

December 1, 2019
First Sunday of Advent
10:45 a.m. Worship Celebration

Good Morning! Malo e lava mai! Nisa bula vinaka!
In this Reconciling Congregation, all people are welcome, safe and cherished.
www.RMNetwork.org

Presiding in worship: Reverend Dr. Debra Murray
Lay Liturgist: Tim Crockett

*With the sounding of the chimes, we are gathered as a family of faith.
Please stand as you are able where indicated by an asterisk (*).
Children's activity packets are available in the entry way.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude / *Prelude on "Picardy"* / Daniel Gawthrop
The Ushers distribute the Attendance Registers during the prelude.

Welcome / Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

*Opening Hymn / *My Soul Gives Glory to My God* / No. 198, v. 1-4

WE SPEAK TO GOD

*Call to Worship / Tim Crockett

Leader: We come from a world of darkness

People: Into Christ's world of light.

Leader: We come from a world of fear

People: Into God's strength and hope.

Leader: We come from a world that appears to be falling apart.

People: Strengthened by God's Spirit, we come to awaken our souls with hope and mend the brokenness around us.

All: Our hope is in God who is our salvation. Amen.

*Advent Candle Lighting / *Advent 1* / insert

Children's Hymn / *Where Children Belong* / FWS No. 2233

Children's Moment / Hope Crockett

Life of the Community / Tim Crockett

Joy of Giving / Caryn Cranston and Nancy Glaser

Pastoral Prayer / Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

The Lord's Prayer / No. 895

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.

*The Peace of Christ Be With You / stand and greet your neighbor

*Sung Response / *Shalom to You* / No. 666

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.

May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving,

Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Anthem / *Comfort, Comfort* / John Ferguson

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 Herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Bidding all to true repentance
Since the Kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him
And the hills bow down to greet Him.

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 His Word is never broken.

"Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"

Text by Johann Olearius, 1635-1711

Translated by Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Scripture Reading / *Romans 15:1-13* / Linda Grossman

New Testament 153; large print p. 198

*Hymn / *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* / insert, v. 1-3

Sermon / *Making Room for Hope* / Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Sung Response / *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* / insert, v. 4-5

COMMUNION / See insert

Our Offering — Please bring tithes and offerings to the plate as you come up for communion.

WE SPEAK TO THE WORLD

*Closing Hymn / *People Look East* / No. 202

*Benediction / Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

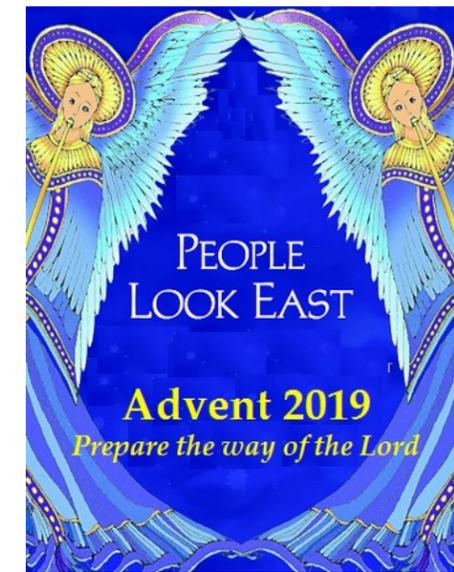
*Alleluia / No. 186, vs. 1

*Postlude / *Veni, Emmanuel* / Robert J. Powell



*All are invited to a time of refreshment and conversation
on the patio following worship.*

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God in the name of
my mother, Jane Ploesch's, birthday by Carol Kumer.*



Advent & Christmas Services and Music:

Advent Processional Service

December 8, 7 PM

Special Music w/ Fiume di Musica and Handbells,

December 15, 10:45 service

Community Carol Sing with Brass Quintet

December 22, 3 PM (preview at 10:45 service!)

