



Pacific Beach

United Methodist Church

SUNDAY WORSHIP

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 24, 2023 10:00 AM

WE GATHER TOGETHER PRAISING GOD

Greeting

Songs of Advent Praise

"Angels From the Realms of Glory" #220 Vs 1 & 2

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;

Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,

God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light:

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the newborn King.

"What Child Is This?" #219 Vs 1 & 3

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;

The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

"Prepare the Way of the Lord" #207

Prepare the way of the Lord.

Prepare the way of the Lord,

And all people will see the salvation of our God.

Welcome

Call to Worship

Hope Anderson

One: How does a weary world rejoice?

All: We sing songs of hope. We allow hope to change us, to strengthen us. We tell the stories of what could be. We listen for God's word. We resist the temptation to give up or give in. We remember Mary's song. We gather for worship. We hope. We hope. Against all odds, we hope.

One: Friends, this is the day that the Lord is still making. Let us worship holy God.

*Opening Hymn #213

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" Vs 1-3

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits;

The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!

**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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**Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.**

**Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide;
Let us thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in us reveal.**

Opening Prayer

Hope Anderson

Loving God, the grass withers and the flowers fade, but your Word stands forever. So today we pray— help us to truly hear it. Allow your words to sink deep into the marrow of our bones. Allow your words to lift our hearts in hope, that we might feel one day closer to your promised day. With hopeful and grateful hearts we pray, amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Leader: How does a weary world practice love?

People: By sending cards, and picking up the phone.

Leader: By practicing empathy, and assuming the best in others. By learning people's stories and finding common ground.

People: By advocating for justice, and saving a place at the table.

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

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

*Sharing the Peace of Christ #2037

Sing twice

"I Sing Praises to Your Name"

I sing praises to your name, O Lord; praises to your name, O Lord,

For your name is great and greatly to be praised;

I sing praises to your name, O Lord; praises to your name, O Lord,

For your name is great and greatly to be praised.

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Time

"God's Squad" singers

Music to Lift our Spirits

Scripture:

Luke 1:46-55 & 67-80

Hope Anderson

Message:

We Sing Stories of Hope

Rev. Lori Leopold

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

Affirmation of Faith

We believe that hope can change the world. We believe that God uses ordinary people, like an unwed teenage mother, for extraordinary good. And we believe that each of these ordinary people can make a difference. We know that grief, fear, and suffering abound. We know that suffering quells joy and makes it harder to hope. But we choose hope anyway. In the face of hardship, we hope together. We hope with God. We hope for a better world. This is our song. We believe; help our unbelief. In Christ's name we pray, amen.

Song of Prayer #211

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Vs 1 & 2

Solo: O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel

That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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Solo: O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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

Hope Anderson

Loving God, your goodness and mercy are without limit. With thankful hearts, we bring our offering before you this day. Use these gifts to lift up the lowly, fill the hungry with good things, and bring hope to all who call on your name. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #246

"Joy to the World" Vs 1 & 2

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,

And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!

Let all their songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hill, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

*Benediction

*On 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.

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**Thank you all for making the sanctuary glow with poinsettias!
Please see our insert for the dedications.**

Please join us tonight at 7pm for our Christmas Eve service full of music, scripture and candlelight, with something for family members of all ages. As is our tradition, the service will end with candlelight and carols around our courtyard tree. We hope you can join us as we celebrate Emmanuel, God with Us, who comes again into our hearts and our world through the Christ Child.

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.



SCAN ME

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.

PB UMC Staff

Lead Pastor: Rev. Lori Leopold
Music Director & Organist: Ron Jessee
Director of Education: Jesse Hodge
Office Administrator: Susie Virgilio
Church office: 858-274-6573
www.pbumc.org/who-we-are/contact/



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