



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

Welcome Home

Order of Worship

December 11, 2022

Joyfulness! Elation! Seeing the best in others flows from the Spirit of God.

Build each other up to prepare for the greatest gift of all.

Prelude

Kevin Su Fukagawa

Welcome

Meribeth Freeman

*Call to Worship

The Lord be with you

And Also with you

Let us proclaim that Joy comes in the morning

Joy emerges, even in the driest desert

Let us proclaim that Joy comes in the rain

Joy emerges, even in the greatest suffering

Let there be joy in this room today!

Let there be joy in the world!

Pam Pond

3rd Sunday of Advent



*Opening Prayer

Promised One, we pray that you will enter our hearts again.

Enter our worship with your joyful presence.

Bring light into this world wherever there is darkness.

With joyous gratitude, we pray in the name of the one who will come again.

Amen

*Opening Hymn 'Hark The Herald Angels Sing'

Hymnal #240v1-4

Verse 1

Hark the herald angels sing

Glory to the newborn King

Peace on earth and mercy mild

God and sinners reconciled

Joyful all ye nations rise

Join the triumph of the skies

With th'angelic hosts proclaim

Christ is born in Bethlehem

Hark the herald angels sing

Glory to the newborn King

Pleased as man with men to dwell

Jesus our Emmanuel

Hark the herald angels sing

Glory to the newborn King

Verse 3

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace

Hail the Sun of Righteousness

Light and life to all He brings

Ris'n with healing in His wings

Mild He lays His glory by

Born that man no more may die

Born to raise the sons of earth

Born to give them second birth

Hark the herald angels sing

Glory to the newborn King

Verse 2

Christ by highest heav'n adored

Christ the everlasting Lord

Late in time behold Him come

Offspring of the Virgin's womb

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see

Hail th'incarnate Deity



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Verse 4
Come Desire of nations come
Fix in us Thy humble home
Rise the woman's conqu'ring seed
Bruise in us the serpent's head

Adam's likeness now efface
Stamp Thine image in its place
Second Adam from above
Reinstate us in Thy love
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Carol Vargeson

*In Christ's mercy and grace, God brings light into darkness,
In Christ's love for all, God brings hope and joy into the distressed,
As we light this candle of Joy, may Jesus burn brightly in our hearts this day!
And all God's people say, "Amen and Amen"*

Covenant of Proclamations of Faith

Pastor Jim Powell

Chuck Warner, Kathy Warner, Martha Phillips, Carol Vargeson

Children's Message

Pastor Jim Powell

Scripture: Matthews 11:2-11^{NRSV}

Pam Pond

2 When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples 3 and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" 4 Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. 6 And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. 9 What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 10 This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

11 Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Anthem Choir "Unspeakable Joy"

with guest soloist Leslie Ann Hernandez
Directed by Kevin Su Fukagawa

Sermon: "Joy: Keeping Your Mission Alive"

Pastor Jim Powell

Moving into a Spirit of Prayer

Covenant Prayers for the Cal-Pac Churches

Meribeth Freeman

Bethel Korean Mission Church & Atascadero UMC



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Pastoral Prayers

NEW REQUESTS

CONTINUE TO PRAY

IN MOURNING

Wife Patti and family upon the passing of her husband Jerry from the flu (Rob Domes' B-I-L)

HEALING & RECOVERY

Roger with heart issues planning other surgeries (Tripp)

Danny with heart and kidney problems (St. Ledger)

Georgia beginning chemotherapy (Forbes)

Tony with liver cancer, told he has 6-9 months to live (Suzanne Ford)

Alli who had a hospital stay due to expecting identical twins with Will (Jennifer Winter's son)

Doris recovery from a broken pelvis (Janice Kakazu's mother)

Karen success & healing from breast cancer surgery (Janice Kakazu's sister)

Tracy with multiple serious health problems and unable to work (friend of Christina M & Patti A)

Diane recovering from esophagus surgery (Friend of Debi Dyer)

Ceil with failing health (Adler)

Amber recovering from a lightning strike (Escudero-Konostathis)

Carolyn & Hanna (Sylvester)

CANCER TREATMENT

Georgia (Forbes), Karen (Janice K), Logan (Kathy H), Rita (Buckley, Lynne H) Bill (Debi D's Uncle), Heather (Marion E's Daughter), Debbie, JoAnn Y, Joshua (Leslie's son), Ruby (cousin of Emmie), Ariel (friend of Pam M), Dick, Romana, Bob and Gonzalo (friends of McEachern's), Toni, Sylvia (friend of Pam P), Joey (Friend of Taty) and Melissa (Pastor Bob & Beth Ferguson's D-I-L)

IN HOSPICE CARE

John (Thompson, friend of Roger Tripp)

Carole's mother (Tripp)

The Lord's Prayer

Moving Beyond a Spirit of Prayer

Invitation to Give our Blessings back to God

Meribeth Freeman

Offertory "Maria Wiegenlied" by Max Reger

Guest Soloist, Meribeth Freeman

***Doxology "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"**

Hymnal #95

*Blessing of our Gifts and Tithes

***Closing Hymn "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"**

Hymnal # 234v1-2

Verse 1

**Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart**

Verse 2

**Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne**



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*Benediction

Pastor Jim Powell

Ministry & Life of the Church Announcements

12-13 Conejo Connect Youth Meeting 5:30pm UMC T.O.

12-16 Polar Bear Express Movie Night 7:00pm UMC T.O.



12-24 7pm Christmas Eve Service

12-25 10am Christmas Day Service

12-25 Christmas Dinner 5pm hosted by Nancy Liedblad – please RSVP
ONGOING

Mondays - Pastor's Team 9am

Wednesdays - Men's Study at 11am in the Fireside Room

Postlude

Kevin Su Fukagawa

Thank you

Meribeth and Pam for leading us in worship,

Pastor Jim Powell for the Sermon Message,

Kevin Su Fukagawa, Leslie Ann Hernandez and The St. Matthew's Choir for our music

*The Altar Flowers are provided by Lynne & Bill Hartley
in honor of Danielle Hartley's Birthday*

Fellowship Today is provided by Emmie St. Ledger & Nancy Liedblad

Happy Birthday to

12-12 Scott Detweiler, 12-16 Marvin Whisman

Music Credits

"Hark The Herald Angels Sing" CCLI Song # 27738

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"Unspeakable Joy" CCLI Song # 7074845 Rebecca J. Peck © 2016 Thomas Peck Music (Admin. by Peck Music Group)

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" Thomas Ken, Louis Bourgeois CCLI Song # 56204

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