



The First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

*Christmas Eve  
A Service of Lessons and Carols*

December 24, 2022

7:00 p.m.

ORGAN PRELUDE *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* Traditional/arr. Dan Coates

INTROIT *King of Heaven Come Down*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which has come to all people,  
for to you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior who is Christ the Lord!

**Unto us a Child is born! Unto us a Son is given!**

And the government shall be upon his shoulders.

**His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

\*OPENING CAROL *O Come, All Ye Faithful* No. 234  
verses 1, 3 & 6

CHRISTMAS EVE WELCOME

CHRISTMAS PRAISE *He Came Down  
Prince of Peace*

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

ANTHEM *Love Can Jay Rouse and Rose Aspinall*

INVOCATION  
***O God,  
We come to Bethlehem tonight in quietness and peace. We kneel at the manger to  
behold the miracle. The glory of Your Love is revealed in the Christ Child.  
With awe and reverence we worship. As we celebrate the Birth of Jesus,  
let your love be born in us anew. Amen.***

THE BIRTH FORETOLD

Isaiah 11:1-6  
CELLO SOLO *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

THE ANGEL GABRIEL VISITS MARY

Luke 1:26-33  
CAROL *(remain seated)* *O Little Town of Bethlehem* No. 230  
verses 1-3

THE BIRTH/MARY'S SONG

Luke 2:1-7  
SOLO *Breath of Heaven*

THE ANGELS' SONG

Luke 2:8-14  
PRAISE TEAM *Angels We Have Heard on High*

THE SHEPHERD'S RESPONSE

Luke 2:15-20  
PRAISE TEAM *Shepherd's Rock*

THE WISEMEN'S RESPONSE

Matthew 2:1-12  
CAROL *(remain seated)* *The First Noel* No. 245  
verses 3 & 4

OUR RESPONSE

THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER  
SOLO *O Holy Night*

MEDITATION Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

\*CAROL *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* No. 240

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING  
The Offertory *The Birthday of a King* William Neidlinger/arr. Tom Fettke  
Christmas Eve Doxology (choir and congregation) verse 4 No. 221

***What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, 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.***

## CANDLELIGHTING

For safety, as we light candles, please hold the lit candle completely upright and let your neighbor tilt the unlit candle to receive the flame from your light. The musicians will play while the candles are being lit. We will begin singing *Silent Night* after all the candles are lit. When the piano and choir begin *Silent Night*, please begin singing. (see insert)

### \*THE BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING CAROL (please stand) *Joy to the World* (see insert)

POSTLUDE *Ring the Bells* Harry Bollback

### PARTICIPATING IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE:

Music Director, Julia Burns  
Praise Team, Mike and Connie Clark, Chloe Keith, Ian Beard  
Members of Chancel Choir  
Pianist, Dennis Eiler  
Organist, Bradley Bettencourt  
Cellist, Rosslyn Clauson  
Soloists, Chloe Keith, Ed Avila  
Pastor, Rev. Mary Birgelaitis,  
Liturgists, David Beard, Valerie Beard  
Christ Candle, Carolyn Russell  
Ushers, Dave Bolterman, Dorine Bolterman  
Sound Technician, Lee Fonseca  
Camera, Alex Paredes



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