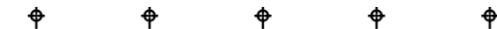
Christmas Eve

Family Service, 5 PM

Candlelight Service, 11 PM

Christmas Day

Tongan Service, 2 PM



Our Vision:

The Children in Our Midst
The Mission at Our Doorstep
A Place of Hospitality and Grace

Rev. Dr. Debra Murray, Senior Pastor
Mark Shaull, Director of Music
Diane Keller, Organist
Peni Savou, Lay Leader, Fijian Language Ministry

The worship service is webcast live every Sunday. To view it, go to www.firstpaloalto.com/live. DVD's of the 10:45am worship service are available to borrow in the library or to purchase by contacting the church office.



Our electronic giving page is open! Whether you are a long time member, or just joined us, you can give with just a few clicks at www.firstpaloalto.com/give. You can also find information on how to contribute through **Amazon Smile**. As always, your generosity makes our mission possible! Thank you!

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NOTEWORTHY NEWS.....

Sunday Announcement Guidelines: If you have an announcement you want to make on a Sunday or place in the Sunday bulletin, please email Charlotte at charlotte@firstpaloalto.com with your request.

UMW Holiday Card Sales: Last day is **TODAY** on the patio. Proceeds support UMW service projects around the world.

Koinonia's annual Christmas Party is **Dec 7 at 6 PM**. The party includes a potluck, White Elephant gift exchange and caroling at the Larsons'. RSVP to Nancy at (650) 326-4856 or nancyco2@gmail.com by **Dec 5**.



Wreath Sales: Boy Scout Troop 50 will sell wreaths on **Dec 8** after our 10:45 service!

SEEDS Youth Packaging Event: Sun Dec 8, 3-5 PM in the SEEDS room. Join us for an opportunity to give back to our community through SEEDS, whose mission is to "plant hope and change lives" and to "help end youth homelessness." Children and youth of all ages, come put together LifePacks to provide life-saving supplies to homeless kids. This is also a great chance to earn community service hours. Bring friends!

LifeMoves Drop-In Holiday Shoppe: There is a barrel in the narthex for **NEWLY BOUGHT** donations. **Particularly requested items:** sleeping bags, blankets, undergarments (underwear, socks for men & women), warm coats/heavy hoodies (adult sizes), wool socks, wool hats, and mitten/scarves, backpacks, umbrellas, and/or durable rain ponchos, self-blow-up mattress or mat for sleeping, gift cards for car gas, Walmart/Target, or meals (i.e. McDonald's, Starbucks, etc.) **You can also have items sent from Amazon to the church office! All items due Wed Dec 11.**



UMW Cookie Plates for Shut-ins: The UMW will make cookie plates for homebound congregation members on **Sat, Dec 14 at 10 AM**. All women of the church are invited to participate!

Parents' Night Out: Sat Dec 14 5-8 PM. Youth Leader Hope Crockett and childcare staff will host an evening of dinner and games for kids while parents get their Christmas shopping done! Invite your friends.

Make-a-Gift: Children and youth are invited to make homemade Christmas gifts **Sat Dec 21** in Kohlstedt Hall from **2-4 PM**, led by Children & Youth Director Hope Crockett and volunteer instructors! Parents, please accompany younger children. Email hope@firstpaloalto.com with questions.



We lift the names of those asking for prayer, with thanksgiving for the healing already being received: Artemas, Don and Jennifer (Janet Nicholls' friends), Emilie Sweet, Danielle Martell, Keith Perry, Frankie Campos, Mehri Namdarian, Joanne Perry, Robin Snyder, Orin & Jo Zimmerman, Kitty Baggott, Diane Mazuera's father, Tom Cousar (Patty & Lou Bellardo's nephew), Robert Day, Major Ross (Pastor Debra's brother), Marilyn Davis (Michele Conway's aunt), Merribeth May Munyon, Christina Harland, Janni Yuen, Jean Cole, Anna Costello

To add your name to the prayer list, fill out a Prayer Request Card and place in the offering plate. Our "on-going prayer list" (for persons who are homebound, battling long-term illness, or serving overseas) may be found on our website.

Advent Devotional emails are sent out every day of Advent, save Sundays! Make sure you are signed up for our e-news to receive them. If you are interested in writing a devotional, email Hope at hope@firstpaloalto.com.



Couples Group meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday in the Wesley Room. Next meeting: **TODAY**.

