

WORSHIP

El Montecito
Presbyterian Church



Sunday, March 23, 2025

“Even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.’ Joel 2: 12-13

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 Question¹: What do we believe by true faith?

Answer: We believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. We 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.

1. *The New City Catechism*, Crossway

* Please stand as you are able.

*Call to Worship

Psalm 103

Leader: Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

People: Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Leader: As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

People: For he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field; the wind blows over it and it is gone and its place remembers it no more.

Leader: But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children - with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.

All: The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD, my soul.

*Hymn of Praise

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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|--|---|
| 1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
The King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him,
For He is thy health and salvation
All ye who hear, now to His temple
draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration! | 3. Praise to the Lord, Who doth prosper
Thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here
daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty
can do,
If with His love He befriend thee. |
| 2. Praise to the Lord, Who over all things
So wondrously reigneth
Shelters thee under His wings
Yea so gently sustaineth
Hast thou not seen how thy desires ever
have been
Granted in what He ordaineth. | 4. Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
Come now with praises before Him.
Let the "Amen!" sound from His
people again:
Gladly forever adore Him. |

Confession of Sin Unison

Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin. Forgive our frivolous attitude toward life, our callousness toward suffering, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law. Help us to change our way of life so that we desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalm 103:8-12

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are from the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

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

Connie Wilson

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer

1. O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
Greatest treasure of my longing soul
My God, like You there is no other
True delight is found in You alone
Your grace, a well too deep to fathom
Your love exceeds the heavens' reach
Your truth, a fount of perfect wisdom
My highest good and my unending need
2. O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
Strong defender of my weary heart
My sword to fight the cruel deceiver
And my shield against his hateful darts
My song when enemies surround me
My hope when tides of sorrow rise
My joy when trials are abounding
Your faithfulness, my refuge in the night
3. O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
Gracious Savior of my ruined life
My guilt and cross laid on Your
shoulders
In my place You suffered bled and died
You rose, the grave and death are
conquered
You broke my bonds of sin and shame
O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
May all my days bring glory to Your
Name

Scripture

Joel

Sermon

"The God of Second Chances"

Tom Haugen

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn of Response

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

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

Chorus

O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

3. Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ He lives Christ He lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

Ministry Moment

Bible Study Fellowship

Terry Foil

***Benediction**

Postlude

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.

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 April 4 & 18!

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

This Summer: Adventure Week for 6th-8th graders, June 16-20, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
ELMO SINGS for 1st-6th graders, June 23-27, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. See newsletter for details!

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, Sgt. Jack Burrows, U.S. Army, AE3 Alex Barr, U.S. Navy.
- For our covenant partners dealing with ongoing health issues and recovery from surgeries: Glen Adams, Darlene James, Ann Marie King, Cynde Lundgren, Marilyn Nichols, Curt & Erlyne Whiteman.
- Bereavement for the family and friends of Pat Clemens and Ben Luce.
- Tristan Baker, great-grandson of Bruce Stockin, who has leukemia. Pray for God's protection over Tristan's heart as he begins a new treatment. Pray for his health and energy and all his helpers as they provide care.

Acts 1:8 Connection: Outreach Ministries

El Montecito Presbyterian Church supports ministries and service organizations near and far, including Bible Study Fellowship, which we host on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11. The mission of BSF is global, in-depth Bible studies producing passionate commitment to Christ, His Word and His Church. The vision is to magnify God and mature His people. BSF meets in over 120 countries around the world and over 400,000 men, women and children participate in BSF! One of the chief aims of BSF is to train its participants to be leaders in their own church – it is not a substitute for church – and to lead those who don't know Christ into a deep relationship with Him as they come to know Him in all his fullness through his word. Please pray:

- For perseverance for BSF class members and leaders as they finish the year.
- For living out the Biblical truths they have been learning.
- For a strong group of leaders to step forward in faith and service for next year.
- For the children in BSF to meet Jesus and accept Him into their tender hearts as their Savior.

A note from BSF leadership to ELMO: *Thank you for your ongoing gracious hospitality as you host us! We cannot thank you enough for asking us into this church, which is safe and dry, having met under an open tent for the last 4 years. We pray as a group for the safety and ministry of ELMO Pres. every week.*

Connecting & Serving

Sunday Adult Discipleship Survey of New Testament. Library at 9 a.m. Book fee is \$20.

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 1 & 2 Peter. Coffee is provided.

Coffee Fellowship Team needs volunteers! Training provided. Email kerstenbarr@gmail.com

Easter Choir, pick-up your materials in the church office.

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 5:30 p.m. Communion and Potluck Dinner

Good Friday, April 18, 12:30 p.m. Worship Gathering.

New Covenant Partner Class, Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m in the Creative Studios.

Continental breakfast and lunch provided. RSVP to admin@elmopres.org

Connect with our Ministry Partners: Our ministry partners enjoy receiving encouraging notes.

Reach them this way: Greg & Chris Callison: gregandchris@callison.net; James & Renata

Bultema: jamesbultema@spccturkey.com, renatabultema@spccturkey.com; Dana & Karen

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

bwarners@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.

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

tomhaugen@elmopres.org
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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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