



FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SAN DIEGO

DECEMBER 24, 2023 – 10:00 AM



*First Church is a community that is growing
in grace and reaching out with love.*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS



Register Your Attendance

*With joy we welcome your presence today, wherever you are.
Please join us as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship together.*

Welcome Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Words of Inspiration Alexis Cabusao

“A little child,
A shining star,
A stable rude,
The door ajar.
Yet in that place,
So crude, forlorn,
The Hope of all
The world was born.”
~ Anonymous

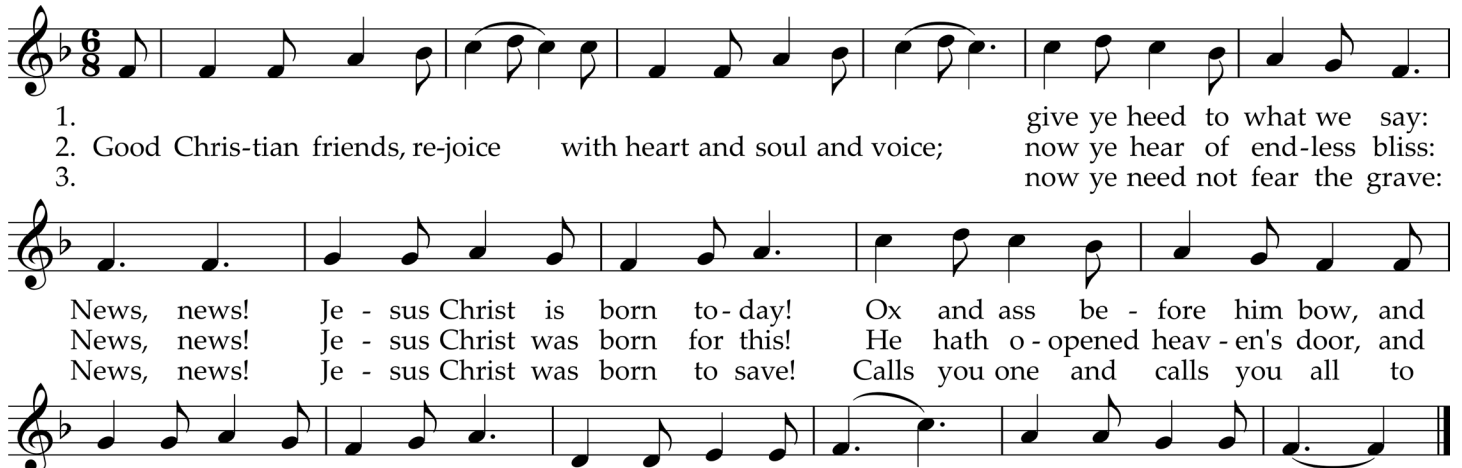
Prelude Youth Chime Ensemble, Dana Zimbric, *director*
Away in a Manger
Anna Laura Page (b. 1943)

• **Call to Worship.**Kenton Reaves Hundley, *Director of Discipleship for Children and Youth*

The earth is about to glow, the sea glimmer, the flowers bloom.
 Life is full of miracles, and this day holds every promise.
 What does Christmas offer tomorrow,
 when glimpses of wonder fill the world?
 We wait till Christmas morn for love to come to us.
O Come, O Come, Christmas Day.

TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYER

• **Hymn of Celebration #224: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice***



1. give ye heed to what we say:
 2. Good Chris-tian friends, re-joyce with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of end-less bliss:
 3. now ye need not fear the grave:

News, news! Je - sus Christ is born to - day! Ox and ass be - fore him bow, and
 News, news! Je - sus Christ was born for this! He hath o - opened heav - en's door, and
 News, news! Je - sus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to

he is in the man-ger now. Christ is born to - day, Christ is born to - day!
 ye are blest for - ev - er - more. Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!
 gain his ev - er - last - ing hall. Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!

Words: 14th cent. Latin; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1855
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German melody
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Lighting of the Advent Candle of Love. The Cabusao Family

Love, promised between friends and families,
 looks like light, feels like warmth, smells like flowers, sounds like whispers.
 Love, promised by God to the entire world
 comes wrapped in swaddling cloths and placed in a manger.
 Love is God's gift when we believe in wonder.
God's Christmas gift is coming among us again.
We light a candle for Love.



Love is a flame that burns in our heart. Je - sus has come and will nev - er de - part.

When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be

first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be a - fraid.

