

WORSHIP



Sunday, December 25, 2022, Merry Christmas!

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Galatians 4:4-5

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Taylor Bleecker & Darlene Reisig

Welcome to Our Life Together

Tom Haugen

Prayer of Invocation

Music of Preparation

GIVING PRAISE TO GOD

***Call to Worship**

Luke 2:8-16

Leader: And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

People: But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Leader: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

People: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Leader: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

All: "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

3. Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

Confession of Sin Unison

Heavenly Father thank You that in the fullness of time, You sent forth Your Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we would receive adoption as sons and daughters. And we praise You for the promise that Jesus will come again. Yet Lord, we confess our struggle to believe Your promises to us. Our hearts are plagued with doubt, impatience, and unbelief. Forgive us and enable us by Your Holy Spirit to welcome and worship joyfully our Coming King. In his name we pray. Amen.

Take a moment to silently confess your sins, knowing that God hears you.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Luke 4:18-19

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Leader: Hear and believe the good news of the gospel!

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

GIVING OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

To give, there are baskets near the entrance, you can also mail or drop your tithes and offerings in the box outside the office doors, scan the QR code or follow [the online link](#). Remember our tithes and offerings are a continued act of worship and a physical act of trusting all of our lives to Jesus as we join God in his work in our community and around the world.

Prayer of Dedication for Our Tithes & Offerings

Janet Gates

Music of Reflection

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Doxology means "glory words." We lift our voices and our hands to give God glory for who He is and all He has done.

Prayers for the Church and the World

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

No. 128

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good-will to men,
From heav'n's all-gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.
2. Still thru the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

3. And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing.

4. For lo, the days are hast'ning on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years
Shall come the time foretold,
When the new heav'n and earth shall own
The Prince of Peace their King,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Scripture

Luke 2:1-20

Sermon

Glorious Impossible

Tom Haugen

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

***Hymn of Response**

O Come, All ye Faithful

No. 145

1. 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!

2. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
[Refrain]

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n:
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing! **[Refrain]**

***Benediction**

Postlude



Sermon Notes:

Welcome to El Montecito Presbyterian Church

Welcome Visitors! We are glad you are worshiping with us today. **Please fill out a Visitor Card** found at the entrance or email us at admin@elmopres.org so we can get to know you better and send you our weekly newsletter. You can also connect with us on our website at: elmopres.org or on Instagram @elmopres or subscribe to our YouTube channel: El Montecito Presbyterian Church.

ELMO Pres Kids & Youth

ELMO Pres Kids & Youth at 9:00 a.m. for nursery-8th grade. No ELMO Pres Kids program on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Children's Church for nursery-kindergarten age children (age 0-6) from 10:00-11:00 a.m. The nursery/preschool rooms will be available today and Jan 1 for parents and children to use, but they will not be staffed. Live stream will be available at elmopres.org
Elementary age children remain in worship. **Pick up a worship activity guide** on your way into worship!

Middle School (5th—8th) Friday Nights at ELMO Pres 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month from 6:30—8:30 p.m. Pizza! Games! Bible! Fun!

High School Bible Study: Friday mornings from 7:15—8:10 a.m. at Dune Coffee on Anacapa. Will resume on January 6 or 13?

Sign up for the ELMO Pres Family Newsletter for more information on events, discipleship and service opportunities for youth, children and families. Email: LauriHaugen@elmopres.org.

Caring

Please take some time to pray specifically for the needs of the Church, local community, state, country and world. Email your prayer requests to prayers@elmopres.org.

Our Ministry Partners the Bultemas, Callisons, Ostbys, Warners, Vivancos. Mayu Luz Gullien Villanueva, Everetts at Rancho Sordo Mundo and Pastor Noe Perez Gomez at Iglesia Cristo es el Camino, SB Rescue Mission, Transition House and Network Medical Women's Center of SB.

