

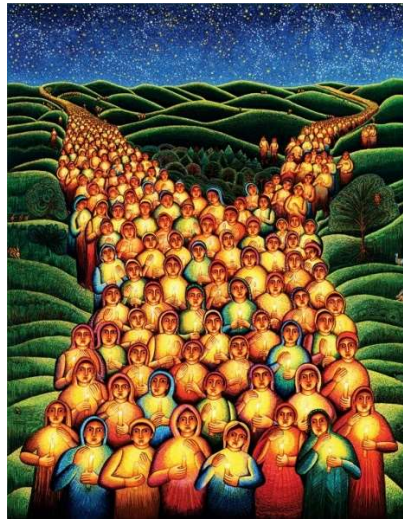
Central United Methodist Church

3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95204

ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 27, 2022



John August Swanson "*Festival of Lights*"

As you enter the Sanctuary you are invited to light a candle and offer a prayer prior to the worship service.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Monica Adams

GATHERING MOMENT

Mary Juarez Dalton

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alexis Easton (8:30am)
Martha Tipton (11:00am)

Leader: We hadn't finished the celebration of Thanksgiving when the Christmas tunes started to play on the radio

People: and the Black Friday offers overwhelmed our mailboxes and inboxes.

Leader: It seems that the quiet of Advent gets pushed aside, pushed out earlier each year

People: and we are told to fill the void by purchasing more things.

Leader: Let our hearts be wise this year; attentive to the silence; to the waiting.

People: Let us find you in the crispness of the early dark and the warm moments gathered here.

All: Come, Emmanuel, God-With-Us, Come.

INTROIT

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Chancel Choir

*OPENING HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH #196

THE LIGHTING OF THE HOPE CANDLE

Alexis Easton (8:30am)
Malcom, Sarah and Elizabeth Waltz (11:00am)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (11:00am)

Martha Shuemake

PRAYER CARDS COLLECTED (11:00am)

MISSION & MINISTRIES MOMENT

Alexis Easton (8:30am)
Martha Tipton (11:00am)

RITE OF FRIENDSHIP AND A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Martha Tipton (11:00am)

***PASSING THE PEACE**

(Stand, bow or wave, with the word "Peace be with You!")

Alexis Easton (8:30am)
Martha Tipton (11:00am)

All Sing: *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path (2x).*

ANTHEM

The Rose of Calvary
Commissioned in honor of Senior Pastor Gary Putnam 2003
[By Joseph M. Martin]

Chancel Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 122 (Pew Bible NRSV, page 571)

Alexis Easton (8:30am)
Martha Tipton (11:00am)

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN**

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

UMH #720

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 2:1-5 (Pew Bible NRSV, page 631)

Alexis Easton (8:30am)
Martha Tipton (11:00am)

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Advent: Longing For Something More"

Mary Juarez Dalton

QUESTION AND ANSWER TIME (8:30am)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Alexis Easton (8:30am)
Martha Tipton (11:00am)

After a concern, the worship leader will say "Let us pray to the Lord," and the congregation will reply, "**Lord, hear our prayer!**"

After a joy, the worship leader will say "Let us pray to the Lord," and the congregation will reply, "**Lord, we give thanks!**"

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Mary Juarez Dalton

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

WORSHIP WITH OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

Alexis Easton (8:30am)
Martha Tipton (11:00am)

OFFERTORY

Panis Angelicus
[by Franck]

Monica Adams
Ric Campero, Tenor

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #94

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Alexis Easton (8:30am)
Martha Tipton (11:00am)

SENDING FORTH

*CLOSING HYMN

Prophets Told Us Pay Attention

REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7 ("Angels, from the Realms of Glory")

***Prophets told us, "Pay attention! God is working in the land.
Lo, the days are surely coming; seek the justice God has planned!
Seek the signs of your redemption; hear God's word and understand!"***

***Christ, you taught us: "Pay attention! Nature's signs are sure and clear:
When the trees grow leaves and blossom, summertime is almost here."
So it is in God's good kingdom; be alert; God's reign is near!***

***As we welcome your salvation, all around we see distress;
There is trouble in the nations! There is greed and wickedness;
As we trust in your redemption, may we live your righteousness.***

***May we work for what you call for; may we labor for your reign.
Families cry out at the border; children suffer grief and pain.
May your church, committed, prayerful, work for justice in your name.***

***Christ, you taught us: "Pay attention!" So we humbly serve and pray:
May we gladly live your kingdom in a world that's gone astray.
May the hope of our salvation guide the things we do and say.***

*BENEDICTION

Mary Juarez Dalton

*POSTLUDE

Monica Adams

* Indicates please stand as you are able.

