

WORSHIP

Sunday, September 20th, 2026



EL MONTECITO
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth."

Psalm 121:2

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 33:1-8

Leader: Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

People: Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.

Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

Leader: For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

People: By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

Leader: He gathers the waters of the sea into jars; he puts the deep into storehouses.

All: Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him.

** Please stand as you are able.*

*Hymn of Praise

Psalm 150 (Praise the Lord)

1. 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

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 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

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

Each week in worship, we confess our sins together because we gather as a people who live by the grace of God. In the presence of our holy God, we honestly acknowledge our sin and our need for his mercy. But confession is always followed by the assurance of forgiveness because the gospel does not leave us in our guilt. We hear the good news proclaimed that, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives our sins and reconciles us to himself. We confess our sin, we hear the promise of God's grace, and we respond with gratitude and praise.

Father God, we confess that we often look in the wrong places for help. We look to our own strength, our possessions, our accomplishments, and the approval of others. We worry about what we cannot control and forget that you are sovereign over all things.

We try to carry burdens that you have invited us to place in your hands. Forgive us for trusting ourselves more than we trust you. Forgive us for living as though we are alone when you have promised to be with us. Turn our eyes back to you, O Lord. Teach us to trust your presence, to rest in your care, and to follow you faithfully on the journey. Thank you that our hope does not depend on our ability to hold on to you, but on your promise to hold on to us. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Keeper, we pray. Amen.

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

Romans 3:23-24

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

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

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

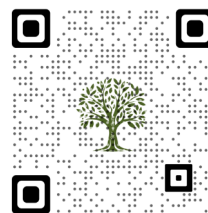
GIVING OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

Prayer of Dedication for Our Tithes & Offerings

Larry Godec

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.

ELMO Pres Kids in grades 1st-6th are excused to meet their teachers in the courtyard before proceeding to their classrooms downstairs. Following worship, please pick up your children in their classrooms.

Prayers for the Church and the World

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

He Will Keep You (Psalm 121)

1. I lift my eyes and see
I need not be afraid
All my help comes from the Lord
Who the earth and sky has made
2. The Lord will never sleep
My steps He has ordained
For the One Who holds the night
Is the Sovereign of my days

Chorus

He will keep you from all evils
Behind you and before
He will sustain you through this journey
From now and evermore

Scripture

Psalm 121

Sermon

"The Lord Will Watch Over Your Coming and Going"

Tom Haugen



Sermon notes:

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn of Response

Sovereign

1. Sov'reign in the mountain air
Sov'reign on the ocean floor
With me in the calm
With me in the storm
Sov'reign in my greatest joy
Sov'reign in my deepest cry
With me in the dark
With me at the dawn

Bridge

All my hopes, all I need
Held in Your hands
All my life, all of me
Held in Your hands
All my fears, all my dreams
Held in Your hands

Chorus

In Your everlasting arms
All the pieces of my life
From beginning to the end I can trust You
In Your never-failing love
You work ev'rything for good
God whatever comes my way I will trust You

*Benediction

Postlude

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

Mary Hurt, Xandra Lo, and Rand Olsen

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

Welcome Visitors!

We are so glad you are worshipping 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

NEW THIS YEAR: *ALL children ages 0-6th grade must complete courtyard check-in prior to worship.*

Nursery/Preschool (3 mo.-3 yrs.) & **TK/Kindergarten** (ages 4-5 yrs.) meet at 9:50 a.m. until end of worship in the Early School classrooms. Pick up your child after worship.

ELMO Pres Kids (1st-6th) Children in 1st-6th grades are excused after the doxology to meet their teachers in the courtyard before proceeding to their classrooms downstairs. Directly following worship, please pick up your children in their classrooms.

ELMO Pres Student Ministry (6th-12th) Every 1st & 3rd Friday evening of the month beginning September 18! Dinner, games, Bible study, & friends!

- Middle School Youth Group from 6:00-8:00 p.m. upstairs in the Fellowship Hall.
- High School Youth Group from 6:00-8:30 p.m. downstairs in the Creative Studios.

Families are you interested in joining a 9-week home group Bible study this fall? Scan the QR code on the back of this bulletin and fill out an interest form or email the office for more information: admin@elmopres.org

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.

Romans Bible Study begins on September 24th from 7-8 p.m. at the Haugen's house. Email laurihaugen@elmopres.org for more info!



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; SSG 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.
- Please pray for our 33 youth leaders and students traveling to Catalina Island this Friday for the Fall Youth Retreat.

Connecting & Serving

Sunday Morning Home Group, in the Library at 9:00 a.m. studying Romans. Purchase your study guide at the Welcome Table in the courtyard. Everyone is welcome!

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

Prayer Class “In the Gap” with Ben Patterson will resume at the end of the month.

Women in the Word Mondays, 9:30-11:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Studying 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 Wednesdays from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Studying Romans.

Women’s Thursday Bible Study, 7:45 a.m. in the Oaks Dining Room at Samarkand. Studying Romans. New members welcome any time.

Men’s Bible Study, Thursdays, 9:00 -10:00 a.m. in the Library, studying 1 & 2 Peter.

GriefShare, Mondays, 10:00 a.m. at Montecito Covenant Church. Navigating loss is hard, but you do not have to walk through it alone. \$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.

Home Group Leader Training today following worship September 20th in the library.

Small Group Bible Studies begin this week! 9 week commitment. Scan the QR code on the back of the bulletin or fill out a pew card if you’re interested!

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

Ashley Olsen, Office Administrator

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, Congregational Care

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!



**JOIN A SMALL GROUP
BIBLE STUDY THIS FALL**



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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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