



**Philippians 4:4-7**

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**Luke 1:39-56**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,  
"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. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

*Today's Liturgist: Sharon Roemer*



In the name of Christ Jesus, we welcome you to the First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande and to this service of worship. We are happy that you have joined us here today. Your presence is a gift and we hope that you will find our worship meaningful and that you come worship with us again.

If it is your first time with us, we invite you to join us for coffee hour in our fellowship hall so that we can get to know each other.

**First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande**

275 North Halcyon Road  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

**Contact us.**

M - F from 9 AM – 1 PM  
(subject to change)  
\* Our Senior Pastor is off on Mondays.

**Church Office:** 805 . 481 . 2692  
**On The Web @** worshipweekly.com  
**Office E-mail:** fumcag@sbcglobal.net  
**Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis E-mail:** revmaryb@fumcag.org



**Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center**

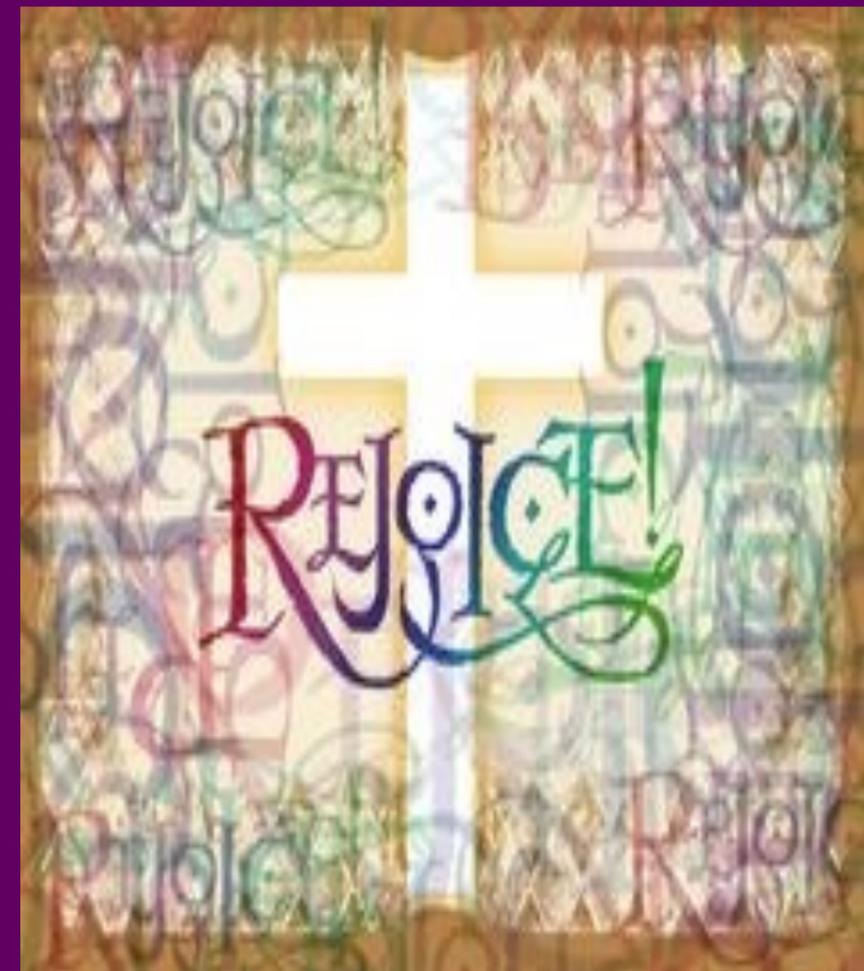
Program Tours Daily by appointment ONLY on Monday thru Friday 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM or 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM.  
*Come and find out if we are a good fit for you and your child.*

**Office Hours:** M—F from 9 AM—5 PM

**Meet Our CHURCH STAFF**

<b>Cal-Pac Conference Bishop:</b> Minerva G. Carcaño	<b>Choir Director:</b> Julie Burns
<b>North District Superintendent:</b> Rev. James Powell	<b>Choral Pianist:</b> Dennis Eiler
<b>Senior Pastor:</b> Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis	<b>Multi-Media Director:</b> Mike Coho
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**8:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE**



**December 13, 2015**



# First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Third Sunday of Advent

Music by The Lord's Crew

December 13, 2015

8:30 AM

*"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. —Luke 1:46b-49*

### Gathering

OPENING PRAISE *Hark the Herald Angels Sing!*  
WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH  
LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY  
\*PRAISE SONGS *O Little Town of Bethlehem  
To Bethlehem We Go  
On Bended Knee*

\*SHARING GOD'S PEACE  
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Joys & Concerns  
Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving  
The Lord's Prayer

### Sharing and Responding to God's Word

SONG OF ILLUMINATION *Winds Through the Olive Trees*  
SCRIPTURE *Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 1:39-56*

MESSAGE *"A SONG IN THE SOUL: Joy Receives"*  
Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis

RESPONSE SONG *More Precious Than Silver*

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION  
(please bring offering up at Communion)

Words for Communion  
Communion Song *O Holy Night*  
Prayer after Communion

### Going Forth to Serve

\*FINAL BLESSING *Emmanuel, Emmanuel  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.*

\*CLOSING SONG *Reprise, Hark the Herald Angels Sing!*

\*Worshippers stand as able.

