

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9:00 & 11:00 a.m.



December 23, 2018

We Gather

Prelude

In dulci jubilo
Stewart Scharch, organ
God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
Handbell Choir; Tessique Houston, Director

arr. Marcel Dupré (1886–1971)

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski (b. 1950)

A Story of Love

Welcome

Advent Candle Lighting

Andy and Carole Amstutz

Peter Whitelock & Lauren Gully

Andy and Carole Amstutz

We Praise

Advent Carol

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (Hymnal #104)

tune: Valet will ich dir geben

Reading

Titus 3:4–7

Lauren Gully

While We Are Waiting, Come (Hymnal #92)

tune: Waiting (Cason)

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Lauren Gully

Response

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Hymnal #88, verses 1, 2, 7)

tune: Veni Emmanuel

Baptism (11 a.m.)

Hope Violet Lazzareschi & Reese Jordan Lazzareschi,
Children of Ben & Kelly Lazzareschi

Lauren Gully
with Don Colebourn

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (Hymnal #486)

tune: Kingdom

Anthem

The Holly and The Ivy
Chancel Choir

arr. John Rutter (b. 1945)

Peace

Peter Whitelock

We Hear the Word

Sermon

Love
(Luke 2:1–7, pp. 832–833)

Peter Whitelock

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Gerald Chinen (9 a.m.); Jaime Polson (11 a.m.)

We Respond

We Are Called By Name

Offering

He Is Born!
Handbell Choir

arr. by Linda R. Lamb

Closing Song

Love Has Come (Hymnal #110)

tune: Bring a Torch

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gerald Chinen (9 a.m.); Jaime Polson (11 a.m.)

Charge & Benediction

Peter Whitelock

Postlude

Forest Green, Variation IV
Stewart Scharch

Kenneth Z. Mansfield (b. 1929)

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

Worship Flowers

The Sanctuary Flowers this morning are given by Royce & Marjorie Nicolaisen
"in celebration of our 40th anniversary, and in honor of our three daughters and two granddaughters."

Floral Design Team

Jane Ebe, Team Leader; Sherril Barber, Lassie Colebourn, Linda Giddings, Jayne Hegenbart,
Pat Jeans, Suze McConnell, Clarice Odell, Penny Perry, Dorothy Pritchett, Laurie Reich, Lynne Terril

Advent Banner

The Advent quilt on the front wall was commissioned by the Worship Team to enhance the worship
experience of the season. Titled as "The Journey", it was designed and created by Ann Loar.

Hospitality Team

9 a.m. Sharon Bartlett, Team Leader; Dick Courtney, Colleen Fawley, Fran Gentry, Virginia Wharton
Julie & Jim Fulford, Greeters
11 a.m. Elizabeth Johnson, Team Leader; Bill Brown, Judy Nielsen, Tom Scovel, Yuji Shibuya

Welcome Team

A special thank you today to Schooners, 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 Sarch, Organist; Michael Morales, Worship and Music Assistant
Andy and Carole Amstutz, Advent Candle Lighters
Handbell Choir; Tessique Houston, Director
Chancel Choir
Michael Henning, drums; Terry Miller, bass
Anne Whitelock, David MacKenzie, vocals
Devin Crane, Sound Technician; Brendan Kelley, Video Technician
Hiroko Shibuya, Worship and Music Coordinator
Music Licensing: CCLI #246351; CVLI, #504158596
CCS WORSHIPcast License #7791

Sunday Morning Worship Services

We worship together at 9:00 & 11:00 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

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high
Who orderest all things mightily
To us the path of knowledge show
And teach us in her ways to go** *refrain*

**O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace** *refrain*

Baptismal Question to Congregation (11 a.m.)

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ,
Promise to guide and nurture Hope and Reese,
by word and deed,
with love and prayer,
encouraging them to know and follow Christ
and to be a faithful member of his church?

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (11 a.m., Hymnal #486)

Text: Ronald S. Cole-Turner 1980 © 1981 Ronald S. Cole-Turner

Music: V. Earl Copes, 1959

**Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine
Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits, into joy and laughter lead
Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are, from God you came
Back to God we humbly give you: live as one who bears Christ's name
Child of God, your loving Parent, learn to listen for God's call
Grow to laugh and sing and worship, trust and love God more than all**

Anthem: The Holly and the Ivy

English Traditional Carol, Arranged by John Rutter

*The holly and the ivy
When they are both full grown
Of all the trees that are in the wood
The holly bears the crown*

*refrain: O the rising of the sun
 And the running of the deer
 The playing of the merry organ
 Sweet singing in the choir*

*The holly bears a blossom
As white as any flower
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ*

To be our sweet Savior *refrain*

*The holly bears a berry
As red as any blood*

*And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To do poor sinners good* *refrain*

*The holly bears a prickle
As sharp as any thorn*

*And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
On Christmas Day in the morn* *refrain*

*The holly bears a bark
As bitter as any gall*

*And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
For to redeem us all* *refrain*

Sermon: Love

Scriptures (Luke 2:1–7; Philippians 3:20; Romans 11:20; Colossians 1:19–20, 2 Corinthians 5:20; Genesis 12:20; John 15:12)

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. (Luke 2:1–7)

But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. (Philippians 3:20)

For if you have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these natural branches be grafted back into their own olive tree. (Romans 11:20)

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. (Colossians 1:19–20)

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. (2 Corinthians 5:20)

I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. (Genesis 12:20)

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. (John 15:12)

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)

Text: Ken Bible, 1996; Music: French melody; arr. Eric T. Myers, 2012; Text © 1006 LNWhymns.com (admin. Music Services); Music Arr. © 2012 Eric T. Myers

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?
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!