

A TIME OF PRAYER

Choral Call to Prayer *Star-Child* verse 1 TFWS #2095
 Prayer/Lord's Prayer
 Choral Response *Star-Child* verse 5 TFWS #2095

CHOIR ANTHEM *Still, Still, Still* Marilyn and Alan Bergman/Norman

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 40:1-5
 Mark 1:1-8

HYMN (*remain seated*) *Of the Father's Love Begotten* No. 184

SERMON Rev. Mary Birgelaitis
 ADVENT AGENDA:
 "Prepare for Peace"

OFFERING

Call to Stewardship and Mission
 Offertory *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* Roland Prichard
 Doxology/Prayer of Dedication Hymnal, No. 95

*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 *Life Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* No. 213

*BENEDICTION

May the God of all hope fill you with joy and peace in believing,
 and may the blessings of God, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit
 be with you all. Amen.

RESPONSE *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* verse 1 No. 224

*Good Christian friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice.
 Now ye hear of endless bliss. News, news! Jesus Christ was born for this.
 He hath opened heaven's door, and ye are blest forevermore.
 Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!*

POSTLUDE *What Child Is This?* William C. Dix/ (based on Greensleeves)

Music Director: Julia Burns Piano/Keyboard: Dennis Eiler

ISAIAH 40:1-5

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

MARK 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the

Today's Liturgist: Priscilla Alquist

Second Sunday of Advent



PEACE

ALL CHURCH SUNDAY HOSPITALITY TIME

are the last TWO Sundays in December

Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.

WEEK	ATTENDANCE					STEWARDSHIP
	8:30	10:30	IN-PERSON	VIDEO	TOTAL	
11/12	32	69	101	43	144	\$32,262
11/19	39	70	109	33	142	\$ 5,458
11/26	29	53	82	23	105	\$ 3,412
12/03	40	78	118	n/a	n/a	\$10,075

Our Fiscal Year started July 1 Weekly Offering Needed \$6,038
 STEWARDSHIP REPORT: YTD Received \$149,130 YTD Budgeted \$125,923
 Christmas Received \$1,153 Christmas Budgeted \$8,700

HOSPITALITY TIME

Today's Hosts:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Hosts next Sunday, Dec. 17

Christian Education and Worship



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR



Mon	Dec 11	9:00 AM AGUMCC Christmas Rehearsal-S, 4:30 PM Communications-Library.	Abbreviation Legend CH--Criswell Hall S--Sanctuary K--Kitchen L--Library Room #123 MMR--McMillen Room #113 PS--Pastor's Study HR--Hand Bell Room #115
Tue	Dec 12	9:00 AM AGUMCC Christmas Rehearsal-S, 9:00 AM Senior Exercise-CH, 10:00 Sew-n-Sews-MMR, 11:00 AM Chair Yoga--CH, 1:00 PM Bible Study--CH, 5:00 PM Hand Bell Practice--Hand Bell Room.	
Wed	Dec 13	9:00 AM AGUMCC Christmas Rehearsal-S, 9:00 AM Senior Exercise-CH, 9:00 AM Church Workday.	
Thu	Dec 14	9:00 AM AGUMCC Christmas Rehearsal-S, 9 AM Senior Exercise-CH, 5:00 PM Hand Bell Practice-HR, 6:00 AGUM Children's Center Christmas Program-S, 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary.	
Sun	Dec 17	8:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service-Sanctuary.	
Sun	Dec 17	10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service-Sanctuary.	



Thu. Dec. 14, 6:00 pm in the
Sanctuary Children's Center
Annual Christmas Program.



Reception follows in Criswell Hall.

We have just received the 2023 CENTRAL COAST SENIOR RESOURCE GUIDE, hot off the press, which has not been published since 2018. Pick up a free copy at the Connections desk in the narthex.

FUTURE EVENTS:

- January 20 No Train Museum Visit--
To be rescheduled
- February 10 Paulding Museum Tour with
Jim Gregory
- February 24 Branch Street Tour

Sign up at Connections!



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



December 10, 2023

10:30 AM

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace."

---Luke 1:78-79

PRELUDE

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Trad. French Melody

INTROIT

The King of Glory Comes

TFWS #2091

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The day foretold is coming,
**When our deafened ears will hear a choir,
 a heavenly host proclaiming peace!**
 The One foretold is coming-----
**Whose cry will pierce the deepest gloom:
 a newborn's wail in the silent night!**
 The day is at hand! O World, listen!
The Savior draws near!

*OPENING HYMN

People, Look East

No. 202

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

**Loving God,
 bring us hope and peace this day.
 Help us to prepare for the celebration of your birth,
 and for the coming of your justice in our world.
 In the name of Jesus, our Prince of Peace, we pray.
 Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Carolyn Russell

LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE The Candle of Peace

(congregation sings "Away in a Manger" as children come and go)