

A TIME OF PRAYER

Choral Call to Prayer *Like a Child (verse 1)* TFWS #2092
 Prayer/Lord's Prayer
 Choral Response *Like a Child (verse 1)* TFWS #2092

CHORAL ANTHEM *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* Dave Williams

SCRIPTURE Micah 5:2-5a
 Luke 1:26-38

HYMN (*remain seated*) *O Little Town of Bethlehem (verses 1, 2)* No. 230

SERMON A STAR IN THE NIGHT Rev. Mary Birgelaitis
 Peace Shines

OFFERING

Call to Stewardship and Mission
 Offertory *Comfort Ye My People* George F. Handel
 Doxology/Prayer of Dedication
*Praise God whose dawn transfigures night,
 whose Daystar shines for us on high,
 whose Spirit brings into our sight
 the peace to which our world draws nigh.*

*CLOSING HYMN *Joy to the World* No. 246

*BENEDICTION

As Mary before us, let's be a people of hope.
As Jesus before us, let's be a people of love.
 We go forth, trusting God's promises
as hope, and love lead the way to Christmas.

CHORAL RESPONSE *The Snow Lay on the Ground (verse 1)* TFWS #2093
*The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright,
 when Christ our Lord was born on Christmas night.
 Venite adoremus Dominum. Venite adoremus Dominum.
 Refrain: Venite adoremus Dominum. Venite adoremus Dominum.*

POSTLUDE *Then Shall Your Light Shine Forth* Patricia L. Harris

**Please stand as able.*

Music Director: Julia Burns Piano/Keyboard: Dennis Eiler Organ: Brad Bettencourt Solo: Dave Anderson

Today's Scripture

Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
 who are one of the little clans of Judah,
 from you shall come forth for me
 one who is to rule in Israel,
 whose origin is from of old,
 from ancient days.
 Therefore he shall give them up until the time
 when she who is in labor has brought forth;
 then the rest of his kindred shall return
 to the people of Israel.
 And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength
 of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of
 the LORD his God. And they shall live secure,
 for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;
 and he shall be the one of peace.

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from
 God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin
 betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of
 the house of David. And the virgin's name was
 Mary. And he came to her and said,
 "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!"
 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and

tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And
 the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you
 have found favor with God. And behold, you will
 conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall
 call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called
 the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to
 him the throne of his father David, and he will reign
 over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom
 there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I
 am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, The Holy Spirit will come
 upon you, and the power of the Most High will
 overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be
 called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative
 Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son,
 and this is the sixth month with her who was called
 barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And
 Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it
 be to me according to your word." And the angel
 departed from her.

Today's Liturgist: Rosslyn Clauson

ATTENDANCE						GIVING
WEEK	8:30	10:30	IN-PERSON	VIDEO	TOTAL	
11/24	37	48	85	30	115	\$ 2,040
12/01	30	50	80	29	109	\$ 9,553
12/08	34	44	78	26	104	n/a
12/15	40	71	111	10	121	n/a
Our Fiscal Year started July 1 Weekly Offering Needed \$6,321 STEWARDSHIP REPORT: n/a						

HOSPITALITY TIME

Today's Hosts:
MISSION TEAM


Next Sunday
Dec. 29

STAFF-PARISH
RELATIONS
COMMITTEE



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR



Tue	Dec 24	11:00 AM Chair Yoga-CH, 7:00 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve-S
Wed	Dec 25	Christmas Day  Church office closed
Thu	Dec 26	Church office--no office hours, 11:00 AM Chair Yoga-CH,
Sun	Dec 29	8:30 AM Contemporary Service-Sanctuary. 10:30 AM Traditional Service-Sanctuary.

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



Tuesday, December 24, Candlelight Christmas Eve 7:00 PM

Join us to sing carols, hear the original Christmas story and worship by candlelight. Let us come together on this special night to celebrate the birth of the Christ child.



Monday, December 30



People's
Kitchen Food
Prep-K



Tuesday, December 31
Food Distribution at
People's Kitchen Site

Saturday, January 25, 11 AM

Fellowship Ministry visit to the Piedras Blancas elephant seals in Cambria. Depart at 10 AM to carpool from the church. Sign up in the Narthex.

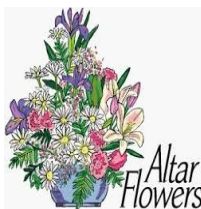


Altar flowers are given by
BOB AND MARY JORSTAD
in honor of their
**56th WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY,
CYNDEE ROHLA**

Altar flowers are given
with love
from your family



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande
275 N. Halcyon Road, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420
805 481-2692 fumcag@yahoo.com worshipweekly.com



December 22, 2024

10:30 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* trad. English carol /arr. Dan Coates

INTROIT *The Snow Lay on the Ground* TFWS #2093

*The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright,
when Christ our Lord was born on Christmas night.
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*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

My soul magnifies the Lord.

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

God has looked upon us with love and joy.

God has blessed us from generation to generation.

Let us worship and praise our great God of mercy.

*OPENING HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (verses 1, 3, 4 & 5) No. 234

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

*As Christmas comes, O God, enter our hearts
and help us to reflect your love.*

*As hurriedness rushes to meet us,
remind us to slow down, break pace,
and to anticipate joy.*

*In this season of hope, joy and love, give us peace.
In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Carolyn Russell

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