

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Please join us after the service for Hospitality Time in Criswell Hall

Today's Activities:

3:00PM Friendly Neighborhood Big Band Concert

Upcoming Events:

- Sat. Dec. 13 Christmas Extravaganza 3-5PM
- Thu. Dec. 11 Children's Center Christmas Program 6PM
- Wed. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service, 4:00PM
- Mon. Dec. 29 People's Kitchen Food Prep 1:30, Kitchen
- Tues. Dec. 30 People's Kitchen Food Distribution 11AM carpool from church

**Today's Flowers In Memory Of
Ayleen Melsheimer
From Dick & Patti Melsheimer**

**HOSPITALITY: Today hosted by Endowment/ELT
December 14th will be hosted by Trustees**

ATTENDANCE						
WEEK	8:30	10:30	IN- PERSON	VIDEO	TOTAL	STEWARDSHIP
Nov 09	44	73	117	48	165	\$14,261
Nov 16	51	82	133	48	181	\$2,356
Nov 23	52	73	125	22	147	\$5,815
Nov 30	39	75	114		114	\$2,495
Weekly Needed: \$7,175						
YTD Received: \$138,963			YTD Needed \$157,455			
THANKSGIVING RECEIVED \$3,387			THANKSGIVING BUDGET \$3,000			



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



December 07, 2025 **5th SUNDAY OF ADVENT** 10:30 am

PRELUDE "Was It A Morning Like This" Jim Croegaert

INTROIT "Song of Hope" TFWS #2186

CALL TO WORSHIP*

We gather to remember who we are, not who the world tells us to be.

We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.

We recall the story of God's people, how God has called us to live in peace and righteousness in a world full of conflict and twisted morality.

We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.

We recount the story of our journey with God, the moments of God's provision, God's prodding, and God's prophetic guidance.

We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.

We gather to repent and return anew to God's story that guides our lives to work for peace and flourishing for all God's creation.

We gather to tell the story of the day that all the earth awaits. Thanks be to God! Amen.

OPENING HYMN* "Hail To The Lord's Anointed" No. 203

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, be to us as a bulldozer of the spirit. Clear your road in us; clear a path through the detritus of possessions and obsessions. Thrust aside our divided aims and devious games. Topple the ramparts of pride and the doubts that deride. Make a highway on which Christ may come and take possession of the whole territory of our being. To the glory of your name, we pray. Amen!

ADVENT CANDLES AND THE COLLECT:

Advent V: Key of David

Alquist Family

Advent Song : Come, O Come Emmanuel (Key of David verse)

O Come thou Key of David, release
And free us to experience thy peace
Unbind us please from sin and death
Awaken us with heaven's breath
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel.
Shall come to thee O Israel

Sovereign God, Lord Christ.

Hear us, we pray.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MOMENT

Rev. Tim Olson

We invite all children and youth to participate in this intergenerational time of learning about Jesus

O God, we thank you for blessing us with the gift of children.

May they learn the stories of Jesus. May we share their joy. Amen.

A TIME OF PRAYER

Call to Prayer	“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”	No. 204
Prayer/Lord's Prayer		
Response	“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”	No. 204

CHOIR ANTHEM “Call The Baby Jesus”

SCRIPTURE Matthew 3:1-12

SERMON Prepare The Way

OFFERING

Call to Stewardship and Mission		
Offertory	“Once In Royal David’s City”	Henry Gauntlett
Doxology/Prayer of Dedication*		

CELEBRATION OF HOLY EUCHARIST

Communion Music “I Have Decided To Follow Jesus” Mark Hayes

CLOSING HYMN* “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus” No. 196

BENEDICTION*

Advent people, may we go now in the blessing and inspiration of God to live God’s story wherever we go, that our lives may be an invitation to others to join in the journey to the day that all the earth awaits.

RESPONSE* “Song of Hope” TFWS #2186

POSTLUDE “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” Dan Schutte

***Please stand as able
Bold - Congregational Reading**

Matthew 3:1-12

At that time John the Baptist came to the desert of Judea and started preaching. **2** “Turn away from your sins,” he said, “because the Kingdom of heaven is near!” **3** John was the man the prophet Isaiah was talking about when he said,

“Someone is shouting in the desert,
‘Prepare a road for the Lord;
make a straight path for him to travel!’”

4 John's clothes were made of camel's hair; he wore a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. **5** People came to him from Jerusalem, from the whole province of Judea, and from all over the country near the Jordan River. **6** They confessed their sins, and he baptized them in the Jordan. **7** When John saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming to him to be baptized, he said to them, “You snakes—who told you that you could escape from the punishment God is about to send? **8** Do those things that will show that you have turned from your sins. **9** And don't think you can escape punishment by saying that Abraham is your ancestor. I tell you that God can take these rocks and make descendants for Abraham! **10** The ax is ready to cut down the trees at the roots; every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown in the fire. **11** I baptize you with water to show that you have repented, but the one who will come after me will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. He is much greater than I am; and I am not good enough even to carry his sandals. **12** He has his winnowing shovel with him to thresh out all the grain. He will gather his wheat into his barn, but he will burn the chaff in a fire that never goes out.”

Assisting in today's service Pastor: Rev. Wesley Thompson,
Liturgist: Patti Melsheimer, **Piano/Keyboard:** Dennis Eiler, **Organ:** Brad Bettencourt
Choir Director: Tricia Stewart, **Sound Tech:** Adrian Paredes, **Video Tech:** Susan Thronson, **Vocalist:** Fiona Giannetto, **Percussion:** Xander Thompson.