Words: Brian A. Wren © 1989 Hope Publishing Company
 Music: MOON BEAMS, Joan Collier Fogg © 1989 Hope Publishing Company
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Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who are 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.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

• Hymn #234: O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs. 1-3)

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O come ye, to
2. True God of true God, Light from Light E - ter - nal, Lo, he shuns not the
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; O sing, all ye cit - i - zens of
Beth - le - hem. Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
Vir - gin's womb; Son of the Fa - ther, be - got - ten, not cre - at - ed;
heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;
Refrain
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O
come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Words: John F. Wade, ca. 1743; trans. by Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, John F. Wade, ca 1743
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Spoken Interlude Genevieve Renovaes

Anthem Combined Youth Treble Choir & Chimes

O Come, Little Children

Johann A.P. Schulz; arr. Hal H. Hopson (b. 1933)

O come, little children,
O come, one and all;
O come to the cradle in Bethlehem’s stall.
The shepherds are kneeling before his poor bed,
while caroling angels are heard overhead.
Gloria, sing gloria.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

God’s Son for a gift has been sent you this night,
to be your redeemer, your joy and delight.
O lift up your voices and join in the praise,
that angels to God from the heavens to raise.
(Christoph von Schmid)

Spoken InterludeDrake Martin

Anthem Combined Youth Treble Choir

Dormi, Dormi

Traditional Italian Carol; arr. Mary Goetze (b. 1943)

Translation: Sleep, my beautiful child. Divine King. Sleep little child.
Why are you crying, my treasure. Sweet love. Sleep my dear son. Nice child.

Spoken Interlude Bennett Gamache

Anthem Combined Choirs, Brian Lustig, *director*

Star Carol

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Sing this night for a boy is born in Bethlehem	See, he lies in his mother's tender keeping
Christ our Lord in a lowly manger lies	Jesus Christ in her loving arms asleep
Bring your gifts come and worship at his cradle	Shepherds poor, come to worship and adore him
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary	Offer their humble gifts before the son of Mary
See his star shining bright	Let us pay our homage at the manger
In the sky this Christmas night	Sing his praise on this joyful Christmas Night
Follow me joyfully	Christ is come, bringing promises of salvation (John Rutter)
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary	
Angels bright come from heaven's highest glory	
Bear the news with its message of good cheer	
Sing, rejoice for a King is come to save us	

Spoken Interlude Mila Shatzko

Anthem Combined Choirs; Mila Shatzko, *soloist*

Go Tell it on the Mountain

African American Spiritual; arr. Victor Johnson

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.	The shepherds feared and trembled when lo above the earth, rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.	Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (John W. Works, Jr.)

TO HEAR THE WORD

• **Gospel Lesson:** *Luke 2:6-7* Ryker Ambrosio

The word of God for the People of God: **thanks be to God.**



Your Turn

Your Reflections Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

TO RENEW COMMITMENT

Faith in Action

Offertory Dr. Jacobon Hwang

Gentleness

David Evan Thomas (b. 1958)

• **Doxology #221: *In the Bleak Midwinter* (vs. 4)**



4. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shep - herd,
I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my
part, yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Words: Christina G. Rossetti, 1872
Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1906
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• **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you: **and also with you.**

