



**worship**  
at Altadena Valley Presbyterian Church

# Welcome to Altadena Valley

## **We are glad you are here.**

Please visit our website at [www.avpc.org](http://www.avpc.org) for more information about our beliefs, our staff, and our ministries.

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 or greeter for directions to where the childcare area is located.
- Children ages 4 through Grade 1 are invited to attend Worship Center. They may meet their teachers in the Welcome Center after the Pastoral Prayer. (The worship leader will indicate when the children can exit the sanctuary.) If you are a first- or second-time visitor, please walk with your child so you are able to register them. Children may be picked up in Sunday School classes after the early service and in the Worship Center Room after the late service.
- A Nursing Mother's room, with an audio feed of the service, is located just outside the Sanctuary, next to the Parlor.
- As part of our discipleship efforts, we are pleased to offer Sunday School for all ages during the hours of 9:45-10:45. Information sheets with a location map of all classes and a list of topics for the adult classes are available in the Welcome Center and 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.

*In consideration of others, please silence all electronic devices.*



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 29, 2024 | 10:00 AM

## Christmastide

*"It was not suddenly and unannounced that Jesus came into the world. He came into a world that had been prepared for him. The whole Old Testament is the story of a special preparation... Only when all was ready, only in the fullness of his time, did Jesus come."*

— Phillip Brooks

*"If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world."*

— C.S. Lewis

### PRELUDE

#### "Mary's Magnificat"

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior. He has looked on my lowly estate. The Mighty One, he has made me great. He has done great things. Holy is he!" And Mary said, "His mercy is for those who fear. He gives it to them year by year. He scatters the proud. He lifts up the low." And Mary said, "He's filled the hungry with good things and sent away the rich, empty. He has helped Israel."

Words based on Luke 1:46-54. Music by Zachary Snow and Michael Bobo.

*Our prelude serves as a "gathering song," signalling to the congregation when the worship service is about to begin. We encourage you to use this time to prepare your hearts for worship, either by singing along with the praise team or by meditating on the lyrics as the praise team sings.*

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

## CALL TO WORSHIP

(Leader) This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**(Congregation) Our souls will rejoice in the LORD, exulting in his salvation.**

Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy,  
all you upright in heart!

**We will rejoice and be glad in the Lord's steadfast love,  
because he has seen our affliction;  
he has known the distress of our souls.**

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

**May our meditation be pleasing to him, for we rejoice in the LORD.**

**(All) This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Adapted from Psalms 31:7, 32:11, 35:9, 97:12, 104:34, 118:24.

## INVOCATION

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

## THE WELCOME OF GOD

## SONGS OF PRAISE

### **“Joy to the World! The Lord Has Come”**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow;  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.

## **“What a Beautiful Name”**

You were the Word at the beginning, one with God the Lord Most High.  
Your hidden glory in creation now revealed in you, our Christ.

*(Chorus 1) What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is,  
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.  
What a beautiful Name it is, nothing compares to this.  
What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.*

You didn't want heaven without us, so Jesus, you brought heaven down.  
My sin was great, your love was greater; what could separate us now?

*(Chorus 2) What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is,  
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.  
What a wonderful Name it is, nothing compares to this.  
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.  
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.*

*(Bridge)* Death could not hold you, the veil tore before you.  
You silence the boast of sin and grave.  
The heavens are roaring the praise of your glory  
For you are raised to life again.  
You have no rival, you have no equal.  
Now and forever God, you reign.  
Yours is the kingdom, yours is the glory,  
Yours is the Name above all names.

*(Chorus 3) What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is,  
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.  
What a powerful Name it is, nothing can stand against.  
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus. (Repeat Chorus 3)*

*What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.  
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.*

Words and Music by Ben Fielding and Brooke Ligertwood.

## CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*PLEASE BE SEATED*

**Heavenly Father,**

**You teach us that we cannot satisfy your law,  
that such an effort is a resting in our own righteousness,  
that only Christ's righteousness,  
ready-made, already finished, is fit for that purpose;  
that your chastisement for our sins  
is not that we should try to reform,  
but only that we may be more humbled, and separated from sin,  
by being reconciled,  
and made righteous in Christ by faith;**

**Forgive us when we seek to pacify you  
through fleshly resolutions  
and plans to abstain from future sin.**

**Humble us for not being as holy as we should be,  
or as holy as we might be through Christ.**

**Fill us with the faith and trust  
to rest in the righteousness of Christ.**

**Empower us through your Holy Spirit  
to live obedient lives  
that bring glory to your name.**

**In his precious name we pray, Amen.**

Adapted from *The Valley of Vision*: "Reliance".

## SILENT CONFESSION

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

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON • Ephesians 2:4-10**

*For by grace we  
have been saved  
through faith.  
And this is not  
our own doing; it  
is the gift of God,  
not a result of  
works, so that no  
one may boast.*

God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace we have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace we have been saved through faith. And this is not our own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

PLEASE STAND

## **HYMN OF RESPONSE • #200 (vs. 1, 3-4)**

### **“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”**

It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
From heav’n’s all gracious King”;  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load,  
Whose forms are bending low,  
Who still along the climbing way  
With painful steps and slow,  
Look now! For glad and golden hours  
Come swiftly on the wing:  
O rest beside the weary road  
And hear the angels sing.



For lo, the days are hast'ning on,  
By prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever circling years  
Comes round the age of gold;  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PLEASE BE SEATED

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*At this time, children are invited to come forward  
to the front of the sanctuary for the Children's Sermon.*

## PASTORAL PRAYER

*The children will remain in the sanctuary during the sermon.*

## SCRIPTURE READING • Colossians 2:20-23

<sup>2:20</sup> If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations— <sup>2:21</sup> “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” <sup>2:22</sup> (referring to things that all perish as they are used)— according to human precepts and teachings? <sup>2:23</sup> These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.



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

## **GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

### **SONG OF RESPONSE**

#### **“Love Constraining to Obedience”**

To see the Law by Christ fulfilled, and hear his pard'ning voice; changes a slave into a child, and duty into choice. No strength of nature can suffice to serve the LORD aright; and what she has, she misapplies, for want of clearer light. How long beneath the law I lay in bondage and distress! I toiled the precept to obey, but toiled without success. Then to abstain from outward sin was more than I could do; now, if I feel its pow'r within, I feel I hate it too. Then all my servile works were done, a righteousness to raise; now, freely chosen in the Son, I freely choose his ways.

Words by William Cowper. Music by Kevin Twit.

*“To see the Law by  
Christ fulfilled, and  
hear his pard'ning  
voice; changes a  
slave into a child,  
and duty into  
choice.”*

## HYMN OF RESPONSE • #207

PLEASE STAND

### “Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul, and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
Earth and heav’n before him bow; and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven’s door, and man is blessed evermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all, to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

## BENEDICTION

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

## POSTLUDE

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### **WEEKLY BIBLE READING (December 30 - January 5)**

Genesis 1-2 • Genesis 3-4 • Genesis 6-7 • Genesis 8-9 • Job 1-2

# Announcements

**OUR MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK** are Hysen and Esmeralda Kanani, serving with CRU among students in Albania.

