

# WORSHIP



Communion Sunday, January 5, 2025

*Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first."*  
Revelation 2:4

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## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Mary Hurt

Welcome to Our Life Together

Kirk Gilbert

Prayer of Invocation

Music of Preparation

## GIVING PRAISE TO GOD

**\*Call to Worship**

Colossians 1:13-20

Leader: Praise to the Father of our Lord Jesus:

**People: For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of the Son he loves.**

Leader: Praise to Christ:

**People: In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.**

Leader: For in him all things were created, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

**All: We exalt you as our Lord: For He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And He is the head of the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him reconcile all things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.**

## \*Hymn of Praise

## Crown Him with Many Crowns

1. Crown Him with many crowns  
The Lamb upon His throne  
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns  
All music but its own  
Awake my soul and sing  
Of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless King  
Through all eternity
2. Crown Him the Lord of life  
Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife  
For those He came to save  
His glories now we sing  
Who died and rose on high  
Who died eternal life to bring  
And lives that death may die
3. Crown Him the Lord of love  
Behold His hands and side  
Rich wounds yet visible above  
In beauty glorified  
No angel in the sky  
Can fully bear that sight  
But downward bends each burning eye  
At mysteries so bright
4. Crown Him the Lord of years  
The Potentate of time  
Creator of the rolling spheres  
Ineffably sublime  
All hail Redeemer hail  
For Thou hast died for me  
Thy praise shall never never fail  
Throughout eternity

## 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**

Nathan 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.**

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

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

### **\*Hymn of Preparation**

### My Jesus I Love Thee

1. My Jesus I love Thee I know Thou art mine  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign  
My gracious Redeemer my Savior art Thou  
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now
  
2. I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me  
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree  
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow  
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now
  
3. I'll love Thee in life I will love Thee in death  
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath  
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow  
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now
  
4. In mansions of glory and endless delight  
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright  
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow  
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

**Scripture**

Revelation 2:1-7

**Sermon**

*"Our First Love"*

Dana Allin

## **CELEBRATING COMMUNION**

### **Confession of Sin** Unison

**Most Holy and Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us to change what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Pastor: Hear and believe in the good news of the gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are cleansed and forgiven!**

### **The Celebration of Communion**

*You have an individual prepackaged communion kit. We will eat the bread and drink the cup together as we remember Christ's death and resurrection and celebrate our common union in Christ.*

## **GOING IN GOD'S NAME**

### **The Lord's Prayer** Unison

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

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

**\*Hymn of Response**

Be Thou My Vision/Lord You Are

1. Be Thou my Vision O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light
2. Be Thou my Wisdom and Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one
3. Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance now and always  
Thou and Thou only first in my heart  
High King of Heaven my Treasure Thou art

*Bridge*

- You are more precious than silver  
Lord You are more costly than gold  
Lord You are more beautiful than diamonds  
And nothing I desire compares with You
4. High King of heaven my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys oh bright heaven's Sun  
Heart of my own heart what ever befall  
Still be my Vision O Ruler of all

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

## Welcome to El Montecito Presbyterian Church



**Welcome Visitors!** We are glad you are worshipping with us today.

**Please fill out a visitor card** or email us at [admin@elmopres.org](mailto: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](http://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.

**ELMO Pres Kids** (K-7th) are dismissed after the Doxology to the Creative Studios. Please pick up your child after worship.

**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. Next youth group is January 17!

**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](mailto:tomhaugen@elmopres.org)

*To sign up for the ELMO Pres Family Newsletter, email [LauriHaugen@elmopres.org](mailto: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](mailto: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: Darlene James and Curt & Erlyne Whiteman.
- Bereavement for the friends and family of Dan Van Elderen, brother of Darlene James.
- Bereavement for friends and family of: David Grey, husband of Phyllis Grey; Blanche Heitkamp and Marie-Christine Wolseley. Blanche's memorial will be here Saturday, January 11 at 2 p.m.
- Tristan Baker, great-grandson of Bruce Stockin, undergoing treatment for leukemia.

## Acts 1:8 Connection: Outreach Ministries

El Montecito Presbyterian Church supports numerous ministries and organizations near and far, including Jim and Renata Bultema serving in Turkey for over 30 years. Their ministries operate under the SPCC Turkish Foundation “for the good of Antalya and to the glory of God.” Please pray:

- Pray that both the Saint Paul's Cultural Center and Mozaik Cultural Center continue to experience growth in their multiple congregations and in the use and visitation of the Centers' daily programs and businesses.
- Pray for dedicated co-workers to fill the various staffing vacancies in their ministries at both Centers and at Olive Grove Camp.

## 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](mailto:admin@elmopres.org)

**Sunday Adult Discipleship Prayer Workshop:** *“Our true aim must not be to work a great deal and pray just enough to keep the work right. We should pray a great deal and then work enough for the power and blessing obtained in prayer to find its way through us to others.”* That was the assessment of Andrew Murray, a man who got a lot done in his life. In that same spirit, Ben Patterson will be leading a prayer workshop – equal parts instruction and practice – beginning Sunday, January 19 through Sunday February 23. Each session will begin shortly after worship at 11:30 am, and end promptly at 12:30 pm. You’ll have just enough time after worship to greet friends and grab a cup of coffee!

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

**Women in the Word**, Mondays at 9:30 a.m. studying Acts.

**Women’s Bible Study**, Thursdays at 7:45 - 9 a.m. at IHOP at 1701 State St. Join the study on “Disciplines of a Godly Woman.”

**Men’s Bible Study**, Thursdays at 9 - 10 a.m. in the Library. Bring your Bible to participate in a study of Revelation. Coffee is provided.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**, Third Thursday of the month, 1:30-3:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

**Connect with our Ministry Partners:**

Our ministry partners enjoy receiving encouraging notes. Reach them this way:

Greg & Chris Callison: [gregandchris@callison.net](mailto:gregandchris@callison.net); James & Renata Bultema:

[jamesbultema@spccturkey.com](mailto:jamesbultema@spccturkey.com), [renatabultema@spccturkey.com](mailto:renatabultema@spccturkey.com); Dana & Karen Ostby:

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[mayuguivi@gmail.com](mailto:mayuguivi@gmail.com); Manuel & Laura Vivanco: [laura.vivanco@uwm.org](mailto:laura.vivanco@uwm.org); Rancho Sordo

Mundo, Ed Everett: [ranchsordomudo@hotmail.com](mailto:ranchsordomudo@hotmail.com), Luke Everett: [sanlucasrsm@gmail.com](mailto:sanlucasrsm@gmail.com).

**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*

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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](mailto:elders@elmopres.org)  
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