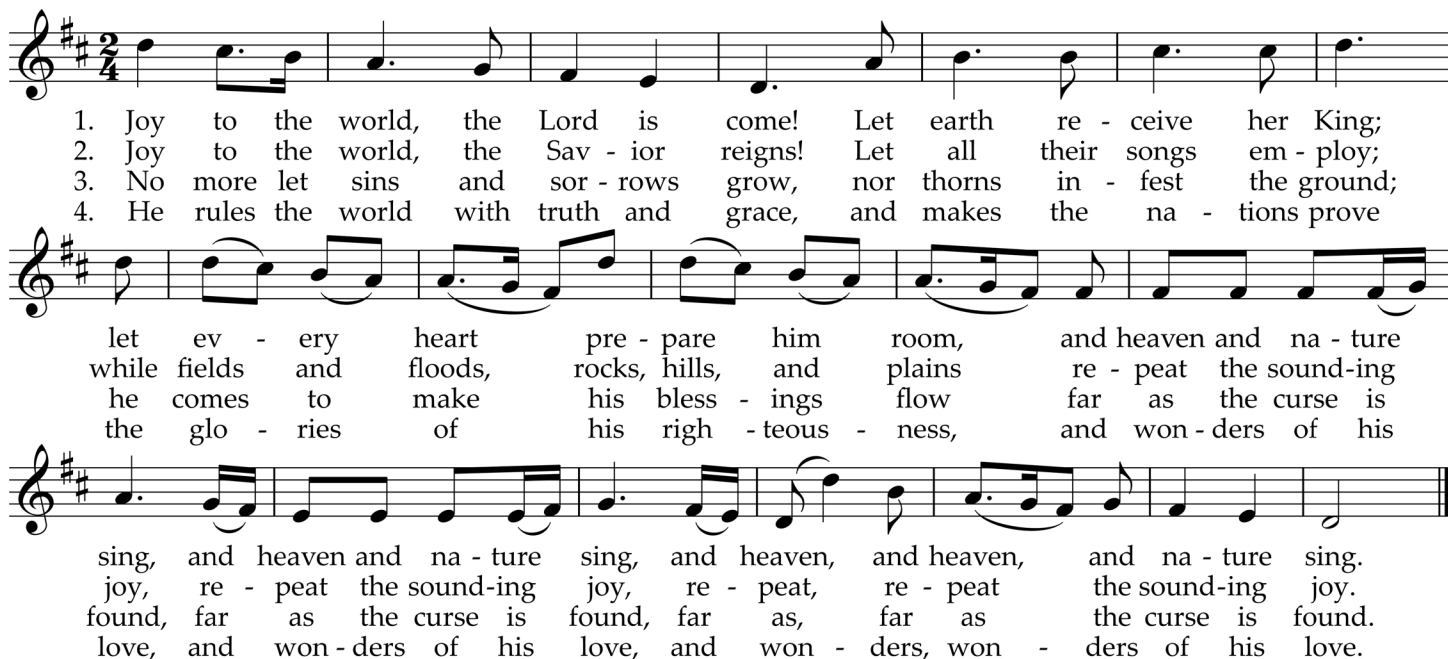
Let us pray.

We receive the blessing of this season of life. We anticipate Your gift of Christmas.

We await Your presence with Joy. For all of this, O God, we thank You. **Amen.**

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

• **Hymn of Consecration #246: *Joy to the World***



1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her King;
2. Joy to the world, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs em - ploy;
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the ground;
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions prove
let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and heaven and na - ture
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains re - peat the sound-ing
he comes to make his bless - ings flow far as the curse is
the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness, and won - ders of his
sing, and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven, and heaven, and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound-ing joy.
found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders of his love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719
Music: ANTIOCH, arr. from G. F. Handel, 1741, by Lowell Mason, 1848
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• **Christmas Blessing.** Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Postlude

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

PARTICIPATING IN THIS SERVICE

Director of Children's Music

Dana Zimbric

Primary Choir & Secondary Voices Accompanist

Jill Herbold

Angel Gabriel

Josie Tucker

Holy Family

The Duque Family

Shepherds

Jaxson Crislip

Griffin Maki

Carter Shatzko

Little Shepherd & Sheep

Riley Ambrosio

Ryiah Ambrosio

Magi

Masherano Castor

Tobias Crislip

Ray Moreno

Primary Choir Members

Eliora Cotton, Eugene Lee, Eloise Mulvaney, Sofia Mulvaney, Rico Renovales, Remington Roy, Cali Ruiz,
Abby Thompson, Alex Yorba, Emmalani Yorba, Ivy Zimbric, Mila Zuiev

Secondary Voices Members

Alexis Cabusao, Xavier Cabusao, Zachery Cabusao, Malaika Castor, Mashena Castor, Aron Contreras, Jaxson Crislip,
Tobias Crislip, Jada Hundley, Ray Moreno, Amanda Renovales, Genevieve Renovales, Mila Shatzko, Elsa Zimbric

Youth Chimes Members

Malaika Castor, Mashena Castor, Masherano Castor, Jaxson Crislip, Tobias Crislip, Jada Hundley, Loki Maki,
Ray Moreno, Sofia Mulvaney, Mila Shatzko, Elsa Zimbric

Acolytes

Harper Gamache

Amelie Gamache



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Growing in Grace, Reaching Out with Love

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO • IN MISSION SINCE 1869

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REV. TRUDY ROBINSON, REV. BRITTANY HANLIN, REV. DR. HANNAH KA, REV. TAMARA WALKER

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A RECONCILING CONGREGATION