- **POINSETTIAS:** If you would like to take home one of the poinsettias from around the church, you may do so after the end of the service.
- **COLLEGE NEW YEAR'S PARTY:** All who are college age are invited to a New Years Party on Friday, January 3rd, 6:30-8:30 PM at the home of Nick and Callen Moyer (4498 Village Green Drive). We'll have dinner and dessert and bring in the new year!
- **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** We are seeking a full-time Financial Administrator. We desire to hire someone who is a mature Christian, experienced in the financial sector, and able to operate with flexibility. A full job description and application is available on the church website. Applications are due by January 5, 2025 via email to [info@avpc.org](mailto:info@avpc.org).
- **KID'S BRIDGE NIGHTS:** Kid's Bridge Nights will resume on January 12. Join us as we jump into the wonder of God's redemptive story and plan for His people through games, crafts, silly snacks, and music. This is an excellent time to invite friends and neighbors!
- **LOST AND FOUND:** The church lost and found is overflowing with unclaimed items. If you've been missing anything, check the lost and found shelf, located in the church office next to the Parlor door. Any items unclaimed after Sunday, January 5, will be donated to charity.
- **LEGACY MUSEUM TRIP:** The Mercy Leadership Team is inviting you to visit the Equal Justice Initiative's Legacy Museum in Montgomery on Saturday, January 18, 2025. The Legacy Museum is part of the vision of Bryan Stevenson, author of *Just Mercy*, a powerful book and movie informed by a Christian perspective about the injustices related to racism and material poverty in our justice system, and how to respond in a Biblical manner.
- **MEMBERSHIP MORNING:** Are you thinking about church membership at Altadena? Come to our next Membership Event, Saturday, January 25. You will meet church staff and hear about ministry opportunities at AVPC. Attendance at this or another weekend offered throughout the year is required for church membership. You can sign up on the church website.

# Calendar

## SUNDAY (DECEMBER 29)

10:00 AM    Worship Service  
                  Kyle Parker | Colossians 2:20-23

## TUESDAY (DECEMBER 31)

**\*OFFICES CLOSED\***

## WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 1)

**\*OFFICES CLOSED\***

## THURSDAY (JANUARY 2)

9:00 AM    Men's Coffee

## FRIDAY (JANUARY 3)

6:30 PM    College New Year's Party

## SUNDAY (JANUARY 5)

8:30 AM    Worship Service  
                  Kyle Parker | Colossians 3  
 9:45 AM    Sunsay School  
 11:00 AM    Worship Service

### SAVE THE DATE

January 18 – Equal Justice Museum Trip

January 25 – Membership Morning

February 5-9 – AVPC Missions Conference

	<b>Contributions for the Week</b>	<b>Year-To-Date Contributions</b>	<b>Year-To-Date Requirements</b>	<b>Over(Under) Budget</b>
<b>General Fund</b>	\$28,917	\$1,737,817	\$1,576,473	\$161,344
<b>Faith Promise</b>	\$5,948	\$282,216	\$309,365	(\$27,148)

## 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

Kyle Parker  
*Senior Pastor*

Stephen Whitner  
*Associate Pastor—Worship*

Michael MacCaughelty  
*Associate Pastor—Outreach/Mercy*

Blake Harris  
*Associate Pastor—Adult Ministries*

## CHURCH LEADERS

### ELDERS

Paul Barber Steve Barley Brian Beckett Grahame Bobo Brent McClenny Jack Morris  
Barry Parker Karl Poythress Thomas Prettyman Danny Wachs John Wimberly

### DEACONS

Woody Armstrong Hunter Boggs Zac Campbell David Coley Steve Driggers Al Foster Trey Holmes Matt Jackson  
Russell Lloyd Tom McCallum Josh Moore John Peters Darren Popwell Josh Putman Drew Russell Bill Sommer Ed Wofford

### WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Heather Sommer  
*Women's Ministry Director*

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Catie Lumpkin Allie Campbell  
*Children's Director Nursery Director*

Danielle Harris  
*Children's Administrative Assistant*

Amanda Amerson  
*Children's Ministry Assistant*

### YOUNG ADULTS & MEN'S MINISTRIES

Blake Harris  
*Associate Pastor*

Nick Moyer  
*College Ministry Assistant*

### YOUTH MINISTRIES

Clint Cvacho  
*Youth Director*

Callen Moyer  
*Girls' Discipleship Director*

Hannah Snow  
*Youth Worship Intern*

### ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITY

Anna Waldrip  
*Church Administrator*

Connor Bingham  
*Administrative Assistant*

Dave Mayhew Heather Sommer  
*Facilities Manager Financial Administrator*

Michael Bobo Hillary Gamble  
*IT Director Kitchen Coordinator*

### WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Heather Sommer  
*Worship Ministry Assistant*

Young jin Jeon  
*Organist*

Carol Apol & Ricky Klose  
*Sound Ministry Directors*