

Luke 2:22-40



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"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

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When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

*Today's Liturgist: Lucy Jacob*



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 and hope that you will find our worship meaningful. Please come to worship with us again soon.

# First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

275 North Halcyon Road  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

## Contact us.

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Church Office Open:  
Monday-Thursday from 9 AM – 1 PM

On The Web @ [worshipweekly.com](http://worshipweekly.com)  
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Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis E-mail: [revmaryb@fumcag.org](mailto:revmaryb@fumcag.org)



## Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center

Program Tours Daily by appointment ONLY on Monday through Friday 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM or 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM. We invite you to visit and see if we are a good fit for your family.

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<b>Cal-Pac Conference Bishop:</b> Grant J. Hagiya	<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>Praise Team Leader:</b> Mike Clark
<b>Missionary (retired) / Lay Leader:</b> Judy Atwood	<b>Handbell Choir Director:</b> Leonard Lutz
<b>Church Office Administrator:</b> Frances Robertson	<b>Multi-Media Director:</b> Duncan Leonard
<b>Website Manager:</b> Jamie Foster	<b>Children's Education Director:</b> TBS
	<b>AG UM Children's Center Director:</b> Madrigal Quaglino (805) 481-2223

# 8:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE



## December 31, 2017



# First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

Welcome to Worship!

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 31, 2017

8:30 AM

First Sunday after Christmas Day

### Gathering

OPENING PRAISE *Jesus Take the Wheel*

WELCOMING OUR VISITORS

PRAISE *Oh Lord You're Beautiful  
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
Bless the Lord Oh My Soul*

\*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*

ADVENT CANDLE BLESSING/PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:22-40

SERMON AT THE END OF THE ROAD:  
*Blessing*

OFFERING SONG *He Came Down*

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION Oceans

FINAL BLESSING *Jesus What a Beautiful Name*

\*CLOSING *I Have Decided*

\*Worshippers stand as able

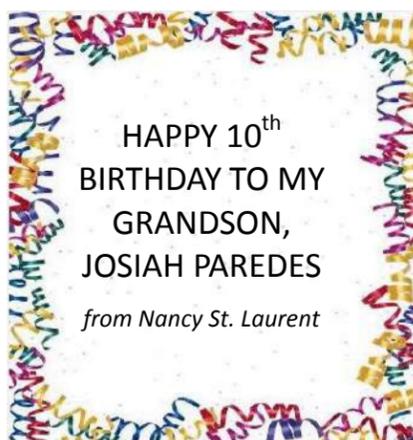


Coffee Hour Today is hosted by

CARING CONGREGATION

Next Week's Coffee Hour will be hosted by Caring Congregation

We thank you all for your service to our church!



### WEDNESDAY ADULT STUDY CLASS

FIRST CORINTHIANS: Living Love When We Disagree by Melissa Spoelstra

First Session, Wed. Jan. 3  
Facilitated by Patti Melsheimer  
Criswell Hall 5:45-6:45 PM  
Books available

PLEASE JOIN US!

### Abbreviation Legend

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



Monday—1/1

NEW YEARS DAY HOLIDAY

- Church office closed
- No Emergency Food Pantry Today—Open January 8

Tuesday—1/2

- Senior Exercise—8:30 AM—CH
- Sew 'n' Sews + Knitters—9 AM—MMR
- UMW Chair Yoga Class—11 AM—CH

Wednesday—1/3

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- "Unhanging" of the Greens

### TABLE OF 8 PROGRAM



We are currently forming the social dinner groups of 6 to 8 people.

Those who want to continue to participate need to sign up again.

New members are most welcome as well as returnees!

Contact Marjorie Ott or Lucy Jacob for more information and sign-up forms.

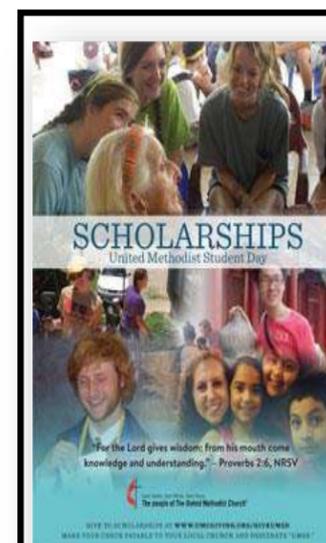
### Our Christmas Miracle

As many of you know, we suffered a leak in the underground gas lines at the Church, requiring the gas to be shut off. This resulted in a rather chilly sanctuary. The cost of replacing our worn-out gas lines exceeds \$16,000, which is a significant chunk of our annual budget.

Last week Rev. Mary preached about how God needs us. It is people who do much of God's work on earth. And our people came through. With the help of Rev. David Burgeson, we received a \$12,000 grant from the District Union. Grants usually take a month to get approved. Ours was approved within two days. The day after Christmas an anonymous donor dropped off a \$3,500 check at the office. With this and other donations received we have enough to cover the cost of replacing the gas lines.

