

Central United Methodist Church

3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95204

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 4, 2022



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		Laura Dinges
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Laura Dinges
	Leader: Get ready, people of God! The time of hope and peace is at hand.	
	People: We are called to action rather than reaction.	
	Leader: Open your hearts to God's word and God's will.	
	People: Help us to be workers for God rather than observers.	
	Leader: Come, draw near to God in faith.	
	People: Let us prepare our hearts to receive the wondrous gifts of God. AMEN.	
INTROIT	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	Chancel Choir
*OPENING HYMN	<i>Come, Thou Almighty King</i>	UMH #61
THE LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE		Laura Dinges (8:30am)
		Linda, Elias, Peyton, Valerie, & Matthew Tualla (11:00am)
SUNG RESPONSE	<i>The Candle of Peace</i>	
	<i>The candle of peace shines bright with God's plan: the wolf will lie down and dwell with the lamb. Our guns and our weapons, our hatred and war, will give way to gardens that heal and restore.</i>	
CHILDREN'S MOMENT (11:00am)		Martha Shuemaker

PRAYER CARD COLLECTED (11:00am)

MISSION & MINISTRY MOMENT

Laura Dinges

RITE OF FRIENDSHIP AND A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Laura Dinges

***PASSING THE PEACE**

(Stand, bow, or wave, with the words "Peace be with you!")

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

ANTHEM

I Wander As I Wonder
(by John Rutter)

Chancel Choir
Nikki Ikeda, Soprano

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11:1-10 (Pew Bible NRSV, page 640)

Laura Dinges

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

***HYMN**

John Came Preaching, Bearing Witness

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

John came preaching, bearing witness, Pointing to God's only Son.

He proclaimed the truth with boldness: "Now believe! God's light has come!"

Yet he would not be the focus; He proclaimed a greater One.

Thank you, God, for all your servants Who proclaim your light each day.

Brave and bold, like John, they bless us, Pointing us to Jesus' way.

They proclaim your kingdom's nearness In the things they so and say.

May we live in that tradition; Fill us with integrity.

Take away our vain ambition; Keep us in humility.

Make us faithful in our mission As we serve Christ joyfully.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 3:1-12 (Pew Bible NRSV, page 2)

Laura Dinges

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Unsettling Times"

Rev. Kim Montenegro

QUESTION AND ANSWER TIME (8:30am)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Laura Dinges

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

Rev. Kim Montenegro

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

Laura Dinges

OFFERTORY

Monica Adams

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #94

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Laura Dinges

COMMUNION

UMH #24-25

Rev. Kim Montenegro

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right and a good and joyful thing...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sing: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Sing: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

Sing: Amen, amen, amen.

COMMUNION HYMNS

O, Come, O Come, Emmanuel

UMH #211

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming

UMH #216

COMMUNION REFLECTION

Rev. Kim Montenegro

SENDING FORTH

*CLOSING HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

UMH #213

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Kim Montenegro

*POSTLUDE

Monica Adams

*Indicates please stand as you are able.

CONNECTIONS

All in One Christmas Fun

It's a whole lot of Christmas fun rolled into one event! Join us THIS MORNING 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.

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 ONE SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY. NO 8:30AM SERVICE.**

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 _____