

# WORSHIP



Communion Sunday, February 2, 2025

*"Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." - Psalm 139:23-24*

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## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Mary Hurt

Welcome to Our Life Together

Tom Haugen

Prayer of Invocation

Music of Preparation

## GIVING PRAISE TO GOD

Catechism Question<sup>1</sup>: Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die?

**Answer: Since death is the punishment for sin, Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God. By his substitutionary death, he alone redeems us from hell and gains us forgiveness of sin, righteousness, and everlasting life.**

**\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 91

Leader: Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

**People: I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."**

Leader: Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

**People: A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near to you. You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.**

Leader: If you say, "The LORD is my refuge," and you make the Most High your dwelling, no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent.

**People: For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against the stone.**

Leader: You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

**All: "Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.**

1. *The New City Catechism, Crossway*

*\* Please stand as you are able.*

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

## **O Worship The King**

1. O worship the King all glorious above  
And gratefully sing His power and His love  
Our Shield and Defender the Ancient of Days  
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise
2. O tell of His might O sing of His grace  
Whose robe is the light whose canopy space  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form  
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm
3. Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite  
It breathes in the air it shines in the light  
It streams from the hills it descends to the plain  
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain
4. Frail children of dust and feeble as frail  
In Thee do we trust nor find Thee to fail  
Thy mercies how tender how firm to the end  
Our Maker Defender Redeemer and Friend

## **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**

Connie Wilson

## **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.*

**Affirmation of Faith** Unison

The Apostle's Creed

**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      Even There Your Hand Will Guide**

1. Though I fly to distant lands  
Carried by the dawn, lifted on her wings  
Though my heart grow slowly cold  
And my eyes behold dark and dreadful things  
Though my legs should strain to run the race  
On the path unmarked, in the lonely place  
Even there your hand will guide  
Even there your hand will guide
2. Though my enemy press in  
And my courage fail as a crumbling wall  
Though the mountains blaze with fire  
And the ground beneath me quake and fall  
I will turn my eyes to Christ my Lord  
Who calms the sea and turns back the sword  
Even here your hand will guide  
Even here your hand will guide
3. Though the gates of death loom grim  
And the darkened road leads ever down  
Though the path grow ever dim  
And ten thousand scheme to do me harm  
I will follow Christ my captain bold  
Who has vanquished death and sin untold  
And will guide me safely home  
He will guide me safely home

Scripture

Psalm 139

Sermon

*"The Hand That Holds You"*

Ben Patterson

## CELEBRATING COMMUNION

Confession of Sin Unison

**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion, blot out my transgressions. Wash away my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. Cleanse me with hyssop and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Amen**

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

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

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**

**Christ Our Hope in Life and Death**

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|--|---|
| 1. What is our hope in life and death<br>Christ alone Christ alone<br>What is our only confidence<br>That our souls to Him belong<br>Who holds our days within His hand<br>What comes apart from His command<br>And what will keep us to the end<br>The love of Christ in which we stand | 2. What truth can calm the troubled soul<br>God is good God is good<br>Where is His grace and goodness known<br>In our great Redeemer's blood<br>Who holds our faith when fears arise<br>Who stands above the stormy trial<br>Who sends the waves that bring us nigh<br>Unto the shore the rock of Christ |
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*Chorus*

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| O sing hallelujah<br>Our hope springs eternal<br>O sing hallelujah<br>Now and ever we confess<br>Christ our hope in life and death | 3. Unto the grave what will we sing<br>Christ He lives Christ He lives<br>And what reward will heaven bring<br>Everlasting life with Him<br>There we will rise to meet the Lord<br>Then sin and death will be destroyed<br>And we will feast in endless joy<br>When Christ is ours forevermore |
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**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Thank you to our musicians serving in ELMO's music ministry:*

*Mary Hurt & Emily Sommermann*

## 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 meets February 7!

**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: Cynde Lundgren, Darlene James and Curt & Erlyne Whiteman.
- Bereavement for the friends and family of Dan Van Elderen, brother of Darlene James.
- Bereavement for the friends and family of Sharon Anne Harrison, mother of Sara Moses and grandmother of Mary Moses.
- Pray for all those impacted by the LA fires who are grieving. Ask God to comfort those who have evacuated amidst uncertainty and for God to protect firefighters, first responders and those working in active fire zones.
- 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 the ministry of Greg and Chris Callison. Greg and Chris initially served the Kurdish community in Berlin, Germany and have continued to minister among the Kurds with The Antioch Partners. We can further support the Callisons by praying:

- For Greg and Chris, as they reconnect with Kurdish friends and ministry partners following their return on Jan 10 after their home assignment in the US and Greg's cataract surgeries in Berlin
- For Olid, their Syrian Kurdish manager of our Hope House Ministry Center, pray for his marriage.
- For their mentoring friendship with Pastor Adil, the young Egyptian pastor of the new Arabic language Presbyterian Church in their city and Rouzza, his wife, a physician, and their two young children as they work through the challenges of church planting in a mostly Muslim culture.

## **Connecting & Serving**

**Sunday Adult Discipleship Survey of the Old Testament**, ages 13+ welcome. Library at 9 a.m. Book fee is \$20.

**Sunday Adult Discipleship Prayer Workshop**: 11:30-12:30, through Feb. 23 in the library. Led by Ben Patterson.

**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. New study: 1 & 2 Peter!

**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.

**Transition House Team**, contact Barb Kennedy at [bkennedy@westmont.edu](mailto:bkennedy@westmont.edu) if interested.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**, Third Thursday every month, 1:30-3:30 in Fellowship Hall. In the last year, we've given 50 prayer shawls and baby blankets to those in need of a warm hug or young families welcoming a new baby. Join us to knit, crochet or if your gift is quilting, bring your machine and join us. Contact Fran Lambeth for more information.

**Nursery & Preschool Ministry**, we need help sharing Christ with the youngest members of our church and their families. Email [laurihaugen@elmopres.org](mailto:laurihaugen@elmopres.org) if you can help!

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

Deacons: [deacons@elmopres.org](mailto:deacons@elmopres.org)

Facilities: [facilities@elmopres.org](mailto:facilities@elmopres.org)

Prayer Chain: [prayers@elmopres.org](mailto:prayers@elmopres.org)



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