

\*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.**

Invitation to the Offering

Linda Grossman

Offertory Prayer

**Lord of Light and Love, we offer these gifts with hearts transformed by the miracle of your son's birth. As the shepherds returned with joy and praise, may these offerings spread your joy and love. Use them to bless those in need, to bring hope and peace, and to further your kingdom here on earth. In this season of Advent, may we continue to glorify and praise you in all we do. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

Offertory

\*Doxology

UMH 94

\*Carol

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

UMH 251

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain,  
that Jesus Christ is born.

2. The shepherds feared and trembled,  
when lo! above the earth,  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed the Savior's birth. (Refrain)

1. While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold throughout the heavens  
there shown a holy light. (Refrain)

3. Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

\*Benediction

Reverend Burke Owens

Postlude

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Dale Wood (1934-2003)

*Did you donate a Christmas poinsettia?  
Please take your poinsettia home after the service!*

*\*Please stand as you are able where indicated by an asterisk.*

Senior Pastor: Burke Owens

Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries: Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Director of Music: Mark Shaull

Organist: Diane Keller

Head Usher: Daniel Fifita



FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# First Sunday After Christmas

SUNDAY DECEMBER 29, 2024

10:45 AM SERVICE



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

## FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 2024

Prelude *Ding Dong, Merrily on High* Andrew Unsworth (b. 1970)

Welcome Reverend Burke Owens

Passing of the Peace

Life of the Community Linda Grossman

\*Call to Worship Linda Grossman

Children of God, Jesus Christ is born!

**God has come to make a home among us!**

Yet the story is not over. After birth comes the ordinary and mundane growing, maturing, and discovering, even for the Christ Child.

**In the ordinary and mundane, God has come to make a home among us.**

And sometimes, in the midst of the everyday, something surprising happens, and we discover anew just what God is up to in our midst.

**In the surprising and spectacular, God has come to make a home among us.**

Children of God, let us worship the God who dwells with us in all things and all seasons.

**We come to make our home with God who makes a home among us. Amen.**

\*Hymn *Once in Royal David's City* UMH 250

1. Once in royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed;  
Mary, loving mother mild,  
Jesus Christ, her little child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable,  
and his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, the scorned, the lowly  
lived on earth our Savior holy.

3. Jesus is our childhood's pattern;  
day by day, like us he grew;  
he was little, weak, and helpless,  
tears and smiles like us he knew;  
and he feeleth for our sadness,  
and he shareth in our gladness.

4. And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that child so dear and gentle  
is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.

Children's Moment Pamela Cutkosky

Hymn *I Want To Walk as a Child of God* UMH 206

1. I want to walk as a child of the light;  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world;  
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all;  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God;  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2. I want to see the brightness of God;  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father. [Refrain]

3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ;  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
We shall know the joy of Jesus. [Refrain]

\*Scripture *Luke 2:41-52* Debbie Krueger

Anthem From *The Christmas Oratorio*  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Großer Herr, O Starker König  
Mark Shaull, baritone

Großer Herr, o starker König,  
Great Lord, O mighty king,  
Liebster Heiland, o wie wenig  
dearest saviour, O how little  
Achtest du der Erden Pracht!  
you regard earthly splendour  
Der die ganze Welt erhält,  
He who maintains the whole world  
Ihre Pracht und Zier erschaffen,  
and created its glory and adornment  
Muss in harten Krippen schlafen.  
must sleep in a hard crib.

Message *God Is Born!* 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!**