



Pacific Beach

United Methodist Church

SUNDAY WORSHIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2023 10:00 AM

WE GATHER TOGETHER PRAISING GOD

Greeting

Advent Songs of Praise

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed" #203 Vs 1 & 3

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!

Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;

To take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;

Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.

Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,

And righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel" #204 *Sing Twice*

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

"There's a Song in the Air" #249 Vs 1 & 3

There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!

There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry!

And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,

For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

In the light of that star lie the ages impearled;

And that song from afar has swept over the world.

Every hearth is aflame, and the beautiful sing

In the homes of the nations that Jesus is King!

Video Announcements

Welcome

Call to Worship

Shannon Petersen

One: Our God can part the sea.

All: God can bring water from a rock, and provide bread in the desert.

One: Our God can walk on water.

All: God can heal the sick, and turn water into wine.

One: Our God sets the stars in the sky.

All: God hears our voice when we cry, and is closer than our own breath.

One: There is nothing our God cannot do.

All: Let us stand in awe. Let us worship God with wonder.

**Please stand as you are able*

Credit for liturgical elements: Prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed / A Sanctified Art LLC / sanctifiedart.org;

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*Opening Hymn #234

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" Vs 1-3

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;**

Refrain:

**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,
Lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created; *Refrain***

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; *Refrain***

Opening Prayer

Shannon Petersen

Holy God, Somewhere in our childhood we face pressure to outgrow awe. We turn into adults who obsess over data and facts. We praise those who have answers, and assume that wonder is an answerless game. Forgive us for closing that door to you. Remind us that the kingdom of God belongs to children. Teach us the ways of awe and wonder, so that like Zechariah, when we find ourselves speechless, our first words will be words of praise. With hearts open wide, we pray, amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Leader: How does a weary world practice joy?

People: By dancing, and throwing birthday parties.

Leader: By hanging Christmas lights, and holding sleepy babies. By singing loudly, and looking for good news.

People: By telling the story of Jesus, and showing up for our community.

Leader: There are a million ways to practice joy. So today we light the candle of joy as a reminder and a charge.

People: With God's help, may we bring joy into a weary world. Amen.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ #3014

"You Are Good"

Lord, you are good, and your mercy endureth forever.

Lord, you are good, and your mercy endureth forever.

People from every nation and tongue,

From generation to generation:

We worship you, Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

We worship you for who you are!

We worship you, Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

We worship you for who you are, and you are good!

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WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Time

Music to Lift our Spirits

Scripture:

Luke 1:57-66

Shannon Petersen

Message:

We Allow Ourselves to Be Amazed

Rev. Lori Leopold

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

Affirmation of Faith

One: We believe in a God who knows our names,

All: who counts the hairs on our heads, and carries the dreams in our hearts.

One: We believe that God's fingerprints are all over creation,

All: and that God is forever speaking to us in a million different ways.

One: We believe that awe and wonder,

All: goosebumps and laughter, telling stories and paying attention,

One: are all ways that we can say thank you to our creating, sustaining, and loving God.

All: Therefore we commit ourselves to moving through this world with eyes wide open, with porous hearts, and grateful spirits.

One: We commit ourselves to living lives of awe, wonder, and gratitude,

All: trusting that these things will forever draw us deeper into God's loving arms.

One: We believe.

All: We stand in awe. Thanks be to God!

Song of Prayer: sung by *Voices of Praise* "No Room/Silent Night"

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering//Offertory

*Doxology

Gladly we praise you and bless you, Creator, O God of life.

Christ, we adore you and thank you, Compassion of God, our light.

Great Holy Spirit, by you we are born from above.

Alleluia! Praise the God of blessing!

Alleluia! Bless the God of love!

*Prayer of Dedication

Shannon Petersen

God of promises and joy, receive these gifts we return to you now. Bless this offering, that our gifts may be signs of joy and hope for others in need. Amen.

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*Closing Hymn #251

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” Vs 1 & 3

Refrain:

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.**

**While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shown a holy light.**

Refrain

**Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.**

Refrain

*Benediction

*Eagle’s Wings

**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.**



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

**Our altar flowers are in memory of Darrin, Diane Nelson’s brother, to honor his birthday.
Today is the last Sunday to submit your poinsettia orders so we can fill the sanctuary.**

Thank you for worshipping with PBUMC today! You make this gathering richer, brighter, and better by your participation. **All** are welcome at PBUMC!

PB UMC offers a three week “Belonging Class” for those who are interested in church membership and for others for who seek deeper involvement in the life of the church. Our next Belonging Class session will be held on Sundays, January 28th, February 4th, and February 11th following church with a light lunch provided. If you are interested in attending or have other questions related to church membership, please contact Pastor Lori.

For pastoral support or spiritual conversation, please contact Pastor Lori at the church office or via the [website](#). Want to know what’s happening at PB UMC? Sign up for our weekly emails! We have several different categories you can sign up for: there’s the weekly news with a rundown of that week’s sermon and events happening soon, a weekly email with prayer requests, a monthly email with a link to our Beach Breeze newsletter, as well as youth/Sunday school emails and memorial notifications. Whether you’d like to sign up for one or sign up for all, visit <https://pbumc.flocknote.com/>! To financially support the ministries of PBUMC in this community and beyond, please go to pbumc.org/give or scan the QR code.



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