

Sunday, December 22, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Advent

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

"Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" an "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" an Kirim Eom

arr. by Cindy Berry arr. by Mark Hayes

INTROIT

"Good King Wenceslas"

arr. by Ryan O'Connell

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. David Watermulder

CALL TO WORSHIP The Bevan Family (Sean, Helen, Winston, and Orson)

Leader: When the people were looking for deliverance, the prophet Micah declared, "But you, O Bethlehem...from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days."

People: God invites us to receive the promise of God's salvation and the sustenance of God's mercy and grace, enabling us to live the promise as God's people in the world. As Christ was born in Bethlehem, so we also answer God's invitation to have Christ born among us today and every day.

Leader: We light this candle of love as a sign of our commitment to live as people of God's promise, a promise of salvation and flourishing for all people and for all creation. Come, let us worship God together today!

HYMN "Mary Heard The Angel's Message" (Love Divine) by Carolyn Gillette

PRAYER of CONFESSION & ASSURANCE of PARDON Rev. Erica Rader Merciful God, we confess that we have not always followed your ways or trusted your promises. We often love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us, Lord! Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace. Give us joy in the days to come! Amen.

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" Worship Band and children	GO TELL IT
	Rev. Erica Rader
	Erin Heath

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON	Micah 5:2-5a	Diana Koch
THE WORSHIP OF GOD	THROUGH GIVING	Rev. Dr. David Watermulder
OFFERTORY	"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	" arr. by Howard Helvey
DOXOLOGY #606 "Pra	ise God From Whom All Blessin	gs Flow" OLD HUNDREDTH
SCRIPTURE LESSON	Luke 1:46b-55	
SERMON	"Finished and Unfinished"	Rev. Dr. David Watermulder
HYMN #145 (v 1 & 3)	"What Child is This"	GREENSLEEVES
PRAYERS OF THE PEO	PLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER	Rev. Dr. David Watermulder

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.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

HYMN	Jesus, Name Above All Names O Come Let Us Adore Him	Worship Band
BENEDICTION		Rev. Dr. David Watermulder
POSTLUDE	"While By My Sheep"	arr. by Mark Hayes

Christmas Eve Services 4 pm and 10 pm

Keep in Your Prayers: Chris Bollinger recovering from emergency surgery. Mildred Smith in hospice. Health concerns for Rita's parents. John Koeker. Family of Mardie Dailey. Carolyn Randall on the passing of her daughter. GFP assistant director Vanessa's mom Elvira health concerns. Pastor Erica's mother Karen. Gigi McNulty. Kristy Cole. Emily Barrett. Joan and Willis Brown. The Bierly/Shaw families. Julie Clausen's cousin Tyler. Rachel Larsen. Tony Bayne. Gail Myers. Shirley Swallow. Sharon LeClaire. Judy Momrow. Barbara Snyder's daughter, Terry. Rosemary Will. Susan Cherne and family. The Coulter Family after the passing of Dick.

Surprise! We are so excited to be back in worship together in the Sanctuary this morning! A reminder that this is still a work in progress and won't be fully finished until later in January.

<u>Pledges</u> Thank you to those who have sent their pledge in. It's not too late to turn in your pledge. You can go online to make your pledge <u>https://www.pclg.org/pledge</u>

Mission Committee - Spreading Christmas Joy once again PCLG would like to bless our working brothers and sisters at Bridge Communities in East San Jose. This Christmas we will be providing 80 families with a \$100 Amazon Gift Card. You can help provide these blessings by donating, in any amount, towards our goal. There are three ways to participate: (1) On-line through the PCLG giving website (scroll to "Mission" and put "Christmas Gift Card" in the memo box). The QR code below will take you to the website; (2) By check or cash in the weekly offering (with "Christmas Gift Card" in the memo line); (3) At the Mission Committee room at the Advent Craft Faire.



Growing Footprints Preschool is now Enrolling! Did you know that the PCLG has a preschool and afterschool program right here on campus? We are now enrolling, and have a full time space available in our two year old program which boasts an incredible ratio of 1 to 6. We also have a full time space and few 3 day spaces available in our 3 year old classroom that has a 1 to 8 ratio. We have two 5 day slots in our afterschool program.

We are now accepting applications and giving tours for Summer Camp, and our 2025-2026 school year for preschool and afterschool programs. For more information and to contact us, please visit our website at <u>www.growingfootprints.org</u> or visit our instagram at growing_footprints_preschool to see the kind of activities our little friends are up to.

<u>Would you like to read the scripture in church?</u> Each week, we have a different person read the scripture during the worship service. If you are interested in doing this, please contact Mary Jane Humphrey, maryjhumphrey@comcast.net.

<u>Come Sing With Us</u> If you love music and sharing your gifts with others, come join the Choir for the weeks leading up to Christmas. Rehearsals are on Thursday nights at 7pm. For information contact Michael Taylor at michael.taylor@pclg.org.

