

WORSHIP

Sunday, August 16th, 2026



EL MONTECITO
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"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**

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 86:8-15

Leader: Among the gods there is none like you, Lord; no deeds can compare with yours. All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name.

People: For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God. Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

Leader: I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever.

People: For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead.

Leader: Arrogant foes are attacking me, O God; ruthless people are trying to kill me—they have no regard for you.

All: But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.

** Please stand as you are able.*

***Hymn of Praise**

His Mercy is More

1. What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many His mercy is more
2. What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor
Our sins they are many His mercy is more
3. What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Chorus

Praise the Lord His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness new every morn
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Confession of Sin Unison

With hearts of sorrow, we come before you, O God, to confess what you already know, we have failed to keep your laws. Again and again, we have followed our own selfish will, rather than your holy and life-giving will for our lives. We have rebelled against your guidance and decrees to suit our own preconceptions and interests rather than your own. Forgive, O God, and cleanse us from hidden faults, that the words of our mouths, and the meditations of all our hearts, may be acceptable to you, our Rock and Redeemer. Amen.

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalm 91:14-15

Listen to the promise of God: Those who love me, I will deliver. I will protect those who know my name. Whenever they call on me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them, and show them my saving power.

Leader: Hear and believe the good news of the gospel!

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

GIVING OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

Prayer of Dedication for Our Tithes & Offerings

Janet Gates

Music of Reflection

In addition to giving through the passed offering plates, you are welcome to give online at www.elmopres.org/give-online or scan the QR code with your phone's camera. 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.



*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.

Elementary students remain in worship throughout the summer months.

Prayers for the Church and the World

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

Psalm 139

Sermon

“On Seeking, Finding and Being Formed”

Andrea Gurney



Sermon notes:

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn of Response

The Love of God

Hymnal #67

1. The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell
The guilty pair bowed down with care
God gave His Son to win
His erring child He reconciled
And pardoned from his sin
3. Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies of parchment made
Were every stalk on earth a quill
And every man a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky

Chorus

- O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure
The saints and angels song
2. When years of time shall pass away
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall
When men, who here refuse to pray,
On rocks, and hills and mountains call
God's love so sure shall still endure
All measureless and strong:
Redeeming grace to Adam's race
The saints and angels song

*Benediction

Postlude

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

Deborah Bertling, Nate & Janet Gates, Mary Hurt, Brian Johnson and ELMO Kids

A prayer team is available in the left transept following the worship gathering.

Welcome Visitors!

We are glad you are worshiping 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, find us on Instagram @elmopres or subscribe to our YouTube channel.

A LIVING HOPE FOR EVERY HEART
SCAN ME!



CONNECT AT ELMO PRES

ELMO Pres Kids, Youth & College

Nursery (3 mo.-2.5 yrs.) & **Preschool** (ages 2.5-5 yrs.) 9:50 a.m. until end of worship in the Pre-K classrooms.

ELMO Pres Kids (K-6th) Elementary students remain in worship for the summer. Pick-up an activity guide on your way into worship.

ELMO Pres Student Ministry (6th-12th) Summer is almost over, but with that comes the return of Friday night youth group - every 1st & 3rd Friday evening of the month beginning September 18th!

Fall Youth Retreat at Campus by the Sea on Catalina Island, September 25-27.

Middle and high school students: Snorkel, hike, kayak, enjoy community, worship and dive into God's Word! See back of the bulletin for more info and scan the QR code to register!

Cost: \$250 **Registration closes August 28 so sign-up today!**

ELMO Pres College *We are praying for you as you return home, work and play this summer. If you're sticking around Santa Barbara, email Lauri to stay connected!*

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 AE2 Alex Barr, U.S. Navy; Sgt. Jack Burrows, U.S. Army; Lt. Col. James Wentzel, U.S. Air Force.
- For our covenant partners dealing with ongoing health issues and recovery from surgeries: Barbara Biehl, Judy Cooper-Ashford, Ann Marie King, Ann Porter, David Talbott, Curt & Erlyne Whiteman.
- Bereavement for the family & friends of Don Rhodes.
- Bereavement for the family & friends of Jerry Belch. Memorial is September 2 at 10 a.m.

