

WORSHIP

Sunday, June 28, 2020

Scattered Together

Welcome & Announcements

[Click here for Deborah Bertling's video*](#)

Welcome to El Montecito Presbyterian Church's interactive worship gathering online. Today we are looking at light and darkness; God created light as a contrast to darkness and to cast out darkness. God's love is able to overcome any obstacle, no matter how dark. Our Triune God is our light. As we worship today, may our hearts be encouraged, may our love abound in knowledge and depth of insight and may our light shine to produce the fruits of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ - to the glory of God.

Call to Worship

From Psalm 27 (Read in unison)

The LORD is my light and salvation - whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid? When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in his tabernacle and set me high on a rock. I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

Worship in Song

[Click here for music and lyrics](#)

Matthew Roy

**I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
Here I am to Worship
Be Thou My Vision**

Prayers for the Church & the World

Janet Gates

Heavenly Father,

We worship and adore you! You are the Creator of all things, Lord of Lords, King of Kings, the Almighty God, Wonderful Counselor, the everlasting Father and Prince of Peace. In the storms of life, you are our Rock to whom we cling, the Anchor that holds us fast, and the Fortress that provides sanctuary. Above all else, you are Holy, holy, holy, the Great I Am - the Eternal, Sovereign, Omnipotent and All Knowing God.

Lord Jesus, you are the Lamb of God and the Good Shepherd, the Bread of Heaven and the Living Water, the Way, the Truth and the Light, the Redeemer, the Resurrection and the Life. We praise you as Immanuel, God with us, who sees us and faithfully cares for us day by day.

And Holy Spirit, you are our Comforter and our Advocate, God indwelling, who lives within us and guides us in all our ways.

Despite knowing how awesome and good you are, we confess that we don't always follow your guidance, but all too often, we look to our own faulty plans and selfish desires. We neglect to do and say those things that you would have us do and say, but do and say whatever seems best to us at the time, which often ends up hurting others as well as ourselves. And worst of all, we don't love you with our whole being as you commanded and we don't love our neighbors as you instructed. Forgive us for all our foolish and sinful thoughts and deeds, and help us to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with you more and more each day.

Father, we rejoice in the assurance from 1 John 1:9 that when we confess our sins, you are faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Thank you too for providing us with what we need each day. Thank you for our pastor, Tom, and for the rest of the staff who have worked so hard to keep us informed and connected during our long months of isolation. Thank you for the hope of being reunited once again on our campus in the weeks to come. And thank you for your constant faithfulness, love, grace and mercy so perfectly expressed in the life, death and resurrection of your blessed Son, Jesus Christ.

And yet our hearts are deeply troubled when we consider the recent tragic events in our nation and witness the frustration, bitterness and angry responses, which have resulted in violence, destruction, injury and even death. We also are troubled by the suffering of our Christian brothers and sisters in China, Africa and Indonesia who are being so terribly persecuted. More urgently than ever, we pray that your Kingdom will overcome and your will be done here on earth as it is in heaven. We know that in all things, you are working for the good of those who love you, though sometimes it is difficult for us to see it. Open our minds and hearts to the needs of those around us so that we can truly listen to each other and then be used by you as an agent of your goodness. Show us how to pray for one another with the full assurance that you will hear and then guide us as to how to act with informed compassion. Cause the bitterness and anger to subside and be redirected into positive peaceful activity rather than destruction. Empower us to be your ambassadors of the gospel to those who are lost, lonely, troubled and hurting. With that as our goal, we pray for the following needs:

Our Missionaries the Bultemas, Callisons, Mexico Mission Partners and Alex Smith
Lynette Johnson, for her cancer treatment and seeking a second opinion
Ben Spradley, for recovery from hand surgery
Josiah, Crystal Jordan's grandson, entering the Merchant Marine Academy
Matt, the Marbles grandson, for recovery from extensive burns
Shirley Fender's niece, Katie, recovery from and praise for liver transplant surgery
Bill Gowler, for a new 4 to 7 week radiation treatment for his cancer
Ann Marie King, for recent diagnosis of atrial fibrillation and treatment
Bill Allmon, for his heart condition and Anita as caregiver
Reverend George W. Smith, Jeffrey Smith's dad, praise for successful cancer surgery and that it has not spread. Prayers for his follow-up radiation treatment.
Gordon Reisig, for a full recovery from surgery on his brain
Frank Phillips, for recovery from hip replacement surgery
Ken Working, for wisdom and guidance for his falls and health for the family
Jan Tomquist, for continued strength after chemotherapy treatment
Bereavement, for the family and friends of Alice Favor and Peggy Cochrane

We pray all these things in the blessed name of Jesus. Amen.

God's Word Read & Proclaimed

Scripture Reading

[Genesis 1:1-5; John 1:1-9](#) NIV (Read aloud)

Sermon

[Light in the Darkness](#)
(Click on link for Sermon)

Becky Lahna

Song of Response

Cornerstone

[Click here for music & lyrics](#)

Matthew & Jess Roy with special
guest Eben Drost of Goodland Church

Tithes & Offerings

Follow this [link to give online](#). You can also mail or drop your tithes and offerings in the box outside the office doors.

Remember our tithes and offerings are a continued act of worship and a physical act of entrusting all of our lives to Jesus as we join God in his work in our community and around the world.

Doxology

[Click here for music & lyrics](#)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Benediction

Jude 24-25 (Read aloud)

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy - to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen!

Sermon Notes:

Sunday Virtual Coffee and Doughnut Holes

Please join us for a time of fellowship via Zoom at 11:00 am Sundays—if you are able.

During this time of social distancing, God is with you!

And, we're here for you by phone or online. Please direct prayer requests to: elmoprayers@gmail.com

Office is closed, but voicemail will be checked.

Rev. Tom Haugen, Pastor

Suzy Dobreski, Early School Director

Dr. Matthew Roy, Music Director

Maryann Spradley, Office Administrator

Michele Sullivan, Accountant

The Entire Congregation, Ministers of the Gospel

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Your Session & Elders

Tom Haugen, Moderator

Janet Gates, Clerk of Session

Nathan Gates, Outreach

Terry Foil, Early School

Kirk Gilbert, Worship & Prayer

Susan Hughes, Congregational Life

Ginger Ketzel, Nominating

Carl Perry, Finance & Property

Mary Slater, Human Resources

Jeffrey Smith, Children & Youth Ministries

Your Board of Deacons

Betty Delk, Co-Moderator

Jeff Delk, Co-Moderator

Bob Aguirre, At-Large

Sandy Aguirre, Friendship Visitation

Anita Allmon

Errin Cecil-Smith, Secretary, Treasurer

Cathy Clemens, Holiday Gifts

Joyce Enright, Greeters

Terry Foil, Memorial Receptions

Melissa Hillegas, Hospital Visitation

Pam Jepson

Paul Jepson

Nancy Johnke, Coffee Fellowship

Martha Kay, Chancel Flowers