



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 18, 2022 | 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

In the bleak midwinter, icy wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone. Snow on snow had fallen, snow on snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long and long ago. Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim rising in the air. Oh - but only Mary, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved with a mother's kiss. Heaven cannot hold him, nor can earth sustain; heaven and earth shall fall away when he comes to reign. What then can I give him, empty as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring him a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would know my part. What then can I give him: I must give my heart.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE • Matthew 2:1-12

Zac and Alli Campbell Family (8:30 AM Service)

Kip and Betty Blighton (11:00 AM Service)

*FOURTH 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 follow
the example of
the wise men
with joyful
and exuberant
worship of Jesus,
our Redeemer. O
Come, O Come,
Emmanuel.*

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

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

PLEASE STAND

CALL TO WORSHIP • from Luke 2:10-14 ; Psalm 118: 24

(Leader) I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

(Congregation) Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!

(Leader) This is the day the Lord has made;

(Congregation) Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

(All) O come, let us adore Him.

INVOCATION

THE WELCOME OF GOD

SONGS OF PRAISE

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light;
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
Very God, begotten, not created.
O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest!
O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

"The First Noel"

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same Star,
The wise men came from country far;
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the Star wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

This Star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in full rev'rently,
The wise men bowing upon their knees
And offered there in his presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

“Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery” (11:00 AM Service)

Come, behold the wondrous mystery
In the dawning of the King.
He, the theme of heaven’s praises,
Robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness,
Now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ who condescended,
Took on flesh to ransom us.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery,
He the perfect Son of Man.
In his living, in his suffering,
Never trace, nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam,
Come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ, the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law, in him we stand.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery,
Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption,
See the Father’s plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory;
Grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery,
Slain by death, the God of life.
But no grave could e’er restrain him.
Praise the Lord, he is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance,
How unwavering our hope.
Christ, in power resurrected
As we will be when he comes.

Words and Music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Michael Bleecker.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, you sent a star
to guide the Magi to the child Jesus.**

**We confess that often
we have not followed the light of your Word.**

**We have not searched for signs of your love in the world
or trusted your good news to be good.**

**We have failed to praise your Son's birth
and refused his peace on earth.**

We have expected little and hoped for less.

**Forgive our doubt
and renew in us all fine desires,
that we may watch and wait
and once more hear the glad story
of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Lord.**

In his name we pray. Amen.

Worship Sourcebook E.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
God has granted
us salvation and
rejoices over us
with exultation and
singing.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

Thanks be to God!

Worship Sourcebook D.2.4.4 Based on Zephaniah 3:14-18, NRSV.

PLEASE STAND

HYMN OF RESPONSE • #207

“What Child is This?”

What child is this, who laid to rest,
On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nail, spear, shall pierce him through;
The cross be borne for me, for you:
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary.

Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE BE SEATED

SHARING & PRAYER

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

SCRIPTURE READING • Matthew 1:18-25

^{1:18} Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

SERMON • “Christmas Movements” Rev. Brad Allison

A good story has movement. It may be the movement of action, or it could be movement that is more internal to a character in the story. There is plenty of movement of both kinds in the Christmas story. Luke’s account of the birth of Jesus is more familiar to most. It looks at this event mostly through the eyes of Mary, while Matthew’s account, on the other hand, views the birth mostly from Joseph’s perspective. I note three internal movements in this story.

I. From Disruption to Joyful Anticipation

II. From Shame to Covering

III. From Abandonment to Intimate Connection

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

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Joseph’s Song”

How could it be this baby in my arms sleeping now, so peacefully? “The Son of God,” the angel said. How could it be? Lord I know he’s not my own; not of my flesh, not of my bone. Still, Father, let this baby be the son of my love. Father, show me where I fit into this plan of yours. How can a man be father to the Son of God? Lord for all my life I’ve been a simple carpenter. How can I raise a king? How can I raise a king? He looks so small; his face and hands so fair. And when he cries the sun just seems to disappear. But when he laughs it shines again. How could it be?

Words and Music by Michael Card.

PLEASE STAND

HYMN OF RESPONSE • #203

“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."

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

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WEEKLY BIBLE READING (December 19 - December 25)

Revelation 1 • Revelation 2-3 • Revelation 4-5 • Revelation 18-19 • Revelation 20-22

Announcements

OUR MISSION OF THE WEEK is LOGOI. Directed by Ed Thompson, LOGOI provides Bible college and seminary training for Latin American church leaders. Over 100,000 students have taken at least one year of LOGOI's Bible studies in 22 different countries. AVPC has supported LOGOI for over 20 years.

- **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. 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.
- **PRETEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY:** All 4th and 5th graders are invited to our Preteen Christmas Party this Sunday, December 18 from 5-6:30 pm in the Fireplace Room. Bring a friend!
- **CONDOLENCES TO THE WILSON FAMILY:** We express our heartfelt condolences to Mark and Marian Wilson who lost their daughter, Laura, last week. Please lift this family up in your prayers as they mourn in this time of great sorrow.
- **DECEMBER SUNDAY SCHOOL:**
 - 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.)

Calendar

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

THURSDAY (DECEMBER 22)

9:00 AM Men's Coffee

SATURDAY (DECEMBER 24)

4:30 PM Christmas Eve Service
 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Service

WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 21)

6:00 PM Community Groups
 6:30 PM Youth Small Groups

SUNDAY (DECEMBER 25)

11:00 AM Worship Service
 Clint | Luke 1:68-79

SAVE THE DATE - MORE INFORMATION COMING

JANUARY

8 - New Sunday School Quarter Begins
 8, 15, 22 - Sunday Night Dinners
 20 - Membership Weekend

FEBRUARY

8-12 - Missions Conference
 5, 19 - Sunday Night Dinners

	12/11/22 Receipts	Year-To-Date Receipts	Year-To-Date Requirements	Over(Under) Budget
General Fund	\$52,704	\$1,292,579	\$1,310,342	(\$17,763)
Faith Promise	\$9,389	\$292,248	\$320,406	(\$28,159)

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
Alli Campbell
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