

WORSHIP

Sunday, August 30th, 2026



EL MONTECITO
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, my soul."

Psalm 146:1

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Welcome to Our Life Together

Tom Haugen

Prayer of Invocation

Music of Preparation

GIVING PRAISE TO GOD

Worship begins with God's invitation, not our initiative. In the Call to Worship, we hear God's Word summoning us into His presence with praise, gratitude, and reverence. This Scriptural invitation reminds us that we gather because God has called us to Himself and delights to meet with His people.

*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 you 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: The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel.

People: The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

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.

** Please stand as you are able.*

***Hymn of Praise**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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
2. Praise to the Lord Who o're all things
So wondrously reigneth
Shelters thee under His wings
Yea so gently sustaineth
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth
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
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 for aye we adore Him

Confession of Sin Unison

Merciful God, forgive our lack of faith in your loving power. We fail to notice the daily blessings you lavish upon us and instead we have placed our trust in things that cannot save us. We have relied on our own strength, and sought security in human power rather than in You. You lift up the oppressed, yet we have turned away from the cries of the poor and the lonely. You set the prisoners free, yet we have clung to bitterness and withheld forgiveness. Forgive us for forgetting that You are the Maker of heaven and earth, the One who keeps faith forever. Turn our hearts back to You, that we may live as people of hope, doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly in Your ways. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalm 116:5, Colossians 1:13-14

The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. For the Father has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

Kirk Gilbert

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.

Prayers for the Church and the World

Elementary students remain in worship throughout the summer months. ELMO Pres Kids for 1st-6th grades resumes next Sunday, September 6th!

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

Great is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever wilt be

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

2. Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love
3. Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside

Scripture

Psalm 146

Sermon

"Praise the Lord, O My Soul"

Tom Haugen

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn of Response

He Will Hold Me Fast

1. When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

2. Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His Promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

3. For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When He comes at last

*Benediction

Postlude

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

Jocelyn Haugen, Mary Hurt & Emily Sommermann

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 in your pew or scan the QR code with your phone's camera to sign-up for our weekly newsletter and fill out the online Connect Form so we may get to know you better. Visit our website www.elmopres.org, find us on Instagram @elmopres or subscribe to our YouTube channel.



ELMO Pres Kids & Youth

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 (1st-6th) Elementary students remain in worship thru August 30. Pick up an activity guide on your way into worship. ELMO Pres Kids begins September 6th!

ELMO Pres Student Ministry (6th-12th)

Middle School Youth group begins on Friday, September 18th, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. upstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner, games, Bible study, & friends!

High School Youth group begins on Friday, September 18th, from 6:00-8:30 p.m. downstairs in the Creative Studios. Dinner, games, Bible study, & friends!

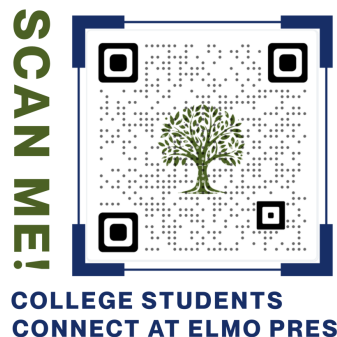
Welcome College Students!

Scan the QR code to connect and learn more about the life of our church and upcoming college events.

Catch a ride to worship! Carpools depart from Clark Dorm at 9:35 a.m. and return after worship.

College Lunch after worship on September 6th downstairs in the Creative Studios.

Romans Bible Study begins on September 24th from 7-8 p.m. at the Haugen's house.



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, Robert & 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.

Connecting & Serving

Sunday Adult Discipleship, in the Library at 9 a.m. Each week, 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.

Bible Study Fellowship resumes September 9! Wednesdays from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Studying Romans. Register online at bsfinternational.org

Women's Thursday Bible Study resumes September 10th at 7:45 a.m.! Studying Isaiah and meeting in the Oaks Dining Room at Samarkand. New members welcome any time.

Men's Bible Study, Thursdays, 9:00 -10:00 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.

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

Women in the Word—Sign up in the courtyard today! Begins September 14, 9:30-11:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Studying Gospel of Mark & The Power of the Holy Spirit.

GriefShare – Begins Monday, September 14th, at Montecito Covenant Church. Navigating loss is hard, but you do not have to walk through it alone. Mondays, 10 a.m. for 13 weeks.

\$20 registration fee. Join any time. Each session stands on its own, so you do not need to attend in order. Reach out to Pam Beebe at 805-679-1501 for a friendly chat & more info.

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

Home Group Leader Training following worship September 20th in the library. Reach out to Pastor Tom for more information.

New Covenant Partner Class, Saturday, October 3, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the 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

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Tom Haugen, Moderator

Janet Gates, Clerk of Session

Erin Barr

Kersten Barr

Kirk Gilbert

Larry James

Ben Patterson

Leanne Patterson

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

SCAN ME!



**COLLEGE STUDENTS
CONNECT AT ELMO PRES**



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