



Sunday, August 24, 2025

"So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth,
who will trust you with true riches?"

Luke 16:11

## **GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

**Prelude** 

Welcome to Our Life Together

Tom Haugen

**Prayer of Invocation** 

**Music of Preparation** 

### **GIVING PRAISE TO GOD**

\*Call to Worship Psalm 1

Leader: Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers.

People: But whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither - whatever they do prospers.

Leader: Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away.

All: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand as you are able.

You made the starry hosts
 You traced the mountain peaks
 You paint the evening skies with
 wonders
 The earth it is Your throne
 From desert to the sea
 All nature testifies Your splendor

#### Chorus 1

Praise the Lord
Praise the Lord
Sing His greatness
All creation
Praise the Lord
Raise your voice
You heights and all you depths
From furthest east to west
Let everything that has breath
Praise the Lord

2. You reached into the dust
In love Your Spirit breathed
You formed us in Your very likeness
To know Your wondrous works
To tell Your mighty deeds
To join the everlasting chorus

3. Let symphonies resound
Let drums and choirs ring out
All heaven hear the sound of worship
Let every nation bring
Its honors to the King
A roar of harmonies eternal

#### Chorus 2

Praise the Lord
Praise the Lord
Sing His greatness
All creation
Praise the Lord
Raise your voice
You heights and all you depths
From furthest east to west
You distant burning stars
All creatures near and far
From sky to sea to shore
Sing out forevermore
Let everything that has breath
Praise the Lord

### Confession of Sin Unison

Merciful God, We come to You in need of grace. We confess that we have sinned—in the things we've done, and in the things we've left undone. We've tried to cover our guilt, to hide our faults, to manage our sin on our own. But it only leaves us empty and weary. You call us to confess, to come into the light, to find freedom in Your forgiveness. So we bring our sin to You now—trusting that You are faithful to forgive, slow to anger, and rich in steadfast love. Wash us clean, restore our joy, and lead us in Your ways again. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior, we pray. Amen.

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

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Psalm 32

"I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and You forgave the guilt of my sin."

Leader: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

# GIVING OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

In addition to giving through the passed offering plates, you are welcome to give online on our website or scan the QR code with your phone's camera. 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** 

Melia Haugen

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.

Prayers for the Church and the World

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

## \*Hymn of Preparation

- Take my life and let it be Consecrated Lord to Thee Take my moments and my days Let them flow in ceaseless praise
- 2. Take my hands and let them move
  At the impulse of Thy love
  Take my feet and let them be
  Swift and beautiful for Thee

Take My Life and Let it Be

- 3. Take my silver and my gold
  Not a mite would I withhold
  Take my intellect and use
  Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose
- 4. Take my love my Lord I pour At Thy feet its treasure store Take myself and I will be Ever only all for Thee

# Scripture Sermon

"A Good Lesson From a Bad Example"  $\,$ 

Luke 16: 1-9 Tom Haugen



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

### \*Hymn of Response

Should nothing of our efforts stand
 No legacy survive
 Unless the Lord does raise the house
 In vain its builders strive
 To you who boast tomorrow's gain
 Tell me what is your life
 A mist that vanishes at dawn
 All glory be to Christ

#### Chorus

All glory be to Christ our king All glory be to Christ His rule and reign we'll ever sing All glory be to Christ All Glory Be to Christ

- 2. His will be done His kingdom come
  On earth as is above
  Who is Himself our daily bread
  Praise Him the Lord of love
  Let living water satisfy
  The thirsty without price
  We'll take a cup of kindness yet
  All glory be to Christ
- 3. When on the day the great I Am
  The faithful and the true
  The Lamb who was for sinners slain
  Is making all things new
  Behold our God shall live with us
  And be our steadfast light
  And we shall e'er his people be
  All glory be to Christ

#### \*Benediction

#### **Postlude**

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

Dana Stewart & Mary Hurt

# 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. During the summer, childcare available for ages 0-5.

**ELMO Pres Kids** (K-7th) Regular programming for ELMO Pres Kids is on summer break. Elementary aged students remain in the worship gathering, Activity guides are available in the narthex. ELMO Pres Kids resumes on Sept. 7th.

**ELMO Pres Youth Group** (6th-12th) Friday Nights at ELMO resumes on the first & third Friday of the month from 6:00– 8:00 pm: September 5th + 17th. Dinner, games, Bible Study, and community: Bring a friend!

# 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 AE3 Alex Barr, U.S. Navy;
   Sgt. Jack Burrows, U.S. Navy; Lt. Col. James Wentzel, U.S. Air Force.
- For Hayden Catron working as a fire fighter this summer.
- For our covenant partners dealing with ongoing health issues and recovery from surgeries: Chris Ashford, Josefina Everett, Ann Marie King, Donna Medwid, Rand Olsen, Bruce Stockin, Curt & Erlyne Whiteman.
- Bereavement for the Noe Family and the West Family.
- Tristan Baker, 5 year old great-grandson of Bruce Stockin, who is going back to school. Pray for protection from any infections.
- Jackson Zerwas, an ELMO Pres Youth Leader and pre-med senior at Westmont College as he completes his Global Health requirement in Uganda this Fall semester.

## **Acts 1:8 Connection: Outreach Ministries**

El Montecito has responded to the call to "love locally" by embracing Cleveland Elementary School over the years. This week, several El Montecito members served as school greeters, welcoming students and parents to opening days of the school year, escorting new students to their classrooms and joyously interacting with children, parents, teachers, and school staff.

School Principal Gabriel Sandoval shared these points of praise and prayer.

- For a smooth start to the 2025-26 school year.
- For families unsettled by immigration matters, including families who moved away over the summer in order to keep their families intact.
- For several school staff members facing serious medical issues.

# **Connecting & Serving**

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

**Women's Bible Study**, Thursdays at 7:45-9 a.m. at IHOP on State St. Studying 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 Romans. Coffee is provided.

**Women in the Word,** resumes Monday, September 15 at 9:30 a.m.! More details to come. **Prayer Shawl Ministry**, will resume September 18, 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Library.

Connect with our Ministry Partners: Our ministry partners enjoy receiving encouraging notes. Contact information: 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, 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: mrneondemexico@hotmail.com, Luke Everett: sanlucasrsm@gmail.com.

## Three Questions To Use When Reading A Biblical Text (adapted from Tim Keller):

- Adore—What did you learn about God for which you could praise or thank him?
- Admit—What did you learn about yourself for which you could repent?
- Aspire—What did you learn about life that you could aspire to, ask for, and act on?

## 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

Jenny Thompson, Interim Director of Early School

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
Kersten Barr
Terry Foil
Kirk Gilbert
Larry James
Leanne Patterson

#### Deacons

Shirley Fender, Chair, Joy Reflected Ministry, Ushers Darlene James, Community Life Susan Dau, Congregational Care, Secretary 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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