



worship

at Altadena Valley Presbyterian Church

Welcome to Altadena Valley

We are glad you are here.

Please visit our website at www.avpc.org for more information about our beliefs, our staff and our ministries.

We want you to feel as comfortable as possible while attending worship with us, so here are a few details which might be helpful to you.

- Children are always welcome to participate in worship with their families. But, in case you need it, we do offer childcare for children ages 3 and under during both morning services. Please ask an usher for directions to where the childcare area is located.
- Midway through the worship services, children ages 4 to 6 years old will be dismissed and escorted to their own church time in Room L-1 of the Education Building. Parents can pick up their children after Sunday School (no later than 10:55 AM please) or after the 11:00 AM service.
- A Nursing Mother's room, with an audio feed of the service, is located just outside the Sanctuary, next to the Parlor.

If you are visiting with us, we would love an opportunity to get to know you better. Please scan the QR code below, or sign the pew registry pad. We give our first-time visitors a small gift, which you can get in the Welcome Center or Narthex.

- During the Christmas season, be sure to pick up *On the Road to Bethlehem*, our weekly Advent family devotional created by AVPC members. Copies are available in the Parlor and Welcome Center.

Come, let us worship together!

In consideration of others, please silence all electronic devices.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 11, 2022 | 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Third Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

"Gloria"

There were shepherds out in the field keeping their flocks by night. An angel of God came to them and glory shone all around. Glory in the highest, peace on earth, good will to men. Behold, I bring good news: a child is born today in city of David, a Savior, Christ the Lord.

Words based on Luke 2. Music by Zachary Snow.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE • Luke 2:8-20

James and Faye Walls (8:30 AM Service)

Chris and Brooke DeRieux (11:00 AM Service)

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Leader) O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

(All) Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT:
The Advent
wreath has long
been a custom
here at AVPC.
This morning we
light the candle
to remind us
that the birth of
Jesus represents
the "dawn of
redeeming grace"
for us all. May
we rejoice and
praise God as the
shepherds did
over 2,000 years
ago. O Come, O
Come, Emmanuel.

Through God's
Word, his people
are called to enter
into his presence
in corporate
worship.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

Adapted from Psalm 8 and Luke 2:14.

INVOCATION

*Our welcome
of one another
is a tangible
expression of
God's welcome
to us.*

THE WELCOME OF GOD

SONGS OF PRAISE

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

PLEASE STAND

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings,
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

“Here I Am to Worship”

Light of the World,
You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore you,
Hope of a life spent with you.

*So here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you're my God.
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.*

King of all days,
Oh, so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came to the earth you created,
All for love's sake became poor.

*So here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you're my God.
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.*

*So here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you're my God.
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.*

Words and Music by Tim Hughes.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Christ,

**We confess our willingness to be loved
but also our reluctance to love.**

**We confess our readiness
to accept your forgiving love
but also our refusal to forgive.**

**We confess our eagerness
to grasp your offer of redeeming love
but also our resistance to follow you without question.**

**In this Advent time,
forgive us our failure
to respond as we should.**

**Come to us anew, and by your grace,
assist us to receive you
with joy, as the shepherds;
with gratitude, as Simeon;
with obedience, as Mary;
with love, as you have loved us.**

Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Worship Sourcebook D.2.2.5.

PLEASE BE SEATED

*As a corporate
body, we confess
our sins to God and
call out to him for
forgiveness.*

SILENT CONFESSION

*We encourage you
to use this time for
silent reflection.*

*We receive
assurance that
salvation and
righteousness are
found in Jesus
Christ.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness." People of God, Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose coming we announce in this season, is our righteousness. In Christ, we are made right with God.

(All) Thanks be to God!

Worship Sourcebook D.2.4.3 Based on Jeremiah 33:14-16, NRSV.

PLEASE STAND

HYMN OF RESPONSE • #218

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"

Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations;
Ye have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord descending,
In his temple shall appear.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising
To th'eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE BE SEATED

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE (11:00 AM Service)

“Sing We Now of Christmas”

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all noel. Of our Lord and Savior we the tidings tell. Sing we noel, for Christ the King is born. Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all noel. Angels called to shepherds, “Leave your flocks at rest. Journey forth to Bethlehem, find the Child so blest.” In Bethlehem they found him: Joseph and Mary mild, seated by the manger, watching the holy Child. From the eastern country came the kings afar, bearing gifts to Bethlehem, guided by a star. Glory to God, for Christ the King is born. Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all noel. Gold and myrrh they took there, gifts of greatest price; there was never a stable so like paradise.

