

A TIME OF PRAYER

Choral Call to Prayer *Emanuel, Emmanuel* No. 204  
 Prayer/Lord's Prayer  
 Choral Response *Emanuel, Emmanuel* No. 204

CHORAL ANTHEM *Emmanuel is Coming* Besig and Price

SCRIPTURE Jeremiah 33:14-16  
 Luke 21:25-36

HYMN *(remain seated)* *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* No. 131

SERMON A LIGHT IN THE DISTANCE: Rev. Mary Birgelaitis  
 Hope Keeps Watch

OFFERING

Call to Stewardship and Mission  
 Offertory *Masters in This Hall* Trad. Carol /arr. Lloyd Larson  
 Doxology/Prayer of Dedication Hymnal No. 94

*Praise God whose dawn transfigures night, whose Daystar shines for us on high,  
 whose Spirit brings into our sight the hope to which our world draws nigh.*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving Hymnal, page 15  
 Sharing the Bread and Cup  
 Communion Music *Breath of Heaven* Grant Eaton/arr. Melody Bober

\*CLOSING HYMN *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* No. 203

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *People, Look East (verse 4)* No. 202

*Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.  
 Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord is on the way.*

POSTLUDE *Let All Things Now Living* Ash Grove

*\*Please stand as able.*

*Music Director: Julia Burns Piano/Keyboard: Dennis Eiler Organ: Brad Bettencourt*

Today's Scripture

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

**Luke 21:25-36**

'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand

up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.' Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

*Today's Liturgist: Cristy van Hook*



ATTENDANCE						GIVING
WEEK	8:30	10:30	IN-PERSON	VIDEO	TOTAL	
11/03	45	52	97	37	134	\$15,905
11/10	37	49	86	16	102	\$ 4,579
11/17	59	78	137	34	171	\$ 2,214
11/24	37	48	85	14	99	\$ 2,040
Our Fiscal Year started July 1 Weekly Offering Needed \$6,321 STEWARDSHIP REPORT: YTD Received \$122,990 YTD Budgeted \$130,351 Thanksgiving Received \$1,533 Thanksgiving Budgeted \$3,500						

**HOSPITALITY TIME**  
*Today's Hosts:*  
**FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY**  
 Next Sunday Dec. 8  
**ENDOWMENT/ ELT**



# THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR



<b>Mon</b>	<b>Dec 02</b>	2:00 PM Gerry's quilt Class]--CH.
<b>Tue</b>	<b>Dec 03</b>	9:00 AM Senior Exercise-CH, 10:00 AM Sew & Sews-MMR, 11:00 AM Chair Yoga- CH, 1:00 PM Bible Study-CH, 5:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal-HR, 7:00 PM Board of Trustees-MMR.
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Dec 04</b>	9 AM Church Work Morning-CH, 10:00 AM Fellowship Committee-L.
<b>Thu</b>	<b>Dec 05</b>	9:00 AM Senior Exercise-CH, 11:00 AM Chair Yoga-CH, 5:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal HR, 6:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal-S.
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Dec 06</b>	3:00 to 5:00 PM Christmas Extravaganza- Criswell Hall.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>Dec 08</b>	8:30 AM Contemporary Service-Sanctuary, 10:30 AM Traditional Service-Sanctuary

Abbreviaton Legend  
 CH--Criswell Hall  
 S--Sanctuary  
 K--Kitchen  
 L--Library---Room #123  
 MMR--McMillen Room #113  
 PS--Pastor's Study  
 HR--Handbell Room #115

TODAY!




**ADVENT CRAFTS WORKSHOP**  
 Sunday, Dec. 1, Crafts workshop and light lunch of soup, salad, roll and cookies. 11:30 to 4 PM. \$15 per person or \$25 per family. Lots of fun!




**ADVENT BIBLE STUDY, Tuesdays, Criswell Hall 1:00 PM**  
 Study Book: "An Unlikely Advent" by Rachel Billups. See Nancy St. Laurent for books.


**SEE'S CANDIES FUNDRAISER FOR THE CHILDREN'S CENTER** is underway now! The money raised will be used to provide supplies and materials for the children.




**CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA VARIETY SHOW**  
 Friday, December 6th in Criswell Hall. Memorable performances by talented people. No charge for a great show!



The ANGEL TREE is set up in Criswell Hall! The gifts are due no later than 12/18/24 by noon. They can be brought to the tree or to the church office with prior notice.



To Brad Bettencourt and Dennis Eiler for their dedicated service and amazing music!




**First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande**  
 275 N. Halcyon Road, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420



December 01, 2024

10:30 AM

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Sunday of Advent

## CENTERING WORDS

Once you choose hope, everything is possible."  
 ---Christopher Reeve

PRELUDE *How Far Is It to Bethlehem* Mark Hayes from Trad. English

INTROIT *People, Look East (verse 1)* No. 202  
**People, look east, the time is near for the crowning of the year.  
 Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.  
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest is on the way.**

## \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

The days are surely coming, says our God,  
 when I bring my promised salvation to all.  
**Christ is our hope.**  
 The days are surely coming, says our God,  
 when justice and righteousness will guide our world.  
**Christ is our hope.**  
 The days are surely coming, says our God,  
 when my promised one will heal the world with compassion and love.

\*OPENING HYMN *Come, O Come Emmanuel* (verses 1, 2, 6 & 7) No. 211

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING PRAYER

**God of all hopefulness, bring hope to our days.  
 Grant us patience to watch and wait  
 for signs of your presence.  
 Illumine our steps and show us the path,  
 that we may find courage to live with faith.  
 Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Carolyn Russell

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE The Candle of Hope  
(congregation sings "Away in the Manger" as children come forward)

