

## Offertory Prayer

**God of Advent joy, we bring our offerings with hearts open to your transformative call. In this season of anticipation, may our gifts help mend what is broken and share the promise of redemption. Bless our giving, that it may reflect your love and bring light to our world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

## Offertory

### \*Doxology

UMH 94

### Movement III

Esurientes implevit bonis: et divites dimisit inanes. Suscepit Israel puerum suum, recordatus misericordiae suae. Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, Abraham et semini eius in saecula. *He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away. He, remembering his mercy, hath helped his servant Israel. As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.*

### Movement IV

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sancta Maria, succurre miseris, iuva pusillanimes, refove flebiles: ora pro populo, intervine pro clero, intercede pro devote femineo sexu: sentiant omnes tuum iuvamen, quicumque tuum sanctum implorant auxilium. Alleluia. *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. Holy Mary, succour those in need, help the faint-hearted, console the tearful: pray for the laity, assist the clergy, intercede for all devout women: may all feel the power of your help, whoever prays for your holy aid. Alleluia.*

### Movement V

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. *As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

### \*Closing Hymn

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

UMH 203

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,  
great David's greater Son!  
Hail in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
to set the captive free;  
to take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.

2. He comes with succor speedy  
to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy,  
and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying,  
are precious in his sight.

3. He shall come down like showers  
upon the fruitful earth;  
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,  
spring in his path to birth.  
Before him, on the mountains,  
shall peace, the herald, go,  
and righteousness, in fountains,  
from hill to valley flow.

4. To him shall prayer unceasing  
and daily vows ascend;  
his kingdom still increasing,  
a kingdom without end.  
The tide of time shall never  
his covenant remove;  
his name shall stand forever;  
that name to us is love.

### \*Benediction

Reverend Burke Owens

### \*Alleluia

Postlude *Toccata on "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme"* Paul Fey (b. 1998)

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of our parents Art & Lois Hammar, who lovingly hosted our wedding here 31 years ago, by Lori and Ernie Sapigao.



**FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

*Third Sunday  
of Advent*

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 15, 2024**

**10:45 AM SERVICE**





# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 2024

Prelude *People Look East* Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Welcome Reverend Burke Owens

Passing of the Peace

Life of the Community Cedric Fellows

Joy of Giving Nancy Olson

\*Call to Worship Cedric Fellows

Children of God, our world is full of the fruit of humanity's greed, apathy, and neglect for the love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation.

### **What, then, should we do?**

Our world is also full of the fruit of God's love that wells up all around us, sustaining us, saving us, reviving us to live as the people of God.

**What, then, should we do? We will live in joyful presence with God and neighbor, turning away from sin and toward a life with God and one another marked by joy, justice, and mercy. Amen.**

\*Hymn *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* UMH 213

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;  
behold, the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near;  
the Savior of the world is here!

3. Redeemer, come, with us abide;  
our hearts to thee we open wide;  
let us thy inner presence feel;  
thy grace and love in us reveal.

2. Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven's employ,  
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

4. Thy Holy Spirit lead us on  
until our glorious goal is won;  
eternal praise, eternal fame  
be offered, Savior, to thy name!

Lighting the Advent Candle *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* UMH 211, v.3

Reader: No matter what troubles overwhelm us today, Isaiah reminds us that in all of our preparation and passionate pursuit of God's coming kin-dom, we must not forget that God's salvation has come and is coming. "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation" (Isaiah 12:3). With joy you will remember that God's salvation is already present among us.

**Congregation: Faced with the troubles and the suffering of the world, we choose to live in joyful presence with God and one another. We will not turn away from the pain and the hurt in our world, and we will not stop rejoicing in God, whose salvation fills us to overflowing that God's love might flow through us and flood our troubled world with hope, peace, and joy.**

Reader: We light this candle of joy as a sign of our commitment to be present to ourselves, our friends, our families, and our neighbors, that in sharing our vulnerable lives we might share in the glorious joy of God's salvation together.

Children's Moment

Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

## MAGNIFICAT

GIACOMO PUCCINI (1712-1781)

Chancel Choir with Fiume de Musica & Soloists

Alan Cooper - Violin  
Florence Wong - Violin  
Mimi Carlson - Flute

Sofia Fojas - Viola  
Stephanie Wu - Cello  
John Whitecar - Bass

### Movement I

Magnificat anima mea Dominum: et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo. Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae: ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes.

*My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his hand-maiden: for behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.*

Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est: et sanctum nomen eius. Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. *For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his name. Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are filled with thy glory. Hosanna in the highest.*

Et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.  
*And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.*

\*Scripture *Luke 1:67-79* Lucy Tompkin

Message *Hardships on the Road* Reverend Burke Owens

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People Reverend Burke Owens

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord, for these gifts,  
**we give you thanks!**

\*Lord's Prayer Reverend Burke Owens

**Our Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

### Movement II - Duet

Diane Allen, soprano & Mark Shaull, baritone

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo: dispersit superbos mente cordis sui. Deposuit potentes de sede, et exaltavit humiles.

*He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.*

Invitation to the Offering Cedric Fellows