SERVING YOU TODAY

Mary Juarez Dalton, Guest Speaker
Alexis Easton, Worship Leader, 8:30am
Martha Tipton, Worship Leader, 11:00am
Ric Campero, Choir Director
Monica Adams, Organist/Pianist
Martha Shuemake, Children's Moment
David Campero, Media
Cherie Hudson, Facilities Coordinator
Rupert Cooper, Audio



United Methodist Student Day

We hope you will make a gift today or next Sunday to the United Methodist Student Day Offering. All donations received will go directly to the United Methodist Student Loan Fund. This fund began in 1872 by Sunday School teachers to provide further education of children. Today the fund offers 70 different scholarships.

This special offering reflects Methodism's long held dedication to education, going back to John Wesley's own founding of schools for children of Methodist preachers in the 18th Century. Place your donation in the white envelope found in the pew. If you make a cash donation, be sure to write your name on the front of the white envelope. If you write a check on the memo line, write Student Day Offering. During the offering place your gift in the offering plates found in the center or side aisles.

Thank you for your support.

Angel Tree

There are still Angel Tree tags available on the tree in the Fellowship Hall. Please take a tag, register which one you took and make Christmas a little brighter for a child with an incarcerated parent. Please purchase the gift or gift card and bring it wrapped to church by **December 4**.

Advent Bible Challenge

We will still be holding Pastor Lee's Advent Bible Challenge. Sign up today at the table with the clipboards. Beginning **November 27** read one chapter of the Gospel of Matthew. You will receive three questions each day to help you understand that day's reading. If you participated in the Summer Bible Challenge, we hope you will sign up again. Be sure to give us your email address.

All in One Christmas Fun

It's a whole lot of Christmas fun rolled into one event! Join us Sunday **December 4** from 11.30am-1.30pm as we celebrate the season with our church friends. This intergenerational event will have crafts for you to make and take home. Grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup will be served. Mayan Hands will also be returning. There are many volunteer opportunities for this event. Sign up today.

Poinsettia Helpers

Saturday, December 10, a couple of people are needed to help arrange poinsettias in the Sanctuary and Fireside Room. Stop by between 9.00am and 11.00am. Good way to meet others! **We also need** a couple of volunteers to help put ice cubes in the 75 plants a couple times between 12/14 to 12/22. Please call Martha Tipton. We will have ice cubes for you.

Christmas Cantata December 18

Join us for a service filled with the joy of music, Sunday, **December 18** at 11.00am. The Chancel Choir and orchestra, under the direction of Ric Campero, will present *Sing Joy to All the World!* by Lloyd Larson. The Christmas work incorporates original melodies with the familiar carols and is sure to inspire. **WE WILL NOT HAVE AN 8.30AM SERVICE THAT DAY.**

Blue Christmas Service

December 21 at 7.00pm we will gather in the Fireside Room for our annual Blue Christmas Service. This service offers a time of quiet reflection and remembrance. This service is for those mourning the loss of a loved one, those far from home, those dealing with illness, suffering, or estrangement. The service will include poetry, scripture as well as carols.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

There will be two services on December 24 in our Sanctuary. 7.00pm and 9.00pm. Christmas falls on a Sunday this year so we will gather for one service at 10.00am December 25.



ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS! DEADLINE DECEMBER 16!

This Advent, you are invited to donate funds to decorate our Sanctuary during Advent and Christmas. Donors may take a poinsettias with them after the **9.00pm** Christmas Eve service.

If you would like to order poinsettias, please complete the below information and either put into the offering plate at church along with a check for **\$20 per plant** by **DECEMBER 16** or you can mail the form and your check to the church office at: 3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95204. Remember to include:

YOUR NAME (who the poinsettia is from) _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

or

IN HONOR OF _____

or

OTHER MESSAGE _____