Outreach & Missions Prayer Connection

Each week we spend time praying for one of our ministry partners including Mayu Guillen Villanueva, who serves in Morelia, Mexico, with Global Mesa. Mayu works with high school students as a teacher and counselor and as a friend and advocate for women in crisis recovery.

- Pray that God would continue to strengthen, sustain and guide Mayu.
- Pray for safety, healing, dignity and renewed hope for Mary, Ivonne, Josefina, Carmen, Janita, Luna and Doris as Mayu ministers to them.
- Pray for the high school students Mayu mentors who face crises, violence or emotional harm, that they find peace and new beginnings and deeper understanding of God's love.
- Please also pray for healing for her new daughter-in-law, Jaycie, who's recovering from serious surgery and for Jaycie's husband, Mayu's son, Davicho.

Connecting & Serving

Sunday Adult Discipleship, in the Library at 9 a.m. Each week, we will prepare for our worship time and dive into the Scripture passage for our sermon. Everyone is welcome!

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

Women in the Word starts September 14. Mondays, 9:30-11:15 in Fellowship Hall.

Studying the Gospel of Mark & The Power of the Holy Spirit. Small friendship groups, music with Deborah Bertling and Barbi Wilson, and teaching by Patty Wilson. Join any time.

Bible Study Fellowship resumes September 9! Wednesdays from 9:30-11 a.m. Studying Romans. Register online at bsfinternational.org

Women's Thursday Bible Study is taking a short break! Breakfast meetings will resume September 10th at 7:45 a.m studying Isaiah . New members welcome at any time.

Email Barb at bkennedy@westmont.edu Meeting in the Oaks Dining Room at Samarkand.

Men's Bible Study, Thursdays, 9-10 a.m. in the Library, studying 1 & 2 Peter.

Prayer Class "In the Gap" with Ben Patterson, Sundays, 11:30-12:30 in the Library. Intercessory prayer for the church and world.

Prayer Shawl Ministry, Thursday, August 20, 1:30-3:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Friday, August 28—Registration Closes for the Fall Youth Retreat. Sign-up today! QR code on the back of this bulletin.

College Lunch, September 6, following worship in Creative Studios Great Room.

All-Church Fall Kick-off Lunch, September 13 following worship in Fellowship Hall.

Joy Reflected Luncheon, Tuesday, September 15 at 11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. All widows are welcome. Please RSVP to Barb Kennedy at bkennedy@westmont.edu

New Covenant Partner Class, Saturday, October 3, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in Creative Studios. Continental breakfast, coffee, & lunch provided. RSVP to admin@elmopres.org

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

Rev. Dr. Tom Haugen, Pastor

Rev. Lauri Haugen, Associate Pastor

Mary Hurt, Worship Director

Anna Bragg, Operations Manager

Ashley Olsen, Office Manager

Barbara Mendelson, Treasurer

Michele Sullivan, Accountant

El Montecito Early School

Jenny Thompson, Director

The Entire Congregation, Ministers of the Gospel

Elders: elders@elmopres.org

Tom Haugen, Moderator

Janet Gates, Clerk of Session

Erin Barr

Kersten Barr

Kirk Gilbert

Larry James

Ben Patterson

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Deacons

Judy Cooper-Ashford

Susan Dau, Congregational Care

Terry Foil, Community Life

Pamela Gilbert, Receptions

Larry Godec, Connections

Brian Johnson, Receptions

Fran Lambeth, Congregational Care

Mary Slater, Chair

ELMO PRES YOUTH



**CAMPUS
BY THE SEA**
CATALINA ISLAND



**FALL YOUTH
RETREAT**

FRIDAY, SEP 25 - SUNDAY, SEP 27
CAMPUS BY THE SEA, CATALINA ISLAND

Middle & high school students: Spend a weekend on Catalina Island—snorkel, hike, kayak, enjoy community, worship, and dive into God's Word!

**REGISTRATION CLOSES
FRIDAY, AUGUST 28**

Camper Registration Form:
<https://elmopres.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/84/responses/new>



SCAN
HERE



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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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