Don't forget: **Sunday Dec 8** is the **Church Charge Conference!** Please plan to attend in Kohlstedt Hall at 12:30 PM.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Check our online calendar at www.FirstPaloAlto.com for the latest schedule information. Church Office Hours are Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed weekends.

Sunday December 1

11:45 AM **Snack-n-Chat**, Patio
11:45 AM **Couples' Group**, Wesley Room
12:00 PM **UMW Holiday Card Sales**, Patio

Monday December 2

7:00 PM **CEF Meeting**, Millennium Room
7:00 PM **Fiume di Musica Rehearsal**, Sanctuary

Tuesday December 3

7:00 PM **SPRC Meeting**, Millennium Room

Wednesday December 4

10:00 AM **Bible Study**, Channing House
6:00 PM **Upstream Meal**, Patio Room
7:00 PM **Upstream Service**, Patio Room

Thursday December 5

9:30 AM **UMW Walking Group**, Off-site
6:30 PM **Handbells Rehearsal**, Sanctuary
7:30 PM **Chancel Choir Rehearsal**, Kohlstedt Hall

Sunday December 8

9:15 AM **Childcare**, Noah's Ark Nursery
9:30 AM **Adult Bible Study: You, The Bible, and Current Events**, Wesley Room
9:45 AM **Children's Sunday School**
Preschool-K, Butterfly Room (1st floor)
1st-5th Grade, Rainbow Room (2nd floor)
10:45 AM **Sanctuary Worship Celebration**

For questions regarding Children & Youth Ministries contact Hope Crockett, hope@firstpaloalto.com.

Childcare for young children is available every Sunday from 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in Noah's Ark Nursery, located next to the Library on the 1st floor.

Children's Sunday School for kids age 3 through 5th grade:

Sunday School is from 9:45 to 10:40 a.m. in the First School room (ages 3 through Kinder) and the Rainbow Room (grades 1 through 5).

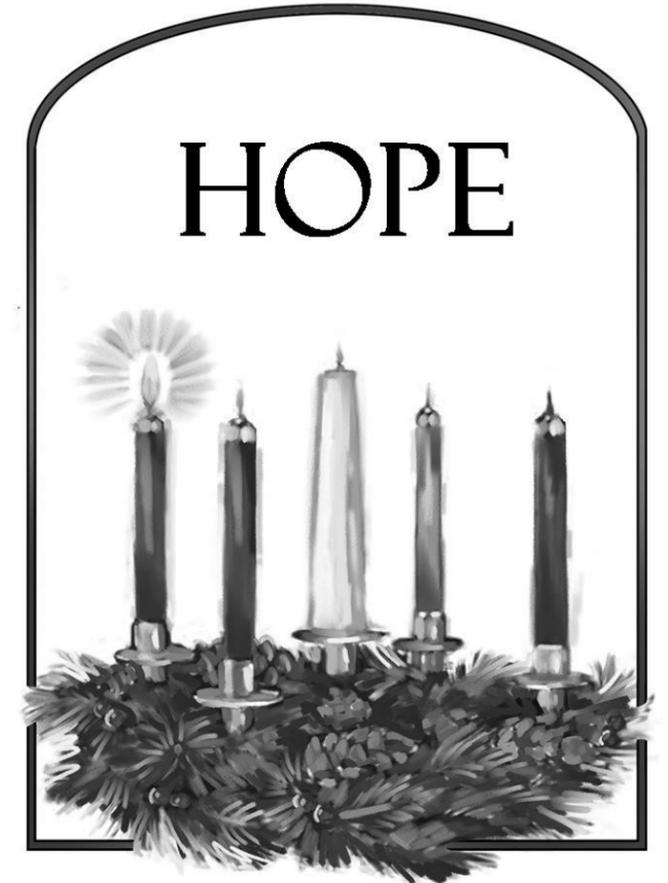
YOFPA (Youth of First Palo Alto) for 6th-12th graders: Contact Hope Crockett for meeting details.

WELCOME

December 1, 2019

First Sunday of Advent

HOPE



WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS:

SUNDAY 10:45 AM

WEDNESDAY 6:00 PM

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