

WORSHIP



Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024

*"For the Mighty One has done great things for me - holy is his name.
His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation." Luke 1:49-50*

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Welcome to Our Life Together

Tom Haugen

Prayer of Invocation

Music of Preparation

El Montecito Early School Students

GIVING PRAISE TO GOD

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 96

Leader: Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

People: Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

Leader: For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods.

People: For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary.

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD, all you families of nations, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

People: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts.

Leader: Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.

All: Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns." The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity. Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy. Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth. He will judge in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Joy

Ryan & Brittany Warner
Mackenzie, Vera, Ellie & Grace

*Hymn of Praise

Joy to the World

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| 1. Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing | 3. 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 |
| 2. Joy to the earth the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy | 4. 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 |

Confession of Sin Unison

O Holy God of Promise, we so often place our trust in the things we can see and touch, and easily believe. But you did not ask us to believe what is easy, you have asked that we believe what is true! Forgive us, Holy One, when we doubt the ways you work. Forgive us when we find it hard to believe an ancient story. Forgive us when we question how you chose to enter the world, born as one of us. Forgive our lack of faith and belief in ways which seem improbable to believe. Help us to look in full faith, open our hearts and set aside our doubts that you sent your Son, born of a virgin - the one who has come to set us free. We offer these prayers and confess our sin in the name of your Son, Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Ephesians 2:7-8

For it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

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

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

GIVING OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

In addition to giving through the passed offering plates, you are welcome to give online at our website, or scan the QR code on the back cover. Our tithes and offerings are a continued act of worship and a physical act of trusting 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

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.**

Children are excused to their ELMO Kids classrooms downstairs in the Creative Studios.

Prayers for the Church and the World

Ginger Ketzell

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

***Hymn of Preparation** Of the Father's Love Begotten

1. Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be
He is Alpha and Omega
He the Source, the Ending He
Of the things that are
That have been
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore!
2. O ye heights of heav'n adore Him
Angel hosts, His praises sing
Pow'rs, dominions bow before Him
And extol our God and King
Let no tongue on earth be silent
Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore!
3. Christ, to Thee with God the Father
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high
thanksgiving
And unwearied praises be
Honor, glory, and dominion
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore!

Scripture

Luke 1:39-56

Sermon

"Unspeakable Joy"

Tom Haugen

T-coil available for hearing impaired, use channel B. Please see our ushers for more information.

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn of Response

He Who is Mighty

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| 1. Oh the mercy our God has shown
To those who sit in death's shadow
The sun on high pierced the night
Born was the Cornerstone | 2. Oh the freedom our Savior won
The yoke of sin has been broken
Once a slave now by grace
No more condemnation |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Pre-Chorus

Unto us a Son is given
Unto us a Child is born

Bridge

(Now) My soul magnifies the Lord
I rejoice in the God Who saves
I will trust His unfailing love
I will sing His praises all my days

Chorus

He Who is mighty has done a great thing
Taken on flesh conquered death's sting
Shattered the darkness and lifted our
shame
Holy is His name
(Holy is His name)

*Benediction

Postlude

*Thank you to our musicians serving in ELMO's music ministry:
Deborah Bertling, Mary Hurt, Emily Sommermann & David Talbott*

Finance Team Update: *Thank you for your faithful giving to the flourishing work of God here at ELMO and beyond! Your contributions are greatly appreciated.*

YTD through October, 2024

Revenue	\$270,665.32
Expense	(\$320,209.33)
Net Income/(Loss)	(\$49,544.01)

Welcome to El Montecito Presbyterian Church



Welcome Visitors! We are glad you are worshiping with us today.

Please fill out a visitor card or email us at admin@elmopres.org so we may get to know you better and send you our weekly newsletter. You may also connect with us on our website at: elmopres.org, find us on Instagram @elmopres, or subscribe to our YouTube channel: El Montecito Presbyterian Church.

ELMO Pres Kids, Youth & College

Nursery (ages 0-2.5) & **Preschool** (ages 2.5-5) 9:50 a.m. until end of worship in the Pre-K classrooms. No childcare on December 29th.

ELMO Pres Kids (K-7th) are dismissed after the Doxology to the Creative Studios. Please pick up your child after worship. Children remain in worship on December 29th.

ELMO Pres Youth Group (6th—12th): Join us in the Creative Studios on the 1st & 3rd Friday nights of the month from 6-8 p.m. for dinner, games, fun and a deep dive into the Gospel of Luke. Nextup: December 20th and January 17th.

