



San Marcos Lutheran Church

3419 Grand Avenue San Marcos, CA 92078 (760) 727-1509

www.sanmarcoslutheran.org

Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Our mission is to know, accept and live the love of God, and share it with others.

Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, we welcome you!

Christmas Eve

Dec. 24, 2024 7:00 pm

Welcome to worship!

Throughout the service, you will be invited to sit, stand, or kneel as you are able and as you feel comfortable. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, for it is Christ who does the inviting. An usher will let you know when it is your row's turn to come forward. Bread, gluten-free wafers, red wine, and white juice are all available. Please tell the pastor you need a gluten-free wafer when it is your turn.

EXTENDED PRELUDE 'Sheep May Safely Graze' by J.S. Bach Justin Hershey, Doris Payne-duet

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN (*stand*)

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"



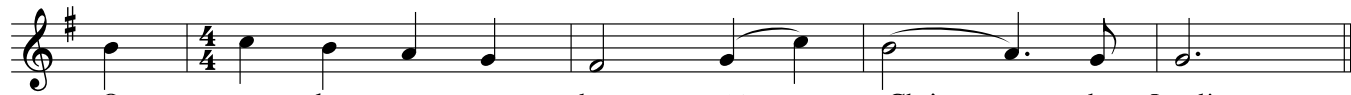
1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to
3. } Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, } sing, all ye cit - i - zens of
4. } Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, } Je - sus, to thee be all



Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels:
heav'n a - bove! Glo - ry to God, in the high - est;
glo - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

CHRISTMAS DIALOG AND GREETING

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness.

The darkness has not overcome it.

May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray ...

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

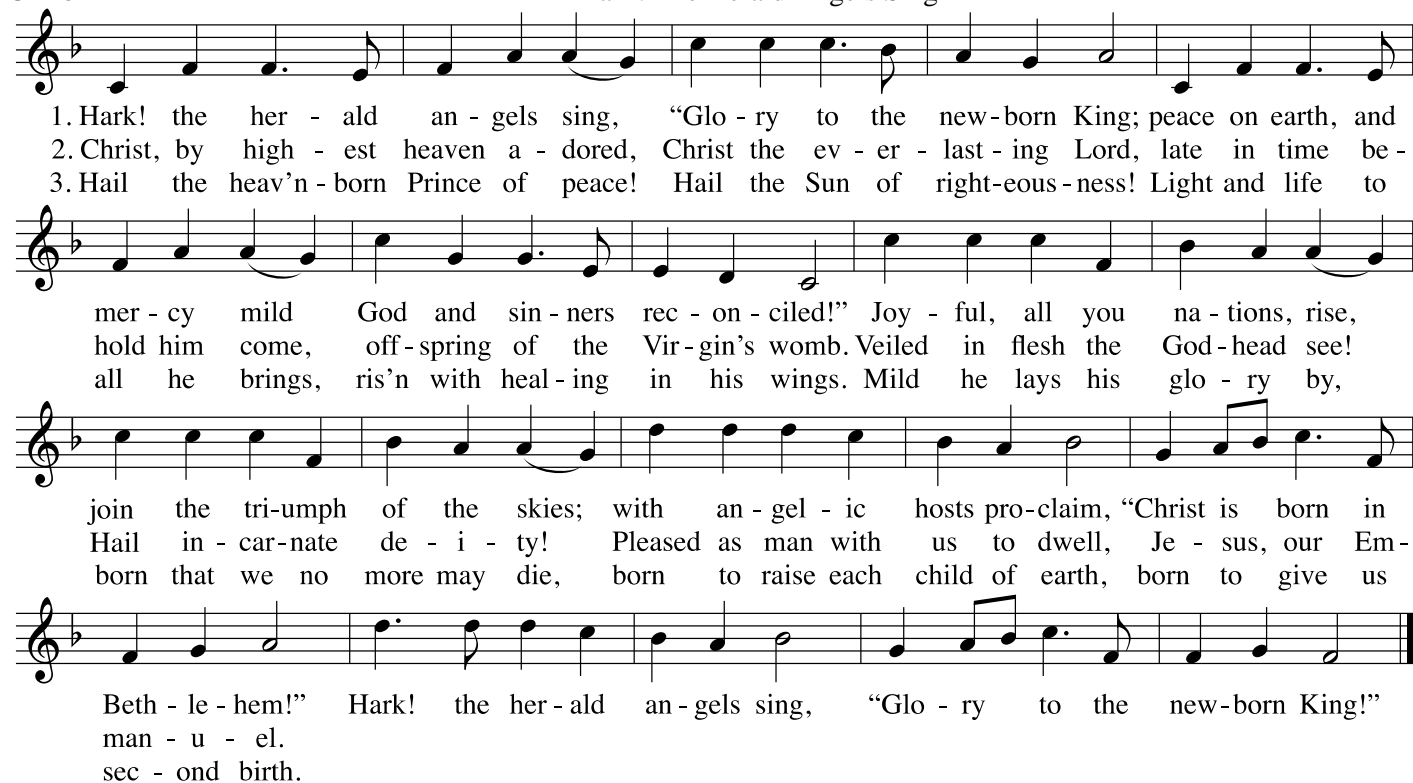
READING

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

CAROL

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born King; peace on earth, and
2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ the ev - er - last - ing Lord, late in time be -
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of right-eous - ness! Light and life to
mer - cy mild God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!” Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise,
hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God - head see!
all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his glo - ry by,
join the tri - umph of the skies; with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, “Christ is born in
Hail in - car - nate de - i - ty! Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em -
born that we no more may die, born to raise each child of earth, born to give us
Beth - le - hem!” Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born King!”
man - u - el.
sec - ond birth.

