



# Pacific Beach

## United Methodist Church

ONLINE WORSHIP  
DECEMBER 20, 2020

### WE GATHER TOGETHER PRAISING GOD

#### Introductions and Invitations

Welcome & Welcoming Music

Responsive Reading

One: Come, let us be about our preparations for a new advent of love among us.

**All: The wastelands of life around us cannot shut out the promise of life-giving water.**

One: Hatred and warfare, injustice and suffering, are not the last word, for they are not of God.

**All: We hear again the promise of peace, coming in the one who lived Shalom among all people.**

One: We see again the light God promises in the midst of our darkness.

**All: We are feeling again the joy that comes through partnership in the gospel.**

One: may our worship recall us to what is centered in life; to the One who gives us breath and purpose.

**All: We come to embrace the new advent, to be renewed in faith, hope, and love.**

Hymn #213

“Lift Up Your Heads” (v. 1 - 3)

Affirmation of Faith (*worship leader prays aloud*)

We believe that this world is hard—

Harder than it has to be.

When the world falls apart around us,

We believe in listening for the angels that say, “Do not be afraid,”

And in seeking out the Elizabeths in our lives—

Those who laugh with joy at our arrival

And throw open the doors to their homes.

We believe that healthy relationships can offer healing,

Through the laughter of cousins,

The joy shared between siblings,

And the home found in partnership.

Therefore, we believe in church families,

In chosen families,

And in the love that extends beyond family.

We believe in friendships,

In neighbors,

And in leaning on each other when the going gets tough.

We believe in the Triune God—

Lover, Beloved, and Love itself—

Inherently relational, always connected, and never alone.

We believe that that same belovedness exists for us.

We believe that we are loved and claimed,  
Never alone.  
Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Sharing the Peace of Christ (*greet fellow worshipers in the live chat as we sing song #245 "The First Noel" v. 1*)

Lighting the Advent Candle – Love

Carmen Galloway

*Call to worship and Affirmation of Faith adapted from a prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.*

## WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Children In Ministry

Erich Grimm-Schmitt

Music To Lift Our Spirits

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

Message: "Impossible"

Pastor Lori Leopold

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

Song of Prayer (*we pray for God's guidance as we sing song #211 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*)

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Offering of Gifts (*followed by*)

Doxology (#94)

Prayer of Dedication (*we read and pray aloud together*)

**Just as our souls magnify the Lord, may our offerings glorify God. Surely, we are blessed. We rejoice in the mercy that you have shown us from generation to generation. We remember the powerful promise you bring; hope to the hopeless and strength to the weak. With joy, we pray in gratitude and praise. Amen.**

Christmas Medley

"Away In a Manger," #217 (v. 1 & 3)

"Infant Holy," #229 (v. 1 & 2)

"Angels From The Realms of Glory," #220 (v. 1 & 2)

Benediction

Lori

And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of God's hand.

**All are invited to share in virtual coffee time online  
via Zoom (*may require app download*).**