

WORSHIP

Communion Sunday, March 7, 2021

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

GIVING PRAISE TO GOD

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 121

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills - where does my help come from?

People: My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Leader: He will not let your foot slip - he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

People: The LORD watches over you - the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

Leader: The LORD will keep you from all harm - he will watch over your life.

All: The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

***Hymn Of Praise**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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| 1. Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him,
for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration! | 2. Praise to the Lord,
who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings,
yes, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth? |
| 3. Praise to the Lord,
who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy
here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee. | 4. Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again:
Gladly for aye we adore Him. |

GIVING OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

On the first Sunday of the month we highlight the opportunity to give to the Deacon's Ministry of Care. If you would like to do so you can use the Deacon's envelopes available at the entrance or note on your check. To give, there are baskets near the entrance to the Courtyard, you can also mail or drop your tithes and offerings in the box outside the office doors, go to our website or follow [this link to give online](#). This year, our Lenten Offering will assist Cleveland School as part of our Love Local outreach. Please note your Lenten Offering on your check or offering envelope.

***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.

Affirmation of Faith Unison

The Apostle’s Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

***Hymn of Preparation**

Abide With Me

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| <p>1. Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!</p> <p>3. I need Thy presence ev’ry passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter’s pow’r?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Thro’ clouds and sunshine, oh, abide with me!</p> | <p>2. Swift to its close ebbs out life’s little day.
Earth’s joys grow dim; its glories pass away.
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me!</p> <p>4. I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death’s sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!</p> |
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5. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine thro’ the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav’n’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee!
In life, in death, O Lord abide with me!

Scripture

Psalm 3

Sermon

Singing the Blues—Psalms of Lament “Hope in the Morning”

Tom Haugen

***Hymn of Response**

He Will Hold Me Fast

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| <p>1. When I fear my faith will fail,
Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail,
He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold
Through life’s fearful path;
For my love is often cold;
He must hold me fast.</p> <p>2. Those He saves are His delight,
Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in his holy sight,
He will hold me fast.
He’ll not let my soul be lost;
His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost,
He will hold me fast. Refrain</p> | <p>Refrain:
He will hold me fast,
He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so,
He will hold me fast.</p> <p>3. For my life He bled and died,
Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied;
He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life,
He will hold me fast
’Till our faith is turned to sight,
When He comes at last! Refrain</p> |
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CELEBRATING COMMUNION

Confession of Sin Unison

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Hear and believe in the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

The Celebration of Communion

We will eat the bread and drink the cup together as we remember Christ's death and resurrection and our common union in Christ. If you didn't receive an individual prepackaged communion kit, the kits are available at the table near the entrance to Church in the Courtyard. .

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

The Lord's Prayer Unison

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

*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, Alex Smith and Mexico Mission Partners.

Judith Wilson, praise for a healthy outcome and prayer for recovery from recent surgery.

Betsy Knight, for recovery from treatment of atrial fibrillation.

Monica Eiler, for recovery and pain relief from a back surgery.

Curtis Whiteman for continued recovery.

Ann Marie King, continued treatment of AFib.

Lynette Johnson, for her continued cancer treatment plan.

Bill Allmon, for his heart condition and Anita as caregiver.

Gordon Reisig, for peace for him, Darlene and their 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 Tom Smith, Marlene Sheehan and LouAnn Treloar.

Jeffrey and Errin Smith, comfort for the loss of George Smith, Jeffrey's dad.

Connecting & Serving

Roots of Faith: A Confirmation Class for 6th-8th grade

Classes for students begin this Sunday, March 7th, and run through June 6th from 3:00-5:00PM, followed by a celebration during worship on June 13th for all students and families. The class will be taught by Lauri Haugen, Asst. Pastor to Families, and Jeffrey Smith, Children & Youth Ministries Elder. If you have any questions or would like to register your child, please contact Lauri at laurihaugen@elmopres.org.

Celebrating the Sacraments: A Faith Milestone Class for Kids (Age 8-11) & Parents

On March 14th and 21st from 9:15-9:30 AM (before Church in the Courtyard), all 3rd-5th grade students and parents will have an opportunity to explore the theology and practice associated with baptism and communion. After completion of the two week Milestone Class, your child may participate in a special Communion celebration with our church family on Easter Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact Lauri: laurihaugen@elmopres.org.

Sanctuary is available for Prayer

Lent is an important season to reflect on Scripture, pray, and allow ourselves the space to lament and cling tightly to the cross in a way that causes our souls to grieve and hope. If you would like to spend some time praying in the sanctuary, please contact Maryann Spradley (admin@elmopres.org) to reserve your time.

Love Local: Cleveland School Outreach Project

This year, our Lenten Offering is Love Local; Cleveland School Project. The Friends of Cleveland School are helping in tangible ways where the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting children and families in our backyard. Funds will go to needed educational tools and equipment. Please note this on your check, in the memo, or on your offering envelope.

Welcome to El Montecito

Welcome visitors! We are glad you chose to worship with us today in the Courtyard. Please fill out the Visitor Card that can be found at the entrance so that we can get to know you better and to receive our weekly emails. You can also connect with us on our website at: elmopres.org or on Instagram @elmopres.

**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

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