GOSPEL (*stand*)

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1–20

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.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON (*sit*)

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*sit*)

The assembly is invited into prayer: Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

(A brief silence)

After each petition, "God of grace, receive our prayer."

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“On This Day Earth Shall Ring!” Arr. David Cherwen

Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We thank you, loving God, for you did not abandon us or stand far off,
but came in awful nearness with the urgency of love.

In creation’s dawn, you gave birth to all that is; to the people of Israel, you revealed yourself a Father
and shared the human story.

Tonight we praise you for the Word made flesh, born of Mary’s body, nurtured in her womb,
cradled in her arms, greeted by her song.

The fullness of God dwells in his flesh, a touch of welcome for the one thrown aside, good news of bread for
the hungry and poor, a shepherd to find those who are lost.

Now we are caught up, body and soul resound with the glory of music divine,
echoing through the hallowed earth:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon these gifts, that these fragile, earthly things may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me." As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Therefore, in our eating and drinking we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ; we proclaim him as creation's host, transforming poverty into plenty in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with the hope that one day death and greed will be no more and people without number will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom and in whom in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, forever and ever.
Amen. *Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church, Church Publishing (New York, NY: 2009).*

LORD'S PRAYER *The assembly is invited into prayer:*
Gracious God, help us to pray for your agenda of Shalom to be our agenda as well.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.
Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Away in a Manger	Hymnal #278
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear	Hymnal #282
Angels We have heard on High	Hymnal #289

TABLE BLESSING *(remain seated)*

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep, and unite us now and forever. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.

Amen.

LIGHTING OF CANDLES- *The ushers will begin sharing the light with the worshipers, beginning with those seated nearest the aisle. Each person will light their candle from their neighbor. In the interest of safety, the lighted candle is never tilted, but always held upright when giving light to another.*

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Night of Silence”

Choir

HYMN

“Silent Night”

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light

round yon vir - gin moth - er and child, ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild,
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia!
 ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at your birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

BLESSING (*stand*)

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” Text: John F. Wade, c.1711–1786; tr. by Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, alt. Music: ADESTE FIDELES, Irregular with refrain; John F. Wade, c.1711–1786

“Joy to the World” Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Music: ANTIOCH; English melody, 18th cent.

“Silent Night” Text: *Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht*; Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885 Music: STILLE NACHT; Franz X. Gruber, 1787-1863

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: MENDELSSOHN; Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher/Presider: Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Assisting Minister: Anne Voth

Lector: Rob O'Carroll

Musician: Justin Hershey

Choir Director: Max Chodos

Ushers: Jack Anderson, Tom Andreas, Eleanor Adcock, Adam Holmberg

All are welcome!

As a community of the people of God, the members of San Marcos Lutheran Church welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race, or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28)

Are you new to San Marcos Lutheran Church? Pastor Casey would love the opportunity to get to know you, and has put together a short, confidential, online form. Your smartphone's QR reader can take you to it using this code. If technology isn't your cup of tea (or if it just isn't working for you today) there are cream-colored cards in the pew in front of you, which you can fill out and put in the silver offering plates, hand to an usher, or hand to Pastor Casey after the service. We're glad you're here!



Thank you for supporting the ministry of San Marcos Lutheran Church! **Your generosity enables us to do God's work in our community.** Your contributions to our general fund support our budgeted expenses—we cannot do it without your support!

You can contribute in any of the following ways:

- Place a check or cash in the silver offering plates at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays;
- Mail a check to the church office (3419 Grand Ave. San Marcos, CA 92078);
- Set up a recurring donation through your bank;
- Make a one-time or recurring donation with your credit or debit card or bank account through Tithe.ly, our online giving portal. Visit sanmarcoslutheran.org/give to get started.



Your smartphone's QR reader can take you there by scanning this code. *San Marcos Lutheran Church is a 501(c)(3) organization, and your gift may be tax-deductible.*



2024 Christmas Poinsettia Dedications

Jill Adachi

Eleanor Adcock

Susan Agonia

Susan Agonia

Vicky & Bruce Asmussen

Beda & Jerry Farrell

Jay Goldstein & Beth Sullivan

Jay Goldstein & Beth Sullivan

Pastor Gene & Grace Holtz

Donna Huber

Fran Iverson

McNichols Family

Marilyn Monell

Mossuto & Merrihew Family

Maggie Riley-Hagan & Rob Watson

Maggie Riley-Hagan & Rob Watson

David & Marie Schilke

Liz Starr

Karla Strazicich-Cain

Anne Voth

In memory of my sister, Vicki Malouf

In memory of my parents

In memory of Muggs, Rose, Henry & Marlene Agonia and
Lois & Fred Buhrig

In honor of my wonderful family

In memory of Sam, Bertie, Jean, Cathy, Dorothy & Brian

In memory of Joan Soma

In honor of Shirlee Lohuis

In memory of Winifred Goldstein

In thanksgiving for our children, grandchildren & great
grandchildren

In memory of Gayle Blunt

In memory of David, my loving husband

In memory of loved ones & friends

In memory of Howard Monell & Art Kincaid

In memory of loved ones

In memory of Don Hagan

In memory of Betsy Watson

In memory of Gary & Lynn Brynjulfson & Cathy Jensen

In honor of our many blessings

In memory of Mark Strazicich

In memory of Mama Irene & Grandma Ann