

EL MONTECITO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# CHRISTMAS EVE

## CANDLELIGHT LESSONS & CAROLS

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 - 3 & 5 p.m.

*"But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship." Galatians 4:4-5*

### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

**Prelude**

ELMO Pres. Instrumentalists

**Music of Preparation**

**Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a Child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

**Welcome & Opening Prayer**

Tom Haugen

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

3 p.m.—Peter & Jana Norman  
Brecken, Mercer, River & Thatcher

5 p.m.—Robert & Kristen Hughes  
Bo & Summer

**\*Call to Worship**

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*(The people who walk in darkness receive the promise of the Messiah.)*

Leader: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

**People: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Leader: Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

**All: He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.**

**\*Hymn**

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appears.

O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Refrain:*  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel*  
*Shall come to you, O Israel!*

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
And order all things, far and nigh;  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And cause us in her ways to go.

**First Lesson—Reading**

Luke 1:26-38

*(An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child.)*

**Hymn**

**Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

**Choir**

*As you listen to the choir sing, we invite you into a time of silent prayer and reflection.*

**Second Lesson— Reading**

Matthew 1:18-23

*(The angel of the Lord appears to Joseph and announces the birth of Jesus.)*

## **\*Hymn**

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

*This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

## **Third Lesson & Living Nativity (ELMO Pres Kids—3 p.m.)**

### **The Reading**

Luke 2:1-20

*(The angels appear to the shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah.)*

*The history of live nativity scenes originated with St. Francis of Assisi, who created the first public nativity scene in 1223. Assisi built a replica of the manger scene high on a mountain at his hermitage in Greccio near Assisi. People from the village walked in a torch-lit procession to see the nativity. Italians continue to celebrate the arrival of Christ with elaborate living nativity scenes ("Presepi Viventi") during the Christmas season. This year at ELMO Pres, we will carry on the tradition as our children create a Living Nativity.*

## \*Hymn

Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains:

*Refrain:*

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

## Angels We Have Heard on High

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

## Fourth Lesson—Reading

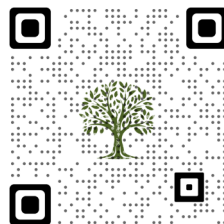
Matthew 2:1-11

*(Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus.)*

## GIVING OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

### Prayer of Dedication for Our Tithes & Offerings

Our tithes & 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 & the world. In addition to giving baskets near the entrance, you are welcome to give online at [www.elmopres.org/give-online](http://www.elmopres.org/give-online) or scan the QR code with a phone camera.



## Hymn

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining;  
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope- the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

*Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!*

*O night divine, O night when Christ was born!*

*O night, O holy night, O night divine!*

Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,  
And in His name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;  
Let all within us praise His holy name.

## O Holy Night

*Christ is the Lord!*

*O praise His name forever!*

*His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!*

*His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!*

## Fifth Lesson—Reading

John 1:1-14

*(The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.)*

### \*Hymn

1. Come adore the humble King  
Lowly in the manger  
Fall before His majesty  
Hail the little Savior  
Hope what hope no tongue could tell  
God has come with us to dwell  
His name is Emmanuel  
O praise the humble King
2. Come adore in humble state  
He the song of angels  
Join the wise who call His name  
And with all creation  
Who oh who would condescend  
God unknown now calls us friend  
Love that none could comprehend  
O praise the humble King

### Come Adore the Humble King

3. Come adore the King who came  
To our world to save us  
Born to heal our prideful race  
Crown us with forgiveness  
Fall oh fall before the one  
Who in mercy left His throne  
Christ the Lord God's only Son  
His glories now we sing  
O praise the humble King

### Tag

Come adore come adore  
Come adore the King  
Bow before come adore the  
Name above all names

### Sermon

Luke 2:1-7—"No Room"

Tom Haugen



Sermon notes:

## The Lighting of the Candles

*Lighting the candles is a simple way of remembering that Jesus is our light and salvation.*

**John 8:12:** “When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’”

*Please remain seated as the candlelight from the Christ candle is passed.*

### Hymn

Silent night! Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
‘Round yon virgin mother and Child!  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace!  
Sleep in heavenly peace!

Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love’s pure light,  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth!  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth!

### Silent Night!

Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing, “Alleluia!”  
Christ, the Savior is born!  
Christ, the Savior is born!

### \*Hymn

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

*Refrain:*

*O come, let us adore Him;*  
*O come, let us adore Him;*  
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav’n above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

### O Come, All Ye Faithful

## \*Benediction

## Postlude

At Christmas, we celebrate the good news that God came near to us in Jesus. Born in humility, Jesus brings light to our darkness, hope to the weary, and peace with God through His love and grace. This Christmas, it is our prayer that we would make room in our hearts for Jesus. Thank you for joining us tonight! You are warmly invited to worship with us on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. as we continue celebrating the joy of Christ together.

Merry Christmas from the El Montecito Presbyterian Church family!

### A special thank you to our musicians & readers!

*ELMO Choir, Annie Haugen & Mary Hurt,*

*Elmo Instrumentalists: Andy Patterson, Cornelius Patterson, Marshall Patterson & Peter West*

### Readers:

**3 p.m.** Kirk Gilbert, Oliver Patterson, Julien Ete, Lauri Haugen, Janet Gates, Barney Melekian

**5 p.m.** Kirk Gilbert, James Barr, Dan Patterson, Jocelyn Haugen, Judy Cooper-Ashford, Nancy Phinney

### Welcome Visitors!

We are glad you are worshipping with us today.

**Please fill out a visitor card or scan the QR code with your phone's camera** to fill out a Connect Form so we may get to know you better. Visit our website at: [www.elmopres.org](http://www.elmopres.org), find us on Instagram @elmopres or subscribe to our YouTube channel. You are welcome to join us for our weekly worship gatherings every Sunday at 10 a.m.



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

*Rev. Dr. Tom Haugen, Pastor*

*Rev. Lauri Haugen, Asst. Pastor to Families*

*Mary Hurt, Worship Director*

*Ashley Olsen, Office Manager*

*Barbara Mendelson, Treasurer*

*Michele Sullivan, Accountant*

**El Montecito Early School**

*Jenny Thompson, Early School Director*

*The Entire Congregation, Ministers of the Gospel*

**805-969-5041**

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

[laurihaugen@elmopres.org](mailto:laurihaugen@elmopres.org)

[maryhurt@elmopres.org](mailto:maryhurt@elmopres.org)

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

[accounting@elmopres.org](mailto:accounting@elmopres.org)

**805-969-3566**

[jenny@elmopres.org](mailto:jenny@elmopres.org)

**Elders**

*Tom Haugen, Moderator*

*Janet Gates, Clerk of Session*

*Erin Barr*

*Kersten Barr*

*Nathan Gates*

*Kirk Gilbert*

*Larry James*

*Leanne Patterson*

**Deacons**

*Susan Dau, Congregational Care, Secretary*

*Terry Foil, Community Life*

*Pamela Gilbert, Receptions, Secretary*

*Darlene James, Community Life*

*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)

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



**EL MONTECITO**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1455 East Valley Rd., Montecito

**Mailing:** P.O. Box 5369,  
Santa Barbara, CA 93150

[www.elmopres.org](http://www.elmopres.org)