## The Bulletin Board



Coffee Hour Today  
Is Hosted By  
FINANCE TEAM

Next Week's Coffee Hour  
Will Be Hosted By  
JOY Circle

We thank you all for your  
service to our church!



Happy Birthday  
To our loving daughter,  
Susan Thronson,  
From Mom and Dad



### Abbreviation Legend

(S) Sanctuary (PL) Parking Lot  
(L) Library (CH) Criswell Hall  
(MMR) McMillen Room (K) Kitchen  
(P/S) Pastor's Study



#### Monday—12/14

- Emergency Food Pantry—1-3 PM—CH
- Women of Prayer—7 PM—S

#### Tuesday—12/15

- Senior Exercise—8:30 AM—CH
- Chair Yoga Class—11 AM—CH
- Preschool Board Meeting (MMR)  
1:30 PM Open Session  
2:30 PM Closed Session
- Grande Ringer Rehearse—5 PM—HBR
- JOY Circle—7 PM—At member's home

#### Wednesday—12/16

- Senior Exercise—8:30 AM—CH
- Church Work Day—9 AM
- Communications—10 AM (L)
- Ladies Christian Counseling—12 PM—L
- Free Dinner—5 PM—CH
- Advent Bible Study—5:45 PM—CH
- Chancel Choir—7 PM—S

#### Thursday—12/17

- Senior Exercise—8:30 AM—CH
- Intercessory Prayer—10 AM—L
- FCCW-Food & Gift Outreach prep—  
12PM (CH)
- Grande Ringers Rehearse—5 PM—HBR

#### Friday—12/18

- Bible Study—8:30 AM (L)
- FCCW -Food & Gift Outreach prep—  
9 AM (CH)

#### Saturday—12/19

- FCCW-Food & Gift Outreach: Prep—  
7 AM (CH,N) Event is 10 AM to 1 PM
- Chancel Choir Party—6 PM (Home of  
Melsheimers)

### THINGS TO DO TODAY

Congregational Care Committee  
11:45 AM—McMillan Room

Staff Parish Relations Committee  
Between Services—Pastor's Study



TODAY, DECEMBER 13  
*Noisy Offering*  
MISSION PROJECT BEGINS!  
Today the children start collecting their "noisy offering." This money will be used to purchase FLOCKS OF CHICKENS through Heifer International.  
  
We will begin this offering today, so be ready to greet the children with your coins. Bills or checks are also accepted.

DEC 20 12-2:30 PM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS HAPPENING  
KIDS' DAY OUT!  
Sunday School will host children ages 3 and up with lunch, games, crafts, a movie, a visit from Santa and more. Children encouraged to wear pajamas to church that day and stay for the festivities!  
  
A Note from Bennie:  
We have Christmas children's books in the library! Please come check them out! Books, CDs and videos about Christmas are also available for adults. Get better acquainted with this little gem of a library found in our own church.

Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>  
10:30 A.M. Worship Service  
The Chancel Choir presents the  
*Christmas Cantata*  
*"Sing with the Angels!"*  
by Joel Raney  
  
With special musicians:  
Cello- Alisha Bauer  
Flute- Kristy Aston  
Percussion-Leonard Lutz

THE ANGEL TREE  
Check out The Angel Tree in Criswell Hall and the gift tags on the tree to aid foster children and other children in need. For any questions, contact Jan Treat. Unwrapped gifts are to be brought to the church no later than December 21, 2015.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY  
Wednesday 5:45 PM  
Please join us for our final session studying Mike Slaughter's book, *Christmas Is Not Your Birthday*.  
  
December 16th—Session # 5  
*By A Different Road*  
December 23th and 30th—Christmas and New Years' Break

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH BIBLE STUDY  
CRISWELL HALL  
10:30 AM  
Join Us For Fellowship And Fun on Sunday mornings!  
All middle school and high school students are invited.  
*Itby Russell leads the group.*



# Today's Scripture

## Philippians 4:4-7

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Today's Liturgist: Mary Hawkins



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Office: 805 . 481 . 2223  
E-mail: agumcc@sbcglobal.net

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Welcome to Worship!

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—Luke 1:46b-49

\* You are invited to stand in body and/or spirit

#### WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen	arr. Dan Coates
INTROIT	Angels We Have Heard on High	verse 1 No. 238

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

The day foretold is coming,  
**When our awakening hearts will receive the salvation of our God.**  
The One foretold is coming—  
whose joy will enter our hearts and send us forth singing!  
**The day is at hand! O World, rejoice!**  
The Savior draws near!

\*OPENING HYMN      *There's a Song in the Air*      verse 1-3 No. 249

CHILDREN'S MOMENT      Patti Melsheimer  
LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE—JOY  
Please sing as the children come forward and as they leave  
"Away in the Manger" No. 217

ANTHEM      *Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy*      by Robert De Cormier

#### SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

#### A TIME OF MEDITATION AND PRAYER

Choral Call to Prayer	Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	verse 1 No. 229
Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer		
Choral Response	Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	verse 2 No. 229

