

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



DECEMBER 18, 2016

WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?

We Gather

Prelude *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* arr. Paul Manz (1919–2009)
Chanson de Noël by Jacques-Louis de Champ D’homme
Stewart Sarch, Organist

Welcome Peter Whitelock & Gerald Chinen (9 a.m.)
Peter Whitelock & Jaime Polson (11 a.m.)

Advent Candle Lighting Chris Baldwin
Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (Hymnal #85, verses 1–4) tune: Tif in veldele

We Praise

Introit *Hodie, Christus natus est (Today Christ Is Born)* Healey Willan (1880–1968)
Chancel Choir

Opening Hymn *Angels, from the Realms of Glory (#143, verses 1, 2, 4)* tune: Regent Square

Advent Reading *Romans 1:1–7 (pp. 913–914)* Gerald Chinen (9 a.m.)
Jaime Polson (11 a.m.)

What Child Is This?

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon Gerald Chinen (9 a.m.)
Jaime Polson (11 a.m.)

Response *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (#128)* tune: W żłobie leży

Baptism (11 a.m.) Walker Kell Houssels & Knox Anderson Houssels
sons of Eric & Kathleen Houssels Jaime Polson

Anthem *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People* arr. Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

Peace Peter Whitelock

We Hear the Word

Sermon “Waiting for Grace” Peter Whitelock
Matthew 1:18–25 (p. 783)

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer Lauren Gully

We Respond

We Are Called by Name

Offering *Two British Carols: “Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”*
and “Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day” arr. Larry Shackley (b. 1956)
Brett Strader, piano

Closing Hymn *Love Has Come (#110, verses 1–3)* tune: Bring a Torch

Prayer of Thanksgiving Lauren Gully

Charge & Benediction Peter Whitelock

Postlude *Variation IV on “Forest Green”* Kenneth Z. Mansfield (b. 1929)
Stewart Sarch

Everyone is invited to the Worship Plaza for coffee and fellowship.

Worship Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers are given by the Silvanis
"in remembrance of our parents Dan & June Neblett and Len & Aldyne Slivani."

Floral Design Team

Sherril Barber, Team Leader; Gloria Buchman, Lassie Colebourn, Jane Ebe
Linda Giddings, Pat Jeans, Suze McConnell, Clarice Odell, Penny Perry

Hospitality Team

9 a.m. Sue Fernstrom, Team Leader; Maxine Christison, Susan Couch, Bob Heaney, Rob Schock
Greeters: Brad & Gloria Buchman
11 a.m. Jim Terril, Team Leader; Nan Reuther, Lynne Terril, Dara Youngdale

Welcome Team

A special thank you today to Hobie Cats, a Voyager group, for serving the coffee on the plaza.

Worship & Music Team

Peter Whitelock, Pastor/Head of Staff
Gerald Chinen, Pastor, Care; Lauren Gully, Pastor, Mission & Formation; Jaime Polson, Pastor, Families
Brett Strader, Director of Worship and Music
Stewart Scharch, Organist; Tony Domenick, Assistant Music Director
Chris Baldwin, Director of Community Engagement
Dana Lindstrom, Baptism Elder
Chancel Choir
Michael Henning, drums
Devin Crane, Sound Technician; Brendan Kelley, Video Technician
Hiroko Shibuya, Worship and Music Coordinator
Music Licensing: CCLI #246351; CVLI, #504029697
CCS WORSHIPcast License #7791

Christmas Morning Worship Schedule

We worship together at 10:00 a.m.

 **livestream LOPC Worship at LOPC.org**

Sunday morning services are streamed live online.

Visit LOPC.org and click WATCH LIVE tab on the top of the front page.

Large Print Bulletins and Bulletin Supplements are available in the Narthex this morning.

Bulletins are also available at LOPC.org, under Worship.



LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

49 Knox Drive | Lafayette CA 94549 | LOPC.org | 925-283-8722

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUNDAY WORSHIP BULLETIN SUPPLEMENT

Advent Candle Lighting

Leader: Watch and wait for Christ's coming!
Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.
We light this candle in hope. [Light the first purple candle.]
We light this candle for peace. [Light the second purple candle.]
We light this candle in Joy! [Light the third pink candle.]
We light the candle with love. [Light the fourth (the last purple) candle.]

