tip for the Service**

\*Asterisk means please stand if able.

The **BOLD** is spoken by the congregation. Please sign the red friendship pad in the pews and pass it.

**Children with you?**

Activity materials for young worshipers are in the entry way. Childcare and Sunday School are provided during the service.

**Questions on where to go?**

Please ask the Ushers by the doors.

## CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE            *Angels We Have Heard on High*    Traditional arr. By Fred Bock

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Board of Deacons

*The Candle of Love*

Reader 1: We still watch and wait for Christ's coming!

Reader 2: While we wait, we light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer. (*Light all four candles*)

Reader 1: Out of love for all people, the Lord spoke through the prophet Isaiah, as found in the 7th chapter, verse 14: "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and she shall name him Immanuel.

Reader 2: Let us pray.

***All:* God of hope, Prince of peace, Jubilee Judge, and Lord of love, your goodness is beyond our wildest imaginings. You give us more than we can think to ask, coming to us with impossible possibility in a union of flesh and spirit. Teach us to love this world and all people as you love us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come! Amen.**

## RINGING OF THE CHIMES

INTROIT #105

*People, Look East*

Eleanor Farjeon

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Open our hearts, merciful God, to the sparks of your presence still in this world.

**All: Open our eyes, allow us to behold your presence in the least likely of places, and among the least likely of people.**

One: Open our minds so we are not afraid to hear, see and do you will. Let us worship God!

\*HYMN #121 (vs. 1 and 4)

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Phillips Brooks

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

One: We have waited for a long time for your hope, your joy, your love to shine in the darkness of this world, Almighty God. Even now, in our gathering here, we await you. In our hearts, we still hope that your light will blaze forth, banishing the shadows of this world and guiding all the people back to you.

**All: Yet you did not come into this world in a show of power and glory. You did not shine forth for all of creation to behold. A tiny spark – a newborn baby, visible to parents and curious animals. A host of angels – away from the populated areas, singing to migrant workers. A sparkling star – guiding foreigners to see what neighbors could not.**

One: God with us, kindle your spark within us, that together we may shine forth your light, we might banish the shadows of this world, we might be the continuation of the Christmas miracle: Emmanuel is in this world, God is with us, now and evermore. Amen.

## WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

One: Even now—yes, even in this very moment, God comes to us, bringing hope, bringing forgiveness, bringing grace as freely offered gifts to us.

**All: May we open our hearts to the God who is with us and receive the gifts which have been offered to us. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581

*Gloria Patri*

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY Steve Yeager, Myles Ellis      *Be Not Afraid*      Robert J. Dufford

\*DOXOLOGY #606 AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PASSING OF THE PEACE

\***HYMN #519 vs1**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*You are My Strength When I am Weak*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Micah 5:2-5a

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word! **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

*Somebody Build a Manger*

Joel Raney

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2: 1-10

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word! **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

*Do Not Be Afraid of Good News!*

Rev. Dr Cindy Alloway

\*HYMN #118 (vs. 1,2,6)

*While Shepherds Watched their Flocks*

N. Tate

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION FOR CHRISTMAS

*'For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.'* (Isaiah 9:6)

One: Wonderful Counsellor, grant wisdom to political leaders to govern with kindness and care, to creatively challenge injustice and inequality, and for peacemakers to find lasting solutions to protracted conflict.

**All: May the light of your wisdom dawn in the darkness of selfish ambition.**

One: Mighty God, grant courage, to those having to escape their homes to find refuge, to those dreading the next violent outburst, and to those unsure of the future for their families.

**All: May the light of your courage dawn in the darkness of fear.**

One: Everlasting Father, grant us inspiration, to imagine a world free from

species extinction and climate chaos, to make economic decisions so all the earth may flourish, to commune with creation as creature before consumer.

***All: May the light of your inspiration dawn in the darkness of eco-despair.***

*One:* Prince of Peace, grant the peace that silences gunfire and bombs, that stills us to recognize complicit choices, that reconciles war-weary enemies.

***All: May the light of your peace dawn in the darkness of conflict. We pray in the authority of the child that has been born for us, who taught us to pray saying: (The Lord's Prayer) Amen. CHORAL RESPONSE***

\*HYMN #119      *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*      *Charles Wesley, 1739*

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE      *Hallelujah Chorus*      by G.F. Handel



***Flowers are given by  
Nancy Hansen***

***in celebration of family***

2500 Patio Ct. Santa Rosa, Ca 95405

Phone: 707-542-4272

Email: office@churchoftheroses.org

Website: [www.churchoftheroses.org](http://www.churchoftheroses.org)

CCLI#1153510 & CVLI#503696701

OneLicense # A-728805

**Liturgist: Ellen Marks**

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Alloway, *Pastor*

Myles Ellis, *Director of Music*

Althea Wright, *Accompanist*

Chelsea Howard, *Sunday School Teacher*

Bajun Mavalwalla II, *Audio-Visual Technician*

Eddie Seamans, *Director of Youth Activities*

Ruth Canniff, *Office Administrator*

Nancy Morgan, *Finance Administrator*

Jami Knuthson, *Receptionist*

Susan Jenkins, *Rosebud Preschool Director*

**The last date to complete many gifts is 2pm, Thurs., Dec. 27, 2018.**

- Gift checks mailed via USPS with postmark and check date on or before Dec. 31, 2018 will be counted for 2018 regardless of when they are received or deposited by PCOR. Gift Checks dated Dec. 31, 2018 and ***hand-delivered*** to the church office by 2pm Thursday, Dec. 27, 2018 will be counted for 2018 regardless of when they are deposited by the church.

