

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

Christmas Eve

WITH VIRTUALL VOICES

625 HAMILTON AVE, PALO ALTO | 650.323.6167 | @FIRSTPALOALTO
FIRSTPALOALTO.COM | FIRSTCHURCHCHRISTMAS.ORG



Welcome

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

What Child is This?

Celtic Harp - Rose Oberlin
Vocal - Billy Hendricks

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Caryn Cranston & Patty Tomko

A: In the beginning, God dreamed of a beautiful world.
B: In Egypt, the Israelites dreamed of freedom.
A: In the wilderness, the people dreamed of safety.
B: In Jerusalem, the people dreamed of a Messiah.
A: In Bethlehem, the shepherds and Wise Men dreamed of a new beginning.
B: Then, several years later, Jesus walked this earth and dreams came true.
A: The sick were healed. The poor had food.
B: The forgotten and ignored were seen.
A: The children were welcomed.
B: Everyone was invited to the table, and the world has never been the same.
A: So tonight, we are those who dream.
B: Tonight, we dream the same dreams of our ancestors before us.
A: Tonight, we dream of justice and mercy, of love and kindness, of peace and hope.
B: Tonight we dream of a God that draws near to us out of unfailing love.
A: May this candle be a reminder that there will be a day when every dream will be fulfilled. And until then, we will be those who dream.
B: Let us worship Holy God.

Call to Worship

Mira Dabrowski and Sarah D'Souza

One: This year, we dreamed of world peace.
All: We dreamed of deep breaths and restful sleep.

One: We dreamed of love that lasts and suffering that passes.
All: We dreamed of doors open wide and a cure to disease.

One: We dreamed, because to dream is to believe.
All: For to dream is to hope; to dream is to see.

One: So make room in your being to dream yet again,
All: Of a world without fear, and a God that draws near.

One: For it is almost Christmas.
All: Love is almost here.
One: May we dream to see, and hope to believe.
All: Let us worship Holy God.

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VirtuAll Voices

Hearts Waiting (Joy to the World)
Mary, Did You Know?

Matt Redman
Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene, arr. Jonathan Miller

Message

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Prayer

Mira Dabrowski

Those Who Dream

VirtuAll Voices, written by The Many

Benediction

A festive poster for a New Year's Zoom Party. The background is light pink with gold stars, circles, and strings of lights. The text is in gold and black. At the top, it says "LET'S RING IN 2021!". Below that, in large gold letters, is "New Year's Zoom Party". Underneath, in smaller black text, it says "Featuring games, fellowship, prayer, and two countdowns! Prizes awarded for most festive '2020' attire. All ages welcome!". At the bottom, in a black box with white text, it says "DECEMBER 31", "8 PM (COUNTDOWN AT 8:59)", "9 PM (COUNTDOWN AT 9:59)", and "RSVP: FIRSTCHURCHCHRISTMAS.ORG/NEW-YEARS-EVE".

LET'S RING IN 2021!

New Year's Zoom Party

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countdowns! Prizes awarded for most festive "2020"
attire. All ages welcome!

DECEMBER 31
8 PM (COUNTDOWN AT 8:59)
9 PM (COUNTDOWN AT 9:59)
RSVP: FIRSTCHURCHCHRISTMAS.ORG/NEW-YEARS-EVE