

SAN DIEGUITO
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Open Hearts ~ Open Minds ~ Open Doors

9:00 am

December 11, 2011

10:45 am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Third Sunday In Advent

*"...when roads of light and storm
open from darkness in a man or a woman,
are turned away from
in dread, in a wave of weakness, in despair
and with relief.*

*Ordinary lives continue.
God does not smite them.
But the gates close, the pathway vanishes."*

--Denise Levertov

Entrance

Prelude —

Marcel Dupré

Magnificat V--He remembering his mercy hath helped his
servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.
Antiphon V--How Fair and Pleasant Art Thou.

Introit — "Good Christian Men Rejoice".....J. Wilson

*Processional Hymn No. 203 — "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

*The Lighting of the Third Candle of Advent(9:00) Barb, Dave, and Jake McCulloh
(10:45) Craig & Toni Malin

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name."

Today we remember Mary, innocent and powerful, sacred and scared, as the Savior grows in her womb. She sings boldly when she might be meek; she bears her role with the confidence of a warrior; she is the beginning of a mighty revolution as the proud are brought down and the lowly lifted up.

**Today we give thanks for the Marys among us –
unintended pioneers determined to do as God asks;
fearless and fearfully stepping out in faith, and beckoning us to do the same.**

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Mary,
mother of God, bearer of the Way.

The first three candles on the Advent wreath are lighted in silence, followed by the musical response.

Responsive Hymn No. 211 — "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verse 6)

♪ **O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.** ♪

Call to Prayer (*based on Psalm 80*)

With the Psalmist, we call out to the Lord,

“Restore us, O Lord God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.”

Seeking salvation from on high, we pray together.

Prayer of the People

Lord Jesus Christ,

we confess our willingness to be loved but also our reluctance to love.

We confess our readiness to accept your forgiveness but also our refusal to forgive.

We confess our eagerness to call upon you in our need

but also our resistance to follow you without question.

In this Advent time, forgive us and redeem us in your mercy.

Come to us anew, and by your grace, assist us to receive you

with joy, as the shepherds;

with praise, as the angels;

with obedience, as Mary and Joseph;

with love, as you have loved us.

Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance (*based on John 3*)

Through God's love, we are restored and saved, for God entered our world in Jesus Christ,

“not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.”

Hear then Christ's word of grace to us: Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Hymn Response No. 206 — “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” (verse 2)

♪ **I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.**

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus. ♪

Children's Moment 9:00

At this time all children are invited to the front of the church to hear a brief message.

The children will be excused afterwards to attend their Sunday School classes.

Childcare is available for infants and toddlers during both services in the nursery

located adjacent to the Sanctuary.

10:45 Children ages Pre-K — 3rd grade may leave for Sunday School.

Greetings and Announcements

*Please register your attendance by clearly printing your **first and last** name in the attendance pad found in each pew, passing the pad to the end of the pew, and then back to the center aisle.*

Proclamation of the Word

Prayer for Illumination — “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”Charles Wesley

The First Reading — 2 Peter 3:8-15 (Pew Bible page 1063).....(9:00) Chase Heck
(10:45) Walt Stewart

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Anthem — “God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen” (from Feast of Carols).....Randol Alan Bass

God rest ye, merry gentlemen, let nothing you dismay;
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day
To save us all from Satan’s power when we were gone astray.
O, tidings of comfort and joy.
From God that is our Father the blessed angels came
Unto certain shepherds with tidings of the same,
That there was born in Bethlehem the Son of God by name.
O, tidings of comfort and joy.
God bless the ruler of this house and send him long to reign,
And many a merry Christmas may he live to see again.
Among our friends and kindred that live both far and near;
And God send you a happy new year!

The Second Reading— Luke 1:26-38 (Pew Bible page 887).....The Reverend Mark Feldmeir
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Hymn of Preparation No. 198— “My Soul Gives Glory to My God” (verses 1, 2, 4, 5)

The Sermon — “The Christmas Conspiracy: Mary-The First Disciple”.....The Reverend Mark Feldmeir

Reception of New Members (9:00)

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*Thomas & Kirby Brislin, Craig & Antoinette Malin, Bradley Nussbaum,
Peni and Steve Plucker , Diane Thompson Winfield .*

*Affirmation of Faith (10:45)

**We believe in one God,
the creator of all things, who loves the whole creation
with a father’s tenderness and a mother’s strength.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
the Word of God made flesh, true God and truly human;
a bringer of God’s Kingdom,
a teacher and a healer,
a lover of life and a prophet of justice,
forgiver of sins and a friend of sinners,
who welcomed the outcasts and challenged the powerful,
whose death on the cross defeated sin and death,
who rose from the dead and is alive forever.
We believe in one God,
the Holy Spirit, the giver of life
the Breath of life in all life,
who makes us one community in peace and love.
We believe in one God,
a community of love
a trinity of holiness
the beginning and the end of all life. Amen.**

(Composed by Doug Gay)
Choral Call to Prayer, Pastoral Prayer, Lord's Prayer

*Greeting — Offering Signs of Peace & Reconciliation

The Offering

Offertory — "Love Came Down at Christmas".....Alice Jordan

*Doxology No. 94

♪ **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! ♪

Offertory Prayer

Merciful and gracious God,
accept this offering of your people.
Remember in your love those who have brought it
and those for whom it is given,
and so follow it with your blessing
that it may promote peace and goodwill,
and advance the kingdom of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Hymn of Consecration No. 209— "Blessed Be the God of Israel"

Sending Forth

*The Light of Christ Leads Us Out Into the World

*The Benediction

Choral Benediction — "Jesus, Our Only Joy".....Paul Sjolund

*The Postlude — "Magnificat. VI--Gloria".....Marcel Dupré

**Indicates that you are invited to stand.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

CHANCEL FLOWERS: Today's flowers are donated by Amy Witman in honor of Ryan Witman's birthday, and by Bill & Barbara Bell in celebration of their 44th wedding anniversary. The Rose bud is in celebration of the birth of Trevor Anthony Sterrett born on November 28, 2011, son of Sonia & David Sterrett. Proud grandparents are Linda & Dick Sterrett.

GREETERS: (9:00) Don & Kathy Madren (10:45) Gerardo & Patricia Rojas

USHERS: (9:00) Paul & Rosella Davis, Bruce & Kristine Headrick
(10:45) Virginia Odend'hal, Griff & Beth Thomas

RECEPTIONIST: (9:00) JoAnne Moran (10:45) Patricia Hoines