**If we have your email address, your 2018 Giving Statement will be emailed by the end of January 2019. Otherwise, it will be mailed. Look for it! GIVING ENVELOPES ARE READY TO BE PICKED UP IN BOWEN HALL!**



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please include in your prayers

### Those mourning the loss of a friend or family member

\*Please pray for the family and friends of Marie Patchin as they mourn her passing on December 14, 2018.

### Those with health issues

John Baker	Marilyn Hilen	Fred Recknagel
Jim Bauer	Kathy Holmes	Debbie Seat
Bill Beaumont	Jason Montsier	Bob Simmons
Judy Bello	Jessica Morse	Bob and Marge Snater
Barbara Blinn	Lucrecia Muñoz	Jim Taylor Sr.
Bob Bunting	Jeanette Nichols	Marisa Taylor
Patrick Butler	Marie Patchin	Dr. Gershom Thompson
Gwen Christiansen	Carolyn Kenworthy	Sylvia Turner
Wes Cox	Rhonda Patton Knoles	Bob Weber
Kyle Donaldson	Polly Post	Helen Wikle
Margie Donaldson	Evelyn Radunich	Betty Witchey-Ryer
Dick Draper	Mickey Marshall	Jill White
Barbara Flannery	Bill Rathjen	Roger White
Ray Foreaker	Greg Ray	Michael and Katie Wolff
Felipa Jones	Peter Ray	Jamie Yen
Nancy Lee (daughter in law of Nancy Hansen)		Avery Yudice

### Those serving in our military

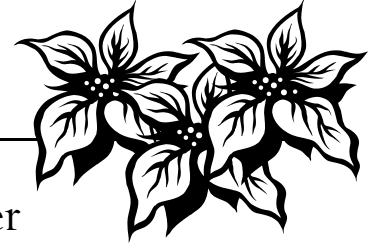
Sgt. David A. Dickens, USAF Jason Morse, Coast Guard Lt. Ian Alloway Culver, Lt. Col. David Trowbridge, M.D. is stationed at the Joint Air Force Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, Ak and serves as a Cardiologist with the Alaska Native Medical Center, Chris Loranger serving in Afghanistan.

**NEXT TWO WEEKS: NO MHS BREAKFAST/ PRE-K / TAI CHI OR QI GONG  
THEY RESUME MONDAY, JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>**

**OFFICE CLOSED: DEC. 24, DEC. 25, JAN. 1**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

# Christmas Memorial Poinsettias



## GIVEN BY:

## IN MEMORY OF

Bonnie Barber

Chris Bargar

Dan Bargar

Jim and Jeanette Bauer

Karen Bowles

Joyce Cairns

Peggy Call

Matthew and Ruth Canniff

Robert Cortez and

Margie Murray-Cortez

Dick and Yvonne Draper

Linda Lance

Vicki Lewis

Gene and Carole Michel

Bill Moberly and Family

Bob and Judy Moore

Beverly Mueller

Chris and Nancy Nelle

Barbara Nelson

Lindsay and Joy Olsen

Anita Pinney

John, Anne, Margaret and

Thomas Post

Gary and Susan Smith

Marilyn Stark

Darrell and Marion Barber

Stephen Schwartz

Marilyn Bargar

Jeanette's brother, Don Morse

Paul Bowles, Audrey and Larry Elleson

Steve and Dave Cairns, sons

My daughter, Diana Venge

John J. McNerney, Daniel Gonzalez and

Jaya Gill

Mother, Maria Cortez

Mother, Margie E. Murray

Our grandparents

Joyce McDaniel Goodby

Parents, Ruby and Ralph Harrill

Our parents and other loved ones

Karla Moberly

Our parents

Otto Mueller

John and Irene Myers,

Joe and Eunice Nelle

Reed Nelson

Ed Currier and Bob and Phyllis Olsen

Lyman Pinney and James Ray

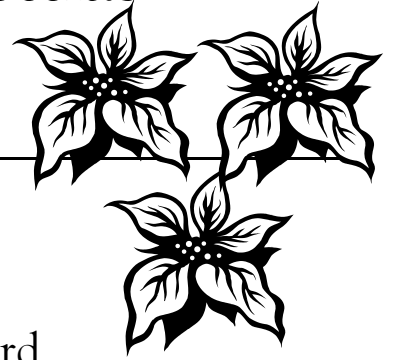
Our mother, Mary LeCocq Post

Parents, Susan's siblings Marj and Carl,

brothers-in-law George and Ray

Marv Stark

# Christmas Memorial Poinsettias



## GIVEN BY:

## IN MEMORY OF

Jonathan Steele and Family

Ben and Joy Steele,  
Bob and Craig Steele  
Helen and Blaine Brainerd  
Fern Fleming

Jonathan and Luann Steele  
Betsy and Steve Yeager

Lou and Virginia Hughes  
Ray Yeager, Bart Yeager, Stephen Yoas

## GIVEN BY:

## IN HONOR OF

Pastor Cindy Alloway  
Linda and Tony Burille  
Gene and Carole Michel

Mom, Marjorie Dreger  
Paul Burille and Eric White  
Our children and grandson Connor  
Our dear friends, Margie Donaldson and  
Evelyn Radunich

Fred and Jeanne Recknagel  
Jonathan Steele

Our loving family and dear friends  
Margie Donaldson

*Join us for Advent & Christmas!*

***Candlelight Christmas Eve Carol Service***

***Monday, Dec. 24 @ 7pm ~ Family friendly!***

***Sacred Space Epiphany Service***

***Saturday, Jan. 5 @ 6-7 pm***