College: Rides from Westmont (pick-up at 9:40 a.m. at Clark Dorm). Campus Bible Study: Westmont Prayer Chapel, Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Contact tomhaugen@elmopres.org

To sign up for the ELMO Pres Family Newsletter, email LauriHaugen@elmopres.org

Caring

Please take time to pray for the needs of the Church, local community, state, country and world. Email prayer requests to prayers@elmopres.org. In addition, please pray for:

- Safety for those serving in the armed forces, including Lt. Morgan Hale, U.S. Navy; Lt. Miles Hale, U.S. Army; Lt. Col. James Wentzel, U.S. Air Force, Cpl. Jack Burrows U.S. Army, AE3 Alex Barr, U.S. Navy.
- For our covenant partners dealing with ongoing health issues and recovery from surgeries: Alice Amspoker, Dan Van Elderen, Curt & Erlyne Whiteman, Mandi Wright.
- The family of Dan Van Elderen, brother of Darlene James, as they mourn his passing.
- The family and friends of Blanche Heitkamp as they mourn her loss.
- The friends and family of Marie-Christine Wolseley as they mourn her passing. Especially her husband Michael and their three daughters.
- Tristan Baker, great-grandson of Bruce Stockin, undergoing treatment for leukemia.
- For peace in conflict zones including Haiti, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Iran, Sudan (Darfur), Syria and Ethiopia.

Acts 1:8 Connection: Outreach Ministries

El Montecito Presbyterian Church supports numerous ministries and organizations near and far, including the ministry of Manuel and Laura Vivanco of Mexico City. Laura is the daughter of our long-term member, Ann Marie King.

- Manuel and Laura’s daughter Kelly, a 2024 Westmont graduate, is teaching and ministering in India.
- Manuel has been speaking at many multi-church events in the city. Laura writes “It’s always great to see churches coming together in unity and in purpose to reach the lost.”
- She adds, “At each gathering, we joined with pastors to affirm their leadership, encourage believers – both new and more experienced – and invite guests to consider Christ and pray for those with health troubles.”

Connecting & Serving

Sunday Adult Discipleship, Survey of the Old Testament, ages 13+ welcome. Library at 9 a.m. Suggested donation is \$20. To sign up, email admin@elmopres.org

Prayer Time, Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

Women in the Word, Mondays, 9:30 a.m. Studying Acts.

Women’s Bible Study, Thursdays, 7:45 - 9 a.m. at IHOP at 1701 State St.

Men’s Bible Study, Thursdays, 9-10 a.m. in the Library. Studying Ephesians.

Christmas Eve: Join us for a Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols at 4 & 5:30 p.m.

Church Office closed December 25-January 3

Connect with our Ministry Partners: Encourage our ministry partners with a note:

James & Renata Bultema: jamesbultema@spccturkey.com, renatabultema@spccturkey.com;

Greg & Chris Callison: gregandchris@callison.net; Dana & Karen Ostby:

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

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

mayuguivi@gmail.com; Manuel & Laura Vivanco: laura.vivanco@uwm.org; Rancho Sordo

Mundo, Ed Everett: ranchsordomudo@hotmail.com, Luke Everett:

sanlucasrsm@gmail.com.

Triple R Capital Campaign Update

We’ve raised \$1,524,700 toward our \$1.7M goal! Due to the generosity of an anonymous family at our church, any gift given to the campaign between now and the end of the year will receive an additional \$1,000, up to \$100,000! The donors’ hope is to involve 100 more people to support the campaign!

Office hours, Monday—Thursday, 9 a.m.—2 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Tom Haugen, Pastor
Rev. Lauri Haugen, Asst. Pastor to Families
Brad Catron, Facilities Manager
Mary Hurt, Worship Director
Ashley Olsen, Office Manager
Barbara Mendelson, Treasurer
Michele Sullivan, Accountant

El Montecito Early School

Christine Hale, Early School Director
The Entire Congregation, Ministers of the Gospel

805-969-5041

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Elders

Tom Haugen, Moderator
Janet Gates, Clerk of Session
Erin Barr
Terry Foil
Nathan Gates
Kirk Gilbert
Larry James
Mary Slater

Deacons

Darlene James, Chair
Kersten Barr, Community Life
Judy Cooper-Ashford, Cards & Care Gifts
Susan Dau, Congregational Care, Secretary
Shirley Fender, Joy Reflected Ministry, Ushers
Pamela Gilbert, Receptions, Secretary
Brian Johnson, Receptions
Fran Lambeth, Congregational Care

If you would like to connect with one of the following, please email:

Elders: elders@elmopres.org

Deacons: deacons@elmopres.org

Facilities: facilities@elmopres.org

Prayer Chain: prayers@elmopres.org



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