We sing again our Advent Hymn "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah". Today we add verse four, which tells us of Jesus' coming and prompts us to be the light to bring the glad tidings.

Many: (Hymnal #85), verses 1–4, here below]

Light one candle to watch for Messiah

Let the light banish darkness

He shall bring salvation to Israel

God fulfills the promise

Light two candles to watch for Messiah

Let the light banish darkness

He shall feed the flock like a shepherd

Gently lead them homeward

Light three candles to watch for Messiah

Let the light banish darkness

Lift your heads and lift high the gateway

For the King of glory

Light four candles to watch for Messiah

Let the light banish darkness

He is coming; tell the glad tidings

Let your light be shining

Leader: Out of love for the people of God, the LORD speaks through the prophet Isaiah, as found in the seventh chapter, verses 14–16.

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Let us pray.
God of hope,
Prince of peace,
Jubilee Judge,
and Lord of love,

your goodness is beyond our wildest imaginings. You give us more than we can think to ask, coming to us with impossible possibility in the union of flesh and spirit.

Teach us to love this world and all people as you love us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.

Introit: Hodie, Christus natus est (Today Christ is born)

Text: from a Christmas antiphon

Music: Healey Willan

Hodie, Christus natus est
Salvator apparuit
interra canunt Angeli
laetantur Archangeli
Hodie, exultant justi, dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluia

*Today Christ is born
The Saviour hath appeared
on earth the choirs of angels sing
Archangels together rejoice
This day, the righteous rejoice together, saying
Glory to God in the highest, alleluia*

Opening Hymn: Angels, from the Realms of Glory (Hymnal #143, verses 1, 2, 4)

Text: Stanzas 1–3, James Montgomery, 1816, stanza 4, *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857

Music: Henry thomas Smart, 1867

**Angels, from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth
You, 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 us is now residing
Yonder shines the infant light: *refrain*
All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One: *refrain***

Advent Reading: Romans 1:1–7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

What Child Is This

Text: William Chatterton Dix, 1871

Music: English ballad, 16th cent.; arr. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

**What child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste to bring him laud
The babe, the son of Mary!**

**Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through
The cross be borne for me, for you
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh
The babe, the son of Mary!**

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh
Come, one and all, to own him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone him
Raise, raise the song on high
The virgin sings her lullaby
Joy, joy for Christ is born
The babe, the son of Mary!**

Response: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (Hymnal #128)

Text: Polish carol; trans. Edith M. G. Reed, 1920; rev. 1921

Music: Polish folk melody; harm. Arthur E. Rusbridge, 1962

**Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing
Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!**

**Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of the gospel true
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet the morrow
Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!**

Baptism of Walker Kell Houssels & Knox Anderson Houssels, sons of Eric & Kathleen Houssels (11 a.m.)

Question to the Congregation:

*Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ,
promise to guide and nurture Walker and Knox
by word and deed,
with love and prayer.
encouraging them to know and follow Christ
and to be faithful members of his church?*

Anthem: Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Text: Johann G. Olearisu (1611–1684), trans. Catherin Winkworth (1827–1878), alt.

Music: Claude Goudimel (1514–1572). arr. by Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

Comfort, comfort ye my people
Speak ye peace, thus saith our God
Comfort those who sit in darkness
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them
Tell her that her sins I cover
And her warfare now is over

Hark, the voice of one that crieth
In the desert far and near
Calling us to new repentance
Since the kingdom is here
Make ye straight what long was crooked
Make the rougher places plain

Let your hearts be true and humble
As befits His holy reign
For the glory of the Lord now
O'er earth is shed abroad
And all flesh shall see the token
That the word is never broken

Scriptures: Matthew 1:18–25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

*"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"*

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Closing Hymn: Love Has Come (Hymnal #110, verses 1-3)

Text: Ken Bible, 1996

Music: French melody; arr. Eric T. Myers, 2012

**Love has come: a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it
Hear how their song of joy arises
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high**

**Love is born! Come, share in the wonder
Love is God now asleep in the hay
See the glow in the eyes of his mother
What is the name her heart is saying?**

(Song continues to the next page)

**Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers
Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel**

**Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free
Love is Jesus within and among us
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!**