<u>Company Matching Program</u> – Did you know your workplace could help amplify the impact of your giving? Many employers offer matching gift programs as part of their commitment to community support and charitable giving. This is a simple and effective way to double the impact of your generosity and further support the Mission Committee, which uses the matching funds to support various needs throughout our community. Check to see if your employer offers matching gifts and complete any required forms! Let us know if you need assistance or documentation about our nonprofit status.

<u>Sunday School Volunteers</u> We are blessed with a growing Children's Ministries program and we are looking for more volunteers to fill our classrooms. If you are interested in being a loving adult in the lives of the children of our church, please contact Erin Heath, Children's Ministries Director, at erin.heath@pclg.org.

<u>Pastor's Bible Study</u> Join Pastor Dave for a mid-week study each Wednesday at 2 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We will take a 2 week break and **return on Wednesday**, Jan. 8th

<u>Nursery Caretaker-</u> Children's Ministries is in need of a regular nursery caretaker on Sunday mornings from 9:30-11:30am. This is a paid position with an opportunity for additional hours during special events. If you know anyone who is interested, please have them contact Erin Heath at erin.heath@pclg.org.

WOW The weekly drop in Bible study for all the women of PCLG (called WOW) meets Thursday mornings from 10 am to 11:30 in the Fireside Room and always welcomes new friends, so contact Julie Lasher at 408/656-8419 or JHLasher01@gmail.com for info on our in-person meetings.

<u>The Worship Band</u> is happy to welcome any musicians who enjoy playing guitar, bass, drums or singing. Please feel free to contact Rita@pclg.org for more information. Or find me on a Sunday morning. Blessings, Rita

<u>The PW Morning Circle</u> The Thursday morning Bible study will be meeting at the Terraces. We meet once a month on the third Thursday of the month at 10:15 am in the 2nd floor Conference Room. Any questions? contact Ruth Fong at 1(408) 395-9342 or ru.fong@comcast.net.

MINOW Men's Bible Study: We have a men's study in person in the Fireside Room and via Zoom each Wednesday at 6:30 AM. This group is called MINOW, "Men In Need of Wisdom" and is much like our Presbyterian Church where it is run by its members. We trade off leading the study week by week. We just started the book of Genesis, so now is a good time to join. Please reach out to <u>minow@pclg.org</u> to be added to the weekly email invite.

Sign Language Group We are learning sign language through worship songs. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Sunday after worship service in Room 9 in Children's Wing. The dates are subject to change depending on church events. For November, we are going to have potluck on Dec. 29th. Anyone who love signing can come. Now is the best time to join the group as we are going to go over basic signs and alphabet/numbers. Come and join us! Questions? Contact Youngla Kwon (youngla0707@gmail.com).

<u>Sunday School Volunteer Training!</u> Have you considered signing up to volunteer as a Sunday School teacher but wasn't sure what it entailed? Join us for a special Sunday School Volunteer Training to equip and inspire you for this important ministry. Whether you're a seasoned teacher or just getting started, this session will provide helpful tools, a run through of what happens in Sunday School, the types of lessons covered, and a time to answer any questions. Lunch included! Date: Sunday, Jan. 12 | Time: 11:30-12:30 | Location: Fireside Room. Let's grow together in serving our children and sharing God's love!

Youth Update

Middle School Sunday School is meeting today in the Youth Center following the Children's Message during worship. SNIFF and YG will not be meeting this evening.

Everyone has different holiday plans including your youth staff. Let us know when you're around this break and we will do our best to connect!

<u>Children's Ministry (Infant - 5th grade)</u>: Welcome Families! On Sundays our Nursery is available for children and infants - 2 1/2 years old. Preschool-1st grade will meet in our Preschool Ministry Wing, and 2nd-5th grade will meet in our Children's Ministry Wing. Please refer to the church calendar for special Sundays when Sunday School may not be available. Visiting families should walk their child back to Sunday School after the children's message so that teachers can meet the parents and know who they are dismissing the child to at pickup. Please reach out with any questions to Erin Heath the Director of Children's Ministry erin.heath@pclg.org

<u>**Giving Online**</u> Please visit www.pclg.org/online-giving, or use this QR code, to access our online giving tools. You can give a one-time gift or set up a recurring gift.



Dates To Remember

PCLG Young Adults Brunch, at 12pm at Willow Street Pizza
Christmas Eve Services 4 pm and 10 pm
Pancake Breakfast Sunday
Inquirers/New Members class 9 am

Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos | 16575 Shannon Rd. Los Gatos www.pclg.org | 408-356-6156

We believe that everyone is created in the image of God and that we are all children of our loving God. We welcome you into the life of our church regardless of where you are on your faith journey. We welcome people of any race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation or gender identity. Simply put, we believe that God loves you and so do we.