

WORSHIP

December 27, 2020



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 95:1-7

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

People: Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

Leader: For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

People: In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

All: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

GIVING PRAISE TO GOD

***Hymn Of Praise** *Joy to the World*

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|---|---|
| 1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing. | 3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found. |
| 2. Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy. | 4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love. |

Confession of Sin Unison

Lord Jesus, if you had not limited all your majestic greatness into the cramped quarters of the human nature, we could not now know the limitless power and privilege of being your children. If you had not been blind in the womb, we could never have had the scales drop from our eyes. If you had not come to die, we could never have received eternal life. If you had not been torn, we could never have been mended. Now forgive us for not loving others as you loved us. Forgive us for not quieting the fears of our hearts with the knowledge of how you loved us. Now let us adore you for the gift of your Son, for He is our hope and our health and our life. Amen.

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalm 103:8-12

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse nor will he harbor his anger forever; he will not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities, for as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

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

Janet Gates

Music of Reflection

*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

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim, Messiah's birth:

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light:

Refrain

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star:

Refrain

Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear:

Refrain

Scripture

Luke 2:8-15, 1 Peter 1:3-9

Sermon

The Gigantic Secret

Ben Patterson

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn of Response

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain:

Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

Refrain

2. The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.

Refrain

3. Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

Refrain

*Benediction

Dismissal by rows

Postlude

Connecting & Serving

Sermon Series: Up There, Down Here - Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7, Starting Jan. 10, 2021

"The Sermon on the Mount is not a set of principles to be obeyed apart from identification with Jesus Christ. The Sermon on the Mount is a statement of the life we will live when the Holy Spirit is getting his way with us."

-Oswald Chambers. In the greatest sermon ever preached, the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches his followers what life looks like when heaven and earth come together, when up there comes down here. There is a reason Jesus taught us to pray, "Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." This winter let's dive into the best known but least understood part of the teachings of Jesus as we explore what up there, down here looks like at El Montecito Presbyterian Church.

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!

Men's Bible Study: Thursdays, 9:00 am in the Courtyard—on hold due to stay at home order.

Guest Preacher Today: Ben Patterson

Reverend Ben Patterson served as the Campus Pastor at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California until 2018. As Campus Pastor, he was responsible for organizing the college's chapel program, which meets three mornings a week, mentoring students, counseling, and encouraging every person in the Westmont community to grow toward their full maturity in Christ.

Ben is a contributing editor to *Christianity Today*, *Leadership Journal*, and was previously a contributing editor and editorial writer with *The Wittenberg Door*. Ben has written several books including: *Serving God: The Grand Essentials of Work & Worship*, *Waiting: Finding Hope When God Seems Silent*, *Deepening Your Conversation with God*, *The Prayer Devotional Bible*, *He Has Made Me Glad*, and *God's Prayer Book: The Power and Pleasure of Praying the Psalms*. His most recent work is entitled, *Muscular Faith*.

Ben served the New Providence Presbyterian Church of New Jersey from 1989 until his appointment as Dean of the Chapel at Hope College in 1993. From 1975 to 1989 he was with the Irvine Presbyterian Church of California, of which he was the founding pastor. Ben was also minister of youth and adult education at the La Jolla Presbyterian Church of California. Previous to that he was assistant minister to college students at the First Baptist Church of Pomona, California working with the Claremont Colleges.

Ben Patterson earned his bachelor's degree from La Verne University in 1966 and his master's of divinity from The American Baptist Seminary of the West in 1972. He and his wife, Laretta, have four grown children and are proud grandparents!

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, for 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.

Bereavement, pray for the family and friends of Jan Tornquist. A memorial site has been created for her in lieu of a service: <https://www.forevermissed.com/jan-myrtle-tornquist/about>

**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

Maryann Spradley, Office Administrator

Michele Sullivan, Accountant

Shawn Monroe, Facilities

The Entire Congregation, Ministers of the Gospel

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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, At-Large

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