

WORSHIP

December 20, 2020 **Fourth Sunday of Advent—Peace** Church in the Courtyard

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude Matthew Roy

Welcome to Our Life Together Tom Haugen

Prayer of Invocation

Music of Preparation

***Call to Worship** Psalm 85:7-13

Leader: Show us your unfailing love, LORD, and grant us your salvation.

People: I will listen to what God the LORD says; he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants - but let them not turn to folly.

Leader: Surely his salvation is near those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

People: Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

Leader: Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness look down from heaven.

All: The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest. Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

Lighting of the Advent Candle - Peace Lucy Moore, Kenyon and Isla Throop

GIVING PRAISE TO GOD

***Hymn Of Praise**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."
2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Confession of Sin Unison

Holy Lord, in this time of Advent, we confess we often are distracted by the season's busyness, by the stress of commitment, and even by putting our own traditions ahead of the true meaning of Christmas. We confess we also often prefer being sentimental to being sacrificial. Forgive us for all the times we have missed seeing you in our midst, for all the times we have doubted your presence, and for all the times we have failed to hold the holidays as holy days. Pour peace into our lives and let us be bearers of your peace to others. Remind us that this is a season of waiting and preparation for the greatest gift of all. In the holy name of our Savior, Jesus. Amen.

Take a moment to confess your sins to God, knowing that he hears you.

Assurance of Forgiveness

1 John 4:9-10

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Leader: Hear and believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

GIVING OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

Go to our website or 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 trusting all of our lives to Jesus as we join God in his work in our community and around the world.

Prayer of Dedication for Our Tithes & Offerings

Rick Fogg

Music of Reflection

When Love Was Born

Jocelyn Haugen

Starlight shines, the night is still,
Shepherds watch from a hill.
I close my eyes to see the night
When Love was born.

Emmanuel, Prince of peace
Love come down for you and me.
Heaven's gift, the holy spark
To light the way inside our hearts.

A perfect Child gently waits,
A mother bends to kiss God's face.
I close my eyes to see the night
When Love was born.

Bethlehem, through your small door
Came the hope we've waited for.
The world was changed forevermore
When Love was born

Angels fill the midnight sky, and they sing,
"Hallelujah, He is Christ our King.

I close my eyes to see the night
When Love was born.

*Doxology

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.

Prayers for the Church & the World

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels!
Refrain:
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!
2. Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! **Refrain**
3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! **Refrain**

Scripture

Galatians 3:23-4:7

Sermon

Mountain Peaks of Promise: The Promise Fulfilled

Tom Haugen

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn of Response

He Who Is Mighty

1. Oh, the mercy our God has shown
To those who sit in death's shadow.
The sun on high pierced the night;
Born was the Cornerstone
Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is born.
Refrain:
He Who is mighty has done a great thing;
Taken on flesh, conquered death's sting,
Shattered the darkness and lifted our shame.
Holy is His name.
2. Oh, the freedom our Savior won;
The yoke of sin has been broken.
Once a slave, now by grace
No more condemnation.
Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is born.
Refrain
3. Now my soul magnifies the Lord;
I rejoice in the God Who saves,
I will trust His unfailing love,
I will sing His praises all my days. x2
Refrain

*Benediction

Dismissal by rows

Postlude

Caring

Please take some time to pray specifically for the needs of the Church, local community, state, country and world. Direct Prayer Requests to elmoprayers@gmail.com.

Our Missionaries the Bultemas, Callisons, Mexico Mission Partners and Alex Smith.
ECO Church and the community of Haines Alaska, pray for recovery from a significant flood and mudslide.
Curtis Whiteman for recovery from stomach surgery.
Emily Sommermann, for healing of a broken wrist from a biking accident.
Monica Eiler, for recovery and pain relief from a back injury.
Ann Marie King, continued treatment of AFib.
Marilyn Nichols, for strength and the ability to function safely at home on her own.
Lynette Johnson, for her continued cancer treatment plan.
Bill Allmon, for his heart condition and Anita as caregiver.
George Smith, Jeffrey Smith's dad, for perseverance, strength and healing from cancer.
Gordon Reisig, peace for him, Darlene, and the family while he is on hospice care at home.
Ken Working, for health challenges for him and for the family.

Connecting & Serving

Sermon Series: Mountain Peaks of Promise: A Journey Through the Old Testament. This Advent season we're taking the 30,000-foot view of Scripture as we explore six of the Mountain Peaks of Promise in the Old Testament as they point us to the fulfillment of God's promises through Jesus Christ. Join us as we journey through God's unfolding promise plan of salvation to see the big picture of who God is and what he has done. Preaching Schedule at: <http://elmopres.org/sermons/>

Advent Devotional: To help your children build Christmas traditions around Jesus, we have a gift for you to take home. Pick one up from the table as you enter the Courtyard. [Prepare Him Room](#), by Marty Mackowski.

2020 Advent & Christmas Offering:

This year, the Advent & Christmas offering is directed to the Santa Barbara Rescue Mission and the Transition House. Your gifts will enrich the lives of people through these ministries in our community that provide housing and hope. Offering Envelopes can be found at the entry to the Courtyard or you can designate it on your check.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services in the Courtyard: Thursday, Dec. 24th, 5 & 6 pm

Candlelight Lessons and Carols in the Courtyard will be held Christmas Eve and Livestreamed as well. To attend please RSVP's at: elmopres.org. The 4 pm service is already at capacity and 6 pm is almost there. Please email admin@elmopres.org with any questions.

Men's Bible Study: Thursdays, 9 am in the Courtyard—on hold due to stay at home order.

2021 Virtual ECO National Gathering: January 29-31, 2021

One of the silver linings of our current circumstance is that we all have the opportunity to attend the ECO National Gathering from the comfort of your home. Join this weekend of leadership development, encouragement and a deep dive into God's flourishing next step for your life and ministry - *at no cost* - by registering at: econationalgathering.org. The entire event will be livestreamed from ELMO!

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

And, we're here for you by phone or online.

Office is closed, but voicemail will be checked.

Rev. Tom Haugen, Pastor

Rev. Lauri Haugen, Asst. Pastor to Families

Suzy Dobreski, Early School Director

Dr. Matthew Roy, Music Director

Shawn Monroe, Facilities

Maryann Spradley, Office Administrator

Michele Sullivan, Accountant

The Entire Congregation, Ministers of the Gospel

805-969-5041

tomhaugen@elmopres.org

laurihaugen@elmopres.org

805-969-3566 - suzy@elmopres.org

music@elmopres.org

admin@elmopres.org

accounting@elmopres.org

Elders

Tom Haugen, Moderator

Janet Gates, Clerk of Session

Terry Foil, Early School

Nathan Gates, Outreach

Kirk Gilbert, Worship & Prayer

Susan Hughes, Congregational Life

Ginger Ketzler, Nominating

Carl Perry, Finance & Property

Mary Slater, Human Resources

Jeffrey Smith, Children & Youth Ministries

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

Melissa Hillegas, Hospital Visitation

Pam Jepson, Care Notes

Paul Jepson, Early School Committee

Nancy Johnke, Coffee Fellowship

Martha Kay, Chancel Flowers & Distribution