



PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF THE ROSES

Reaching Out with Nurturing Love to All



*First Sunday after Christmas
December 26, 2021 ~ Worship 10 am*

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. Join us for coffee and fellowship in Bowen Hall after the service.

Children with you? Activity materials for young worshipers are on the back tables. **Assistance needed?** The ushers have large print bulletins.

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE "Angels We Have Heard On High" Trad. arr. by F. Bock

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Light the candles:

All: The hope of our hearts has been born!

One: Sing the carols:

All: The star to guide our spirits has risen!

One: Embrace your neighbor:

All: The cradle of compassion receives us all!

One: Believe in the mystery:

All: The love we long for is here.

One: Come, let us Worship God!

*HYMN #134

"Joy to the World"

Isaac Watts, 1719

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her king;

let every heart prepare him room,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

*HYMN #129 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Michael Praetorius, 1609

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming,
by faithful prophets sung.
It came, a floweret bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the rose I have in mind;

with Mary we behold it,
the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
she bore for us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

This flower, whose fragrance tender
with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor
the darkness everywhere.
Enfleshed, yet very God,
from sin and death he saves us
and lightens every load.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

All: Gracious God, you revealed yourself in an ordinary circumstance: a birth. We wonder if we had been there, to experience it first hand, would we have recognized you? Or, would we have been put off by your parents' shabby clothes, the crude surroundings, the awful smell of animals, and the wailing cry of a new born baby? We acknowledge that we are often attracted to all that seems spectacular or sensational. We confess our inability to see you in places or in people that seem unlikely or unlikeable. Amen

WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

One: God came among us in a babe in Bethlehem to awaken hope in us, and assure us of a love that is everlasting. Let us receive the good news of this grace. **All: Thanks be to God!**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581

Gloria Patri

CALL FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Joe Clarke

OFFERTORY "The Shepherds at the Manger"

by Franz Liszt

HYMN #683: PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION "Lord of All Hopefulness"

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares can destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalms 148

Joe Clarke

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!
Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.
He established them for ever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and women alike,
old and young together!
Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.
He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.
Praise the Lord!
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word! **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN #113 *Angels We Have Heard On High* French Carol, 1700's

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Colossians 3:12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The Christmas Star

Reverend Lynne Vandercook

*HYMN #114

"Away in a Manger" William James Kirkpatrick, 1895

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

One: Creator God, wrap us in the shawl of compassion, so that this season of goodness and giving might last longer than the after-Christmas sales.

All: Slip our hands into the gloves of humility, so we might join in your work of rebuilding communities, feeding the hungry, embracing the outsiders.

One: Wisdom from on high, teach us your patient ways, so we would learn to notice what we have in common with others, rather than what divides us; so we might offer kindness in the face of bitterness and hurt.

All: May all we do with our hands, our hearts, our minds, our feet, our lives be done in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying, (*The Lord's Prayer*) Amen.

*HYMN#133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" John Francis Wade, 1743

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

[Refrain]

**O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!**

True God from true God,
Light from light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
very God, begotten, not created! [Refrain]
Sing, choirs of angels;
sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! [Refrain]

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! [Refrain]

*HYMN #132 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" 14th Cent. German Carol

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Hallelujah Chorus"

by G.F. Handel



*Flowers are donated by the Maxwell Family
in honor of their beloved, Luu Maxwell.*

Preacher: Rev. Lynne Vandercook **Liturgist:** Joe Clarke

Music: Althea Wright, Linda Burille, Chancel Choir,

Technology: Norm Smith, Phil Goede, Nico Wycoff

BOY SCOUT CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL FUNDRAISER:

The Troop 135 will be having its annual fundraiser January 1,2,8 and 9 picking up and disposing of people's Christmas Trees. Suggested donation = \$10.00. Anyone who wants their tree picked up to support the Boy Scout Troop fundraiser should call Noah Eiger at: 707-582-5256.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE ROSES

2500 Patio Court, Santa Rosa, Ca 95405 (707) 542-4272

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9 am-3pm

Email: office@churchoftheroses.org www.churchoftheroses.org

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**BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2022,
The church office will also be open on Mondays 10-2pm.**

PRAYER REQUESTS *Please include in your prayers*

Those mourning the death of their loved ones

- * The family of Lorraine Nichols, as they mourn her passing on Dec.21, 2021.
- * The family of Shirley Weber, as they mourn her passing on Dec. 3, 2021.
 - * The family of Barbara McElroy as they mourn her brother's passing.
- * The family of Janice Holmes as they mourn her passing on Oct. 23, 2021.
 - * The family of Tony Burille as they mourn his passing on Oct. 28, 2021.
 - * The family of Jake Parsons as they mourn his passing on Oct. 29, 2021.

Those with health issues

Bill Beaumont	Maryann Iodence	Bob Simmons
Dolores Borchers	Carolyn Kenworthy	Susan Smith
Patrick Butler	Margret Kram	Sharon Sorani
Peggy Call	Arnold Kuprian	Susie Vela
Doreen Cowden	Vivian Mazeski	Bob Weber
Pat Currier	Jessica Morse	Jill White
Eldon Davis	Beverly Mueller	Roger White
Dick Draper	Spencer Nguyen	Helen Wikle
Sam Gomes	Nancy Pinney	Betty Witchey-Ryer
Michele Hare	Lynette Randerson	Chris Yen's mom
Phil Henry	Rosa Rosillo	Avery Yudice
	Pamela Sage	

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.

NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ANNOUNCE NEW OFFICERS ON JANUARY 2, 2022.

We still need 3 Deacons, and we are accepting self-nominations so please consider joining the Deacons!

Thank you, Church of the Roses

DEADLINE FOR 2021 GIFTS

The last date to complete many gifts is 11 am, Friday, Dec. 31, 2021.


*Gift checks mailed via USPS with postmark and check date on or before Dec. 31, 2021 will be counted for 2021 regardless of when they are received or deposited by PCOR.

*Gift Checks dated Dec. 31, 2021 and hand delivered to the church office by 11 am, Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2021 will be counted for 2021, regardless of when they are deposited by the church.

If we have your email address, your 2021 Giving Statement will be emailed by the end of January 2022. Otherwise, it will be mailed. Look for it!

Giving Envelopes for 2022 can be picked up in Bowen Hall on Sunday, Dec. 26 and on Tuesdays throughout January. However, it is not necessary that you have these envelopes to facilitate your giving. You can continue to mail your offering to the church without the giving envelopes.

Understanding the New Testament
Returns in 2022!
Beginning January 10 at 7:00 p.m.
on Zoom and at church.



Professor Brake continues his lectures on the Gospels with
The Gospel of John

Reading this beloved Gospel ahead of class is recommended.

Join the **BOOMERS**



Oakland Zoo
Gondola Tram & California Trail
Saturday, January 15th
Advanced Reservations Required



See the Rose Clippings for more information
Welcoming all active adults.