Our prayers were answered. Thanks be to God! And thank you to Paul Holden and the Trustees and all those who responded so generously with donations. We have truly been blessed with our own Christmas miracle.

Joel Anderson, Acting Treasurer



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TOGETHER, WE EDUCATE STUDENTS SO THEY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

A special offering is collected to today to furnish scholarships and loans for students attending United Methodist-related and other accredited colleges and universities.

### THE TAKE OR LEAVE COAT RACK WE NEED MORE WARM COATS AND JACKETS!

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These are jackets for the needy in our community.

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Questions? Contact Betty or Chuck Ashton

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Today's Liturgist: Rose Ann Steiner



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AG UM Children's Center  
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# First United Methodist Church

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 31, 2017

10:30 AM

The First Sunday After Christmas

### CENTERING WORDS

This is a day of new beginnings—a day when we celebrate the promise, begun with a child, embraced by a man, and fulfilled in Christ. As we enter this new year, may hope and love remain in our hearts, and may they call us to rejoice in the promise of the days ahead.

### WELCOMING OUR VISITORS

PRELUDE *He is Born, The Divine Christ Child* Trad. French Melody

INTROIT *He is Born* No. 228

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather together to worship the Christ child—  
**the child who changed the world.**  
We come, offering gifts of love—  
**love that also changes the world.**  
As we open our hearts to the Christ child,  
**may Christ fill us with love to transform the world.**

\*OPENING CAROL *Once in Royal David's City* No. 250

### OPENING PRAYER

God of light, come to us this day.  
Shine upon us,  
that we might know the peace of your presence.  
Shine within us,  
that we might know the joy of journeying with you.  
Shine around us,  
that we might know your blessings of love.  
In the name of your brightest light, Christ Jesus, we pray.  
Amen.

### ADVENT CANDLE BLESSING/PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME *Away in a Manger*

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*Nursery care is available.  
Children ages K-6 are dismissed with their teachers at this time*

A TIME OF PRAYER

Choral Call to Prayer *My Master, See, the Time Has Come* No. 226  
Congregational Prayer  
Choral Response *My Master, See, the Time Has Come* No. 226

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:22-40

CAROL (*remain seated*) *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* No. 218

SERMON AT THE END OF THE ROAD:  
*Blessing*

OFFERING

Invitation to the Offering  
Offertory *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* Johnny Marks  
\*Doxology/Blessing of the Offering

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

\*HYMN *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* No. 224

\*BENEDICTION

Christmas has come.

**The New Year awaits.**

Let us go forth remembering the gift of Christ,  
even as we look with hope  
toward a year of new beginnings.

**Let us go forth rejoicing in the gift of Christmas,  
even as we pray for Spirit-filled wisdom  
to guide our new year.**

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Go Now in Peace*

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

POSTLUDE *What Child Is This?* Arr. Dan Coates

\*Worshippers stand as able

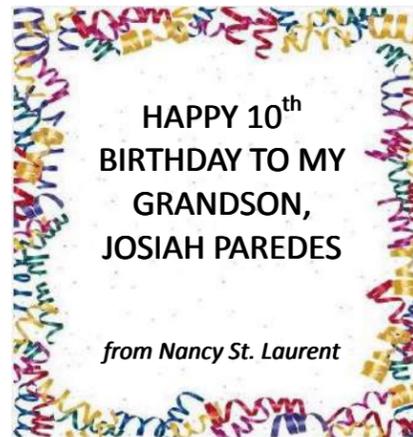
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# The Bulletin Board



Coffee Hour Today  
is hosted by  
**CARING CONGREGATION**  
Next Week's Coffee Hour  
will be hosted by  
**CARING CONGREGATION**

*We thank you all for your  
service to our church!*



**WEDNESDAY  
ADULT STUDY CLASS**  
*FIRST CORINTHIANS: Living  
Love When We Disagree*  
by Melissa Spoelstra  
  
First Session, Wed. Jan. 3  
Facilitated by Patti Melsheimer  
Criswell Hall 5:45-6:45 PM  
Books available  
**PLEASE JOIN US!**

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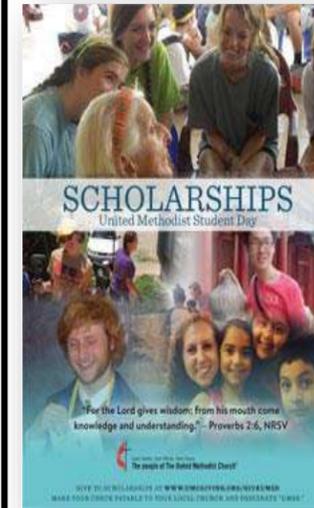
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