Traditional French Carol. Arrangement by Howard Helvey, 1995.

*At this time,
children ages 4-6
are dismissed for
their worship.*

SCRIPTURE READING • Romans 5:1-11

^{5:1} Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

SERMON • “Since We Have Been Justified” Rev. Blake Harris

Remember what the angels sang to the shepherds to announce Christ’s coming? “Peace on earth.” Did the shepherds hear that right? Why does it sometimes seem like peace is so distant from our daily experience? This morning Paul reminds us of five ways that being justified by faith changes our lives, and the first and foundational change is...peace with God.

I. We Have Peace with God (v. 1)

II. We Have Access to Grace (v. 2a)

III. We Have Eternal Hope (vv. 2b-4)

IV. We Have Assurance of God’s Love (vv. 5-8)

V. We Have Certainty of Final Salvation (vv. 9-11)

*As an act of
worship, we give
back to God a
portion of our
many blessings.*

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Welcome to Our World”

Tears are falling, hearts are breaking; how we need to hear from God. You’ve been promised, we’ve been waiting. Welcome, holy Child. Welcome, holy Child. Hope that you don’t mind our manger; how I wish we would have known. But long-awaited holy Stranger, make yourself at home. Please make yourself at home. Bring your peace into our violence, bid our hungry souls be filled. Word now breaking heaven’s silence, welcome to our world. Welcome to our world. Fragile finger sent to heal us, tender brow prepared for thorn; tiny heart whose blood will save us, unto us is born; unto us is born. So wrap our injured flesh around you, breathe our air and walk our sod. Rob our sin and make us holy, perfect Son of God, perfect Son of God. Welcome to our world.

Words and Music by Chris Rice.

*“Bring your
peace into our
violence, bid our
hungry souls be
filled. Word now
breaking heaven’s
silence, welcome
to our world.”*

PLEASE STAND

HYMN OF RESPONSE • #222 (vs. 1-4, 6)

“While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks”

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he—for mighty dread
Had seized their trouble mind—
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind."

"To you, in David's town this day,
Is born of David's line,
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign."

"The heavenly babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid."

All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Good will henceforth, from heav'n to men,
Begin and never cease.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Our worship
concludes with
God sending us
into the world
with his blessing.*

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WEEKLY BIBLE READING (December 12 - December 18)

1 Peter 3-4 • 1 Peter 5; 2 Peter 1 • 2 Peter 2-3 • 1 John 1-3 • 1 John 4-5

Announcements

OUR MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK are John & Lynn Lehn. They are missionaries to Croatia serving with Greater Europe Mission in a church planting and discipleship ministry.

- **LESSONS & CAROLS:** Our annual Lessons and Carols Service, will be tonight at 6:00 PM. After the service there will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a homemade Christmas sweet to share (enough for 25 people) and drop it off in the kitchen. Doors will open for seating in the Sanctuary at 5:15 PM. You will not be able to save seats before this time. (Note: we will provide seating for kitchen workers.) Childcare will be provided through age three for the service.
- **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** The session has called for a second Congregational Meeting. This meeting will be on December 18 at 9:45 AM in Fellowship Hall for the purpose of electing church officers. The Elder nominees are: Brian Beckett, Brent McClenny, Jack Morris, Karl Poythress, and Thomas Prettyman. The Deacon nominees are: Woody Armstrong, Al Foster, Trey Holmes, Matt Jackson, Jon Peters, Josh Putman, Bill Sommer, and Ed Wofford.
- **PASTORAL TRANSITION FAQ DOCUMENT:** We encourage you to check out the Pastoral Transition FAQ document which can be found in the parlor and in the Welcome Center. There will also be another informational meeting regarding the pastoral transition today during the Sunday School hour. Plan to attend this meeting. An electronic version of this document can be found on the church website: www.avpc.org/about/pastoral-transition.
- **NURSERY DIRECTOR:** Diana Lloyd has served AVPC faithfully as our Nursery Director for 10 years. Due to her increased family responsibilities, Diana has announced her immediate retirement. We are grateful for her impact and service. As sad as we are to see Diana leave this role, we are also grateful for God's provision of Alli Campbell, who has served as interim director during Diana's absence, and she will continue to serve in this role.
- **AVPC KIDS MINISTRY NEEDS YOU:** We are recruiting Worship Center Leaders, Sunday School teachers, and substitutes for our winter/spring semester. Contact Catie at catie@avpc.org for more information regarding needs.
- **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** God's House Kindergarten is looking for a part-time music teacher for our preschoolers from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM each day for 3 to 5 days a week beginning in February. Please contact Susan at susan@avpc.org or call GHK at 967-7611 if you are interested.
- **BECOME A FRIENDSHIP PARTNER:** Friendship partners is a program where you invest a small amount of time in an international student from UAB, in hopes of encouraging them with a family life, while they are so far away from home. AVPC participates in this program, working with the International Outreach ministry of Briarwood Presbyterian Church and UAB. Questions? Please contact Tom Hinke thhinke@gmail.com for more detailed information.

