



The First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

*Christmas Eve
A Service of Lessons and Carols*

December 24, 2016

7:00 p.m.

PRELUDE

The Snow Lay on the Ground
English Melody, adapt. by C.W. Douglas

INTROIT

Carol of the Bells

arr. Peter J. Wilhousky

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which has come to all people, for to you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior who is Christ the Lord!

Unto us a Child is born! Unto us a Son is given!

And the government shall be upon his shoulders.

His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,

Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

*OPENING CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful
verses 1, 3 & 6

No. 234

CHRISTMAS EVE WELCOME

INVOCATION

O God,

We come tonight to Bethlehem, in quietness and peace. We kneel at the manger to behold the miracle. The glory of Your Love is revealed in the Christ Child.

With awe and reverence we worship. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let your love be born in us anew. Amen.

ANTHEM

An Angelic Christmas Medley

arr. Greg Gilpin

THE BIRTH FORETOLD

Isaiah 11:1-6

CAROL *(remain seated)*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
verses 1 & 4

No. 211

THE ANGEL GABRIEL VISITS MARY

Luke 1:26-33

CAROL *(remain seated)*

O Little Town of Bethlehem
verses 1, 3 & 4

No. 230

THE BIRTH/MARY'S SONG

Luke 2:1-7

ANTHEM

This Holy Night

Mary McDonald

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

THE ANGEL'S SONG

Luke 2:8-14

CAROL *(remain seated)*

Angels We Have Heard on High
verses 1, 3 & 4

No. 238

THE SHEPHERD'S RESPONSE

Luke 2:15-20

CAROL *(remain seated)*

The First Noel
verses 1 & 2

No. 245

THE WISEMEN'S RESPONSE

Matthew 2:1-12

CAROL *(remain seated)*

The First Noel
verses 3, 4 & 5

No. 245

OUR RESPONSE

THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER

DUET

O Holy Night

John Sullivan Dwight

HOMILY

"FRESH FROM GOD"
Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

*CAROL

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

No. 240

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The Offertory

Cry in the Dark

Reggie Stone and
Christy Sutherland

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a Wise man, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

CANDLELIGHTING

For safety, as we light candles, please hold the lit candle completely upright and let your neighbor tilt the unlit candle to receive the flame from your light. The pianist will play while the candles are being lit. We will not begin singing *Silent Night* until all the candles are lit. When the piano and choir begin *Silent Night*, please begin singing.

CAROL *(remain seated)*

Silent Night Holy Night

(please refer to insert for words)

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Silent Night

PARTICIPATING IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE:

Chancel Choir

Choir Director, Julie Burns

Pianist, Dennis Eiler

Soloist, Julie Burns

Duet, David Bauer, Cristy Van Hook

Liturgists, David Beaman, David Bauer,

Lucy Jacob

Pastor, Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

Lighting of the Christ Candle,

The Russell Family—Carolyn,

Isabella, William, Wyatt

Ushers, Del Hollinger, Harry Egan

Sound Technician, David Bauer



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ARROYO GRANDE

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 25, 2016

8:30 AM

Christmas Day

Music by The Lord's Crew

Gathering

*OPENING PRAISE

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

WELCOMING OUR VISITORS

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

*PRAISE

*Little Drummer Boy
Light of the Stable
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Joys & Concerns
Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Sharing and Responding to God's Word

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

To Bethlehem We Go

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-20

SERMON

"RECEIVE"
Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis

OFFERING SONG

Jesus Name Above All Names

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Words for Communion

Communion Song

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Going Forth to Serve

*FINAL BLESSING

Emmanuel

*CLOSING SONG

Shepherd's Rock

**Worshippers stand as able*



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!



PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

PRAISE TEAM

Director, Mike Clark

Pianist, Dennis Eiler

Singers, Connie Clark, Chloe Keith,
Cristy Van Hook

Clarinet, Don Gugeler

Drummers, Mike Albertson, Mike Takanaka

Pastor, Rev. Mary Birgelaitis

Liturgist, Judy Leonard

Lighting of the Christ Candle, Judy Atwood

Ushers, Jackie Jackson, Bobbi Merris,
Bernie Hawkins, Mary Hawkins

Sound, David Bauer



- A warm welcome to you our Visitors. Thank you for worshipping at First UMC of Arroyo Grande. Whether you are visiting friends or relatives this morning or have made your way on your own, we are glad that you're here. Please join us for refreshments after worship in Criswell Hall across the narthex. Welcome!
- Please register your presence in the Friendship Book located at the end of the pews nearest the center aisle, and pass it along for others to sign during the service.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

7:00 PM—CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE—SANCTUARY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

8:30 AM—ONE CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE—SANCTUARY

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26TH

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

1:00 PM— NO EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY DUE TO FOOD BANK CLOSED

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27TH

11:00 AM—CHAIR YOGA, CRISWELL HALL

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28TH

9:00 AM —CHURCH WORK DAY

5:00 PM—FREE DINNER, CRISWELL HALL

5:45 PM —BIBLE STUDY—ON BREAK UNTIL JANUARY 4TH

7:00 PM—CHANCEL CHOIR—ON BREAK UNTIL JANUARY 4TH

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29TH

10:00 AM—INTERCESSORY PRAYER, LIBRARY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30TH

8:30 AM —BIBLE STUDY, LIBRARY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1ST — NEW YEARS DAY

8:30 AM—CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

10:30 AM —TRADITIONAL SERVICE



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First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY, 2016

LUKE 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Sunday's Liturgist: 8:30 AM Service — Judy Leonard



Coffee Hour Today is hosted by

ALL CHURCH COOKIES

Next Week's Coffee Hour will be hosted by

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We thank you all for your Service to our church!



Altar Flowers

Dedicated by Cristy Van Hook



*Unto Us
a Child is Born*



The Angel Tree

A big thank you to our congregation for being so giving with our Angel Tree. Social Services is very grateful for our continuing support, which makes Christmas "special" for these foster children and other needy children. This year we supplied 55 gifts! Our congregation has "huge hearts" and is always willing to help others.

Blessings, and thank you to all. ~ Jan Treat



EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

CLOSED MONDAYS DEC. 26th & JAN. 2nd
Due to the Food Bank being closed--so no food is available to distribute.

Chuck and Betty and their team of volunteers will be "on break".

Thank you to all of them for their dedicated service to those in need in our community.

FOOD PANTRY WILL RE-OPEN JAN. 9TH



SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY, JAN. 20TH 9:00 AM
QUARTERDECK RESTAURANT
BRANCH ST. (by K-Mart)

UMM MEETING

To hear Col. Nichole Balliet from Camp Roberts speak on Camp Roberts and modern Army training. Her story includes two tours of duty in the Far East. Breakfast Meeting; Order from the Menu Ladies are invited.

*Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store.
Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more.*

Thank you to Buffy Prestemon and all Sunday School staff for last Sunday's

Sunday School Children's Christmas Party

And thank you to the Congregation for their support of Sunday School !



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	8:30 AM	10:30 AM	TOTAL
Nov 27	40	66	106
Dec 4	32	94	126
Dec 11	30	75	105
Dec 18	44	118	162

OUR GIFTS

Weekly Offerings Budgeted:	\$4,711
Nov 27 Received:	\$5,671
Dec 4 Received:	\$9,176
Dec 11 Received:	\$4,269
Dec 18 Received:	\$4,899
Fiscal Year to Date Budgeted regular giving:	\$117,767
Fiscal Year to Date Received:	\$125,631
Christmas Offering Budgeted	\$5,800
Christmas Offering to 12/19/16	\$2,290



Submitted by Joel Anderson, Acting Treasurer