

16548 Ferris Avenue, Los Gatos, CA 95032

**Indicates those who are able, may stand.*

P = Pastor speaking; AM = Assisting Minister speaks; C = Congregation speaks

GATHERING

Prelude

The Invitation of the Bell

***Gathering Song– “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”** *See insert*
verse 1, 2, 3, 4

*Greeting

P: From the one who is and who was and who is to come,
grace, light, and peace be with you all.

C: **and also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

C: Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter
the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have
mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to
reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Praise Reports

Advent Candle Lighting & Time with Kids of the Kingdom

Blessing of the Poinsettias

C: Gracious God, we pray for your blessing on these humble flowers, a simple gift of love. May we be filled with humility and courage to spread your love with gratitude to all the world. Amen.

Praise Song: “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” *See below/insert
verse 5*

O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

WORD

First Reading:

Isaiah 9: 2-7

AM: ² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Dec. 20, 2015

The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle—This week Ghana and Nigeria

Give thanks for: Christians and Muslims who take risks to work for dialogue and reconciliation between the two faith communities.

The councils of churches in these countries and their common witness. To missionaries who brought the gospel, and growing independent churches which have found their own ways of being Christian. To talking drums and rattles. Ama Atta Aidoo, Wole Soyinka, Ken Saro-Wiwa and others who tell good stories from an African context. Fufu, yams, cassava and peanuts.

In Our Prayers...

- Nathan Balcomb/Crall
- Sharon Biller
- Elizabeth Krc
- Marie Hughes
- Pastor Kimm
- Lira Kingston
- Connie Zimmerman
- Helen McCrocklin
- Harvey and Arlene Wyckoff
- Elwailly Family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dec. 20, 2015

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**Youth/Children’s Sunday School**—8:30 AM, Room 2

**Lord’s Pantry** deliveries are made every Monday

**Christmas Eve Service**— Thurs. Dec. 24, 10:00 PM

**Financials/Attendance for Dec. 13th**

Attendance:                      Offering: \$0.00

Lord’s Pantry: \$0.00

Social Concern of the Month: \$.00

<sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

AM: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading**                      *Luke 1: 46-55 Read Responsively*

AM: And Mary Said, “My soul magnifies the Lord,

**C: and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked  
with favor on the lowliness of his servant.**

AM: Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

**C: for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy  
is his name.**

AM: His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to  
generation.

**C: He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the  
proud in the thoughts of their hearts.**

AM: He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and  
lifted up the lowly;

**C: he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the  
rich away empty.**

AM: He has helped his servant Israel,

**C:** in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

AM: Word of God, word of life.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**\*Gospel Acclamation -“Come Now, O Prince of Peace”**

*ELW 247 vs. 3&4 see below*

**Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior.**

**Come, O Lord Jesus, Reconcile all nations.**

**Come, Hope of unity, make us one body.**

**Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.**

**The Holy Gospel according to Luke 1:39-45**

**C: Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”



*Sermon Notes:*



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**Office Hours**  
**Pastor Anne Carlson**  
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Tues. and Thurs. afternoons
And by appointment
For emergencies dial
(408) 406-8749
**Church phone is answered from*
9:00 AM—7:00 PM

Message

Pastor Anne Carlson

***Song of the Day - “My Soul Proclaims” ELW 251**
(During the hymn, hand the usher any prayer request cards.)

***Apostles Creed**

P: With the whole Church, let us affirm our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
on the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

Emmanuel has come, is here, and is coming soon. Let us join in prayer for the church, the earth, and those who are in need, that all receive what God promises to give.

A brief silence.

AM: O God our Wisdom, give to all the baptized knowledge of your truth and the power of your presence. Inspire worship leaders and church musicians toward ever-deepening praise. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: O God, Lord of might, hold the cosmos in your care. Give the earth both darkness and light, cold and warmth. Protect the mountains from exploitation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: O God, King of nations, bring peace and justice to all the countries of the world. Guide all leaders toward honest and merciful rule. Raise up those who are poor. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: O God, Key of David, look from your throne upon all in need. Mend the broken and the brokenhearted. Free those imprisoned by anxiety or illness. We pray especially for Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Poinsettia Dedications—2015



***Blessing**

P: The blessing of God’s eternal love, the courage to follow the way of Christ’s cross, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the broken places of our world, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C: Amen

***Sending Hymn—“Joy to the World”**

ELW 267

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Term Pastor:          | Pastor Anne Carlson    |
| Organist:             | Catherine Ellacer      |
| Ushers:               | Bob Balcomb/Les Grundy |
| Reader/Intercessions: |                        |
| Refreshments:         |                        |
| Flowers:              |                        |
| Altar Care:           |                        |

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AM: O God, Tree of Jesse, nurture our community. Give us joy in one another, and make us servants of all in need. Bless our holy day celebrations with your Spirit. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: We pray for the world. This week from the Cycle of World Prayer we especially lift up Ghana and Nigeria. May they live in your peace and protection. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: Bless the ministry of Hope Lutheran, Santa Clara, our sister congregation in our parish and we lift them up in prayer. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: O God, Dayspring, we remember all who have died and now live in your light. Gather us to yourself and teach us to sing together Mary’s song of praise. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Receive our prayers, merciful God, and make us ready to receive you when you come through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Sharing of God's Peace**

P: Peace of the Lord be with you

C: And also with you

MEAL

Communion Prayer

P: God be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and joy, that we should at all times
and in all places give thanks and praise

Come, here is a place where all are welcome.

Here is a place where you will find peace with Christ.

Come all who are longing and seeking light and love in your life.

We prepare now for Emmanuel, God with us.

We remember how this child, born in a stable,
lived a life of healing, mercy, and wisdom.

SENDING

Offering

P: In response to all that God does for us, it is appropriate that we
give in return . . .

We will now receive our offering.

Offering Song: "Now Thank We All Our God" ELW 840 vs. 1

Now Thank We All Our God
Now thank we all our god
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom this world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms,
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

Invitation & Announcements

The Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father, 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 and ever. Amen**

Invitation to the table

P: Come to the banquet, for nothing and no one can take your place. This is God's table, and Jesus is the host of this meal. It is a table of grace and it is all we will ever need.

Come, for all are welcome.

Distribution

Post-Communion Blessing

P: The life and covenant of Jesus, our companion, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

We remember his last meal shared with friends.
When He gathered them together, and in the blessing of the bread, asked them to share the bread of life.

Then in the blessing of the cup, He asked them to share the cup of forgiveness and promise.

So too, Jesus asks us always to re-member him as we share this bread and cup.

As we share this bread and cup, may God strengthen our hope in the promises of this season, and give us courage to walk in peace offering kindness and blessings to others.

Holy God, we pray for your Spirit to come.
Enliven this bread. Awaken this body of Christ.
Pour us out for each other. Ignite your church.
Come Holy Spirit in this place. Amen

P: Let us join our voices together and pray the prayer that Jesus taught us: *~Lord's Prayer next page*