

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024**

Words of Welcome Reverend Burke Owens

Prelude *O, Come Little Children* Dale Wood (1934-2003)

\*Call to Worship Reverend Burke Owens

On this holiest of nights,  
**we come, joining the shepherds  
who are stunned by wonder.**

On this most silent night,  
**we come, our hopes and dreams  
joining those of Mary and Joseph.**

On this night of carols and candlelight,  
**we come, our glad songs joining  
with the choirs of angels over us.**

\*Carol *O Little Town of Bethlehem* United Methodist Hymnal 230

Prayer Reverend Gerardo García Palacios

\*Carol *The First Noel* UMH 245

\*Scripture *Luke 2:8-18* Sarah Joy Espinoza-Evans

Message *Jesus, the Gift That Never Runs Out*  
Reverend Gerardo García Palacios

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY**

\*Carols *Away in a Manger* UMH 217

*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing* UMH 240

Invitation to the Offering  
to benefit UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

Offertory Carol *Joy to the World* UMH 246

Candle Lighting

Please light your candle from your neighbor's candle. Then hold your candle vertically while the person next to you lights his/her candle.

\*Carol *Silent Night, Holy Night* UMH 239 v. 1-3

Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

3. Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light;  
radiant beams from thy holy face  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

2. Silent night, holy night,  
shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!

\*Benediction Reverend Gerardo García Palacios

Postlude *Angels We Have Heard on High* Dale Wood (1934-2003)

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

Everyone is invited to the patio for cookies and cocoa after the service.

First United Methodist Church wishes you and  
your family a joyful Christmas!



Special thanks to Reverend Doug Norris for the original "Christmas Story" script.

Thank you to the Owens Family for lighting the Advent candles.

Reverend Burke Owens, Senior Pastor  
Reverend Gerardo García Palacios, Children, Youth & Family Ministries  
Diane Keller, Organist  
Mark Shaul, Director of Music

# A Week at First Church

## SUNDAY

- 10:00 AM Sunday School - Rainbow Room (resumes 1/12)
- 10:45 AM Sanctuary Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 12:00 PM Snack-n-Chat Fellowship - Patio
- 12:00 PM Couples Group - Wesley Room (1st & 3rd Sundays, resumes 1/5)
- 12:15 PM Bible Study w/ Pastor Burke - Kohlstedt Hall (2nd & 4th Sundays)

## MONDAY

- 7:00 PM Social Action Movie Night - Zoom (resumes 12/30)
- 7:15 PM Monday Night Bible Study - Zoom

## TUESDAY

- 12:00 PM Current Affairs Fellowship Group - Zoom

## WEDNESDAY

- 5:00 PM Covenant Class - Zoom (resumes 1/8)
- 7:00 PM Upstream Contemporary Service, Zoom

## THURSDAY

- 1:00 PM Call to Prayer - Wesley Room

### Church Office Holiday Hours:

- Closed Dec. 25 - 27 and Jan. 1
- Reduced hours 12 - 4 PM Dec. 30 - 31
- Regular hours Jan. 2 - 3 from 9 AM to 4 PM.

Email Pastor Gerardo at [cyfministries@firstpaloalto.com](mailto:cyfministries@firstpaloalto.com) to learn more about our Children, Youth & Family Ministries, or contact the church office at [info@firstpaloalto.com](mailto:info@firstpaloalto.com).

# Christmas Eve

FAMILY SERVICE



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