

December 15, 2019
Third 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: Pamela Cutkosky

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 / *Concerto Noel Suisse* / Michel Corrette
(Allegro, Adagio, Allegro)
Fiume di Musica

The Ushers distribute the Attendance Registers during the prelude.

Welcome / Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Introit / *People Look East*

*Opening Hymn / *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* / No. 203

WE SPEAK TO GOD

*Call to Worship / Pamela Cutkosky

Leader: Praise the name of the Lord.

People: Let's rejoice in the name of the Lord.

Leader: Weeping shall endure but for a night.

People: Hold on, joy shall come in the morning. Rejoice, joy shall come in the morning.

Leader: Rejoice, God is with us throughout the night!

All: Rejoice and proclaim God's praise to everyone.

*Advent Candle Lighting / *Advent 3* / inserts

Handbells / *Of the Father's Love Begotten* / 11th century

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

Children's Moment / Hope Crockett

Finance Presentation / Lou Bellardo

Life of the Community / Pamela Cutkosky

Joy of Giving / Caryn Cranston

Pastoral Prayer / Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

The Lord's Prayer, adapted from / No. 895

Our Creator, 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 / *Advent Promise* / Douglas Wagner

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Scripture Reading / *Romans 15:5-13, Psalm 126* / Marilyn Bauriedel

New Testament 153, Old Testament 541; large print p. 198, 704

*Hymn / *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* / No. 216, v. 1-2

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

Sung Response / *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* / No. 216, v. 3

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Invitation to the Offering / Pamela Cutkosky

Offertory / *People, Look East* / Dale Wood

*Doxology / *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* / No. 94

*Prayer of Dedication of Gifts & Self / Pamela Cutkosky

Lord, we give you our tithes and offerings with a joyful heart.
May they be used to spread the Good News your presence brings. Amen.

WE SPEAK TO THE WORLD

*Closing Hymn / *Sing With Joy, You Advent People* / insert

*Benediction / Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

*Alleluia / No. 186, vs. 1

*Postlude / *Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her* / Max Reger

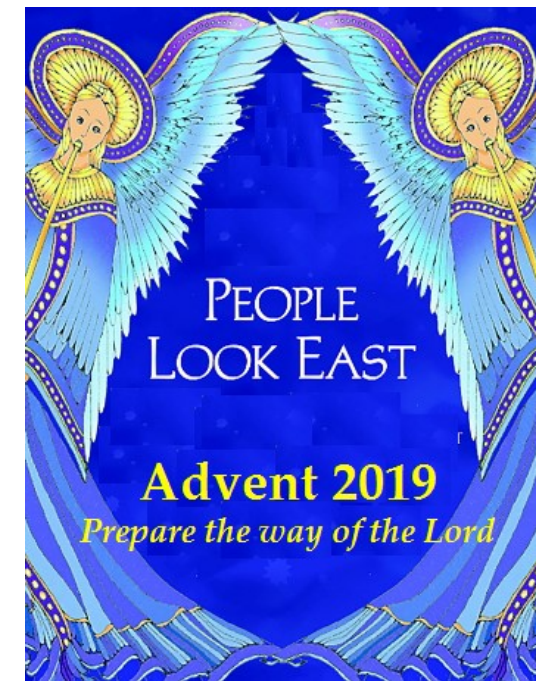


*All are invited to a time of refreshment and conversation
on the patio following worship.*

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and
in memory of loved ones by Nancy Stowe*



Don't forget: TODAY is the last day to order poinsettias!



Advent & Christmas Services and Music:

Special Music w/ Fiume di Musica and Handbells

TODAY, 10:45 AM service

Community Carol Sing with Brass Quintet

December 22, 3:00 PM (preview at 10:45 service!)

Christmas Eve

Family Service, 5 PM

Candlelight Service, 11 PM

Christmas Day

2 PM with First Tongan UMC



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 10:45 a.m. 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.

Holiday 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. **All materials provided!** Email hope@firstpaloalto.com with questions.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: We need **5 people** to bake two dozen cookies for the cookie decorating station! Contact Hope if interested.

Bring your neighbors for our Community Carol Sing on Sunday, Dec 22, 3 PM!

Come to sing or listen and enjoy the festive music of the season! Join in this event and help us welcome our community guests. This time-honored tradition will feature holiday brass, timpani, pipe organ, community singers and YOU, your family, friends & neighbors. Enjoy refreshments by the fireside following the event.



There will be NO Couples Group today. Meetings resume **Jan 5**.

Christmas Eve Hospitality: Help FUMC welcome visiting families with cookies and cocoa after the 5 PM Family Service on Christmas Eve. Can you bake some cookies? Play host/hostess and help serve cocoa? Contact Pamela Cutkosky at 650-328-5208 or pamelareasner@yahoo.com.



The **2020 Women's Retreat** runs **Jan 17-19** at Villa Maria del Mar. This year's theme is "Peace and Simplicity of Heart". The deadline to register is **Jan 2**. Forms are in front office, and online at <http://firstpaloalto.com/womens-retreat-2020/>. Full and partial scholarships are available.

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 **ADVENT** Hope Crockett at hope@firstpaloalto.com.

Chancel Choir rehearses **Thursdays at 7:30 PM** in Kohlstedt Hall. Contact Mark Shaull: markshaull@gmail.com.



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, Joanne Perry, Frankie Campos, Mehri Namdarian, 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 Osden (Sheila Gholson's niece), Patricia Cutkosky

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.

Handbells rehearses **Thursdays at 6:45 PM** in the Sanctuary. We always welcome new members! Music reading skills are a plus, but not a necessity. Contact Jerry Johnson at jerisings@gmail.com.



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 15

11:45 AM **Snack-n-Chat**, Patio

Monday December 16

7:00 PM **Fiume di Musica Rehearsal**, Sanctuary

Tuesday December 17

7:30 PM **Finance Committee**, Patio Room

Wednesday December 18

10:00 AM **Bible Study**, Channing House

6:00 PM **Community Connection-soup provided**, Patio Room

7:00 PM **Contemporary Praise Music and Bible Study**, Patio Room

Thursday December 19

11:30 AM **Volunteer and Staff Appreciation Party**, Patio Room

6:30 PM **Handbells Rehearsal**, Sanctuary

6:45 PM **Chancel Choir Rehearsal**, Kohlstedt Hall

Saturday December 21

2:00 PM **Holiday Make-a-Gift**, Kohlstedt Hall

Sunday December 22

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).

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

WELCOME

December 15, 2019

Third Sunday of Advent



WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS:

SUNDAY 10:45 AM

WEDNESDAY 6:00 PM

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