Jon Wentzel and James Wentzel, both serving in the Air Force as Lt. Cols. and F-16 pilots, sons of Bob and Nancy Phinney. Jack Burrows, the grandson of Sydney and Peter Tredick, currently serving in the Army's 101st Airborne "Screaming Eagles" Division.

Bereavement for the family and friends of Bill Allmon.

Joyce Hutchinson, for continued healing and peace.

Ann Marie King, for her unstable heart condition and wisdom from her doctors.

Curtis Whiteman for continued recovery.

The people of Ukraine.

Connecting & Serving

Adult Discipleship, Sunday January 8, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Library

Join us to hear from our global outreach partners, Manuel and Laura Vivanco, about ministry in southern Mexico, primarily in Mexico City's greater metropolitan area.

Women in the Word, Mondays at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall

"Pursuing Joy" includes the books of Philippians, Galatians and Ephesians. Will be taking a break from Dec. 26—Jan. 2, returning to study Jan. 9th, 2023.

Women's Bible Study, Thursdays 7:45 - 9:00 a.m. at IHOP

Will resume study of the book of Daniel with Tremper Longman III on January 5th, 2023.

Men's Bible Study, Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Library

You're invited to join us in a study of the Book of John. Bring your Bible, coffee is provided.

Connect with our Ministry Partners

Please continue sending notes of encouragement to our Ministry Partners:

Greg and Chris Callison: gregandchris@callison.net; James and Renata Bultema:

jamesbultema@spccturkey.com, renatabultema@spccturkey.com, Dana and Karen Ostby:

danaostby@gmail.com, karina@lite.email; and Ryan and Brittany Warner: rwarner@fca.org,

bwarner@fca.org, United World Mission, Mexico, Mayu Guillen Villanueva:

mayuguivi@gmail.com and Manuel & Laura Vivanco: laura.vivanco@uwm.org, Rancho

Sordo Mundo, Ed Everett: ranchosordomudo@hotmail.com, Luke Everett:

sanlucasrsm@gmail.com.

Acts 1:8 Connection: The Warners, Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Santa Barbara

- Prayer for our huddles on high school and college campuses. That student leaders would be bold in sharing with their peers the life-giving good news of the Gospel.
- Prayers for our staff and interns as they continue to serve the Lord on school campuses around Santa Barbara.
- That the joy of the lord would be our strength as we head into another year of ministry.

Thank you for your support and prayers as FCA continues to grow!

God is with you! And, we're here for you in person, by phone or online.

Office hours, Monday—Thursday, 9 AM to 2 PM

Rev. Dr. Tom Haugen, Pastor
Rev. Lauri Haugen, Asst. Pastor to Families
Brad Catron, Facilities Manager
Maryann Spradley, Office Administrator
Michele Sullivan, Accountant
The Entire Congregation, Ministers of the Gospel

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Christine Hale, Early School Director

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Elders

Tom Haugen, Moderator
Janet Gates, Clerk of Session
Erin Barr, Facility & Property
Shelley Fogg, Children's Ministries
Terry Foil, Early School
Nathan Gates, Outreach
Rob Hale, Adult Discipleship
Susan Hughes, Congregational Life
Ginger Ketzal, Nominating
Barbara Mendelson, Finance
Mary Slater, Human Resources
Jeffrey Smith, Youth Ministries

Deacons

Betty Delk, Co-Moderator
Jeff Delk, Co-Moderator
Kersten Barr
Cathy Clemens, Holiday Gifts
Judy Cooper-Ashford
Chase Enright, Greeters
Melissa Hillegas, Hospital Visitation
Pam Jepson, Care Notes
Paul Jepson
Brian Johnson, Memorial Receptions
Martha Kay, Chancel Flower Distribution
Barbara Kennedy, Secretary & Treasurer

If you would like to connect with our **Elders**: elders@elmopres.org,

Deacons: deacons@elmopres.org or have a **facilities request**: facilities@elmopres.org



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