Calendar

SUNDAY (DECEMBER 11)

8:30 AM Worship Service
 9:45 AM Sunday School
 11:00 AM Worship Service
 Blake | Romans 5:1-11
 5:15 PM Doors open for Lessons & Carols
 6:00 PM Lessons & Carols Service

TUESDAY (DECEMBER 13)

7:00 PM Session/Diaconate Meeting

WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 14)

6:00 PM Community Groups
 6:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY (DECEMBER 15)

9:00 AM Men's Coffee

SUNDAY (DECEMBER 18)

8:30 AM Worship Service
 9:45 AM Congregational Meeting
 11:00 AM Worship Service
 Brad | Matthew 1:18-25
 5:00 PM Community Groups
 Men's Bible Study
 Preteen Christmas Party

- **CONGRATULATIONS THE PRICES:** We celebrate with joy the arrival of **Forrest William Price**. Forrest was born Wednesday, December 7. He weighed 7 lbs 9 oz and was 21 in. long. Please be in prayer for Danny, Carly, and big sister June, as they welcome this new child into their home.
- **DECEMBER SUNDAY SCHOOL:**
 - Dec. 11: Q&A time regarding the Pastoral Transition Process; ways to serve at AVPC.
 - Dec. 18: Congregational Meeting to elect officers; Children's Christmas Pageant.
 - Dec. 25 & Jan. 1: One worship service only at 11 AM; no Sunday School; no childcare provided. (The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on January 1.)

	12/04/22 Receipts	Year-To-Date Receipts	Year-To-Date Requirements	Over(Under) Budget
General Fund	\$33,655	\$1,239,875	\$1,241,818	(\$1,943)
Faith Promise	\$6,930	\$282,859	\$298,504	(\$15,645)

AVPC VISION

A community of Christ's coming kingdom, bringing hope to a broken world.

AVPC MISSION

Loving God and loving others as we are transformed by his love.

PASTORAL STAFF

Bradford E. Allison
Senior Pastor

Stephen Whitner
Associate Pastor—Worship

Michael MacCaughelty
Associate Pastor—Outreach/Mercy

Blake Harris
Assistant Pastor—Adult Ministries

CHURCH LEADERS

ELDERS

David Allen Paul Barber Steve Barley Grahame Bobo Clint Cvacho Jim Darden
Tim English Nicholas Ireland Barry Parker Karl Poythress Danny Wachs

DEACONS

Hunter Boggs David Coley Al Foster Trey Holmes Matt Jackson Russell Lloyd
Josh Moore Darren Popwell Josh Putman Bill Sommer Rob Wise

YOUNG ADULTS & MEN'S MINISTRIES

Blake Harris
Young Adult & Men's Ministry Leader

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Catie Lumpkin
Children's Director
Diana Lloyd
Nursery Director

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Heather Sommer
Women's Ministry Director

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Clint Cvacho
Youth Director
Callen Moyer
Girl's Discipleship Director
Michael Whitner
Youth Worship Leader

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITY

Christine Rowlette
Church Administrator
Connor Bingham
Administrative Assistant
Jimmie Campbell
Bookkeeper
Dave Mayhew
Facilities Manager
Christin Murphy
Kitchen Coordinator

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Heather Sommer
Worship Ministry Assistant
Young jin Jeon
Organist
Carol Apol & Ricky Klose
Sound Ministry Directors