

WORSHIP

Sunday, September 27th, 2026



EL MONTECITO
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings
salvation to everyone who believes." Romans 1:16*

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 100

Leader: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

People: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God.

Leader: It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

All: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

** Please stand as you are able.*

***Hymn of Praise**

Praise to the Lord (Joyful, Joyful)

1. Praise to the Lord the Almighty
The King of creation
O my soul praise Him
For He is your health and salvation
Come all who hear now to His temple draw near
Join me in glad adoration
2. Praise to the Lord
Above all things so wondrously reigning
Sheltering you under His wings
And so gently sustaining
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
Sent by His gracious ordaining
3. Praise to the Lord
Who will prosper your work and defend you
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
If with His love He befriends you

Chorus

- Joyful joyful we adore Thee
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee
Opening to the sun above
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 forever adore Him

Confession of Sin Unison

Lord, we come today in worship and praise, knowing that you alone are God and King. You alone are worthy of our praise. We also recognize that we are sinners in need of you, our Savior. We confess that we have elevated our desires and plans above your will for our lives and for your world. We want authority and power over others to use for our own purposes. Forgive us for our half-hearted devotion and our double-minded attention to your Way. Remind us that you call us to be servants first and foremost. Pour the healing power of your love into our hearts, that we may serve in the name of Jesus, the One who came to serve and give his life as a ransom for many. In his powerful name we pray. Amen.

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

Romans 5:6-8

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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.

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

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Hymnal #2

1. Come Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise His name, I'm fixed upon it
Name of God's redeeming love
2. Hither to Thy love has blest me
Thou hast bro't me to this place
And I know Thy hand will bring me
Safely home by Thy good grace
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wandering from the fold of God
He, to rescue me from danger,
Bought me with His precious blood
3. O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

Scripture

Romans 1:1-17

Sermon

"The Power of the Gospel"

Tom Haugen



Sermon notes:

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn of Response

In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand
2. In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live
3. There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ
4. No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

*Benediction

Postlude

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

Deborah Bertling, Mary Hurt and Jake Lolli

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 please 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. Next up October 2 & 16! 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.

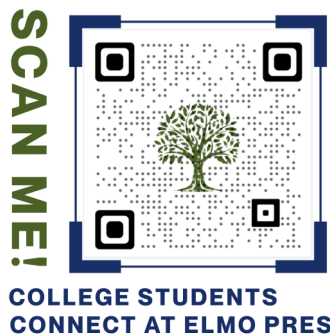
Families are you interested in joining a 9-week home group Bible study this fall? Scan the QR code on the back of this bulletin and fill out an interest form or email the office for more information: admin@elmopres.org

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, Thursdays 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 home today from the Fall Youth Retreat on Catalina Island.

Connecting & Serving

Sunday Morning Home Group, in the Library at 9:00 a.m. Studying Romans. All are welcome!
Prayer Time, Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

In the Gap Prayer, Sundays, 11:30-12:30 pm. in the Library. Prayer is an active engagement in the struggle against the powers of darkness, a radical interference with the spiritual status quo. Standing "In the Gap" is God's metaphor for those who will pray this way. He says to Ezekiel, "I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy the land, but I found none." Let's be those who answer God's call!

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.

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study, 7:45 a.m. in the Oaks Dining Room at Samarkand. Studying Romans. New members welcome!. Email bkennedy@westmont.edu for info.

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. Reach out to Pam Beebe at 805-679-1501 for a friendly chat & more info.

New Covenant Partner Class, Saturday, October 3, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the basement Great Room. Continental breakfast, coffee, & lunch provided. RSVP to admin@elmopres.org

New Home Groups are forming! We will launch them when we get enough interest. Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. in the basement Great Room, Thursdays in Carpinteria, 7-8 p.m and Sundays, 9 a.m. in the library. There is interest for a downtown home group if we have someone willing to host. Email admin@elmopres.org for more information or scan the QR code on the back of this bulletin to fill out an interest form.

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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