



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.

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 8, 2024 | 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Second Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

“Sing We the Song of Emmanuel”

Sing we the song of Emmanuel; this, the Christ who was long foretold. Lo, in the shadows of Bethlehem, promise of dawn now our eyes behold. God, Most High, in a manger laid. Lift your voices and now proclaim, “Great and glorious, Love has come to us.” Join now with the hosts of heaven. Come we to welcome Emmanuel. King who came with no crown or throne. Helpless, he lay the Invincible. Maker of Mary, now Mary’s son. O, what wisdom to save us all. Shepherds sages before him fall. Grace and majesty, what humility. Come on bended knee, adore him. Go spread the news of Emmanuel. Joy and peace for the weary heart. Lift up your heads for your King has come. Sing, for the Light overwhelms the dark. Glory shining for all to see. Hope alive, let the gospel ring. God has made a way; he will have the praise. Tell the world his name is Jesus. Gloria!

Words and Music by Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Stuart Townend.

On this second Sunday of Advent, we light the candle to remind us that we must receive Jesus as he is offered to us in the gospel. May God Himself, using the example of Mary and Joseph, lead us to receive Jesus, the only Redeemer of his people. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE • Matthew 1:18-25

Patrick & Laren Barker Family (8:30 AM Service)

Melanie Rogers (11:00 AM Service)

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

CALL TO WORSHIP • Adapted from Galatians 4:4-5; Philippians 2:6-11

(Leader) When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, Christ Jesus, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

(Congregation) Joy to the world; the Lord has come!

And Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

Joy to the world; the Lord has come!

And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Joy to the world; the Lord has come!

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(All) Joy to the world; the Lord has come!

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"

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 Love My God”

What love, my God, would bring you down to earth?
What king would take a low and lonely birth?
Yet to this dark and broken place you came
To sleep beneath the stars that you had made.

What love, my God, would send the Way of Life
To walk the road rejected and despised,
That you might know the weakness I possess
And be my rock of strength and righteousness?

*(Chorus) O your love, my God, like a flood
As heaven opened up pouring out on us.
O praise the King who came to the world
In his love like a mighty flood.*

What love, my God, could hold you to the tree
To bear that overwhelming debt for me?
The Son of heaven leaves the Father's side;
The Healer bleeds, the Life was made to die. *(Chorus)*

What love, my God, so gracious and extreme
Was strong enough to come and fight for me,
To go through hell and down into the grave
And raise me up to see you face to face?
You raise me up to see you face to face. *(Chorus)*

Words and music by Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, and Rich Thompson.

“Away In a Manger”

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, it is Advent. It is the season in which we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ, who is the bringer of all peace. We confess to you the ways in which we block the peace of Christ in our lives. God of peace, hear our prayer.

The rushing and scurrying to get things done,
we confess to you, O God of peace.

The worry about the little details,
we confess to you, O God of peace.

The financial burdens we put on ourselves,
we confess to you, O God of peace.

The impatience and irritability we feel and take out on one another,
we confess to you, O God of peace.

The bickering and quarreling we get into because we are too busy,
we confess to you, O God of peace.

Though we make ourselves less than peaceful at this time of the year, your
peace is always there for us.

Instill within us your peace, O God.

When we feel overwhelmed,
instill within us your peace, O God.

When we are filled with worry,
instill within us your peace, O God.

When we become irritable,
instill within us your peace, O God.

When the guilt of our ways threatens to overcome us, help us to remember
that we are forgiven in Christ.

Instill within us your peace, O God.

Instill within us your peace and help us to make choices that bring us closer
to you. Help us to be more peaceful so that we may spread Christ's peace and
love to others.

In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

Worship Sourcebook D.2.2.12.

SILENT CONFESSION

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Surely God's salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before him and will make a path for his steps. In Christ, God's salvation is at hand, and righteousness has come.

(All) Thanks be to God!

Based on Psalm 85:9-13, NRSV Worship Sourcebook D.2.4.1.

PLEASE STAND

HYMN OF RESPONSE • #210

"Silent Night"

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.

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!

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.

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing,
"Alleluia to our King"; Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE BE SEATED

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE (11:00 AM Service)

“Ding Dong! Merrily on High”

Ding Dong! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing; Ding Dong! Verily the sky is riv'n with angels singing: **“Gloria, Hosanna in Excelsis!”* E'en so here below let steeple bells be swungen, and ***I-O, I-O, I-O*, by priest and people sungen, *“Gloria, Hosanna in Excelsis!”* Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers: may you beautifully rhyme your evetime song, ye singers. Gloria, Hosanna in Excelsis!

** “Gloria, Hosanna in Excelsis” is Latin for “Glory! Praise in the highest” which is taken from the angels’ proclamation to the shepherds.*

*** “I-O” is a Latin exclamation similar to the English, “Hooray!”*

(At this time, children ages 4 through Grade 1 are invited to attend Worship Center. They will exit to the Welcome Center to meet their teachers. 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.)

SCRIPTURE READING • Colossians 2:1-7

^{2:1} For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, ² that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ⁴ I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments. ⁵ For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.

⁶ Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

SERMON • “Our Provocative Gang of Saints” Rev. Kyle Parker

I. Christ is Our Community

II. Christ is Our Conviction

III. Christ is Our Coach

(EARLY SERVICE ONLY: At this time, children who are participating in the Christmas Pageant may be dismissed to the Conference Room.)

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

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken”

Jesus, I my cross have taken, all to leave and follow thee. Destitute, despised, forsaken, thou from hence my all shall be. Perish every fond ambition, all I've sought or hoped or known, yet how rich is my condition, God and heaven are still my own. Let the world despise and leave me, they have left my Savior too. Human hearts and looks deceive me, thou art not like them untrue. Oh, while thou dost smile upon me, God of wisdom, love and might, foes may hate and friends disown me. Show thy face and all is bright. Go then earthly fame and treasure, come disaster, scorn and pain. In thy service pain is pleasure, with thy favor loss is gain. I have called thee, “Abba Father,” I have stayed my heart on thee. Storms may howl and clouds may gather, all must work for good to me. Soul then know thy full salvation; rise o'er sin and fear and care. Joy to find in every station, something still to do or bear. Think what Spirit dwells within thee; think what Father's smiles are thine; think that Jesus died to win thee. Child of Heaven, canst thou repine? Haste thee on from grace to glory, armed by faith and winged by prayer. Heaven's eternal days before thee, God's own hand shall guide thee there. Soon shall close thy earthly mission, soon shall pass thy pilgrim days, hope shall change to glad fruition, faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Words by Henry Lyte. Music by Bill Moore.

*“Haste thee on
from grace to glory,
armed by faith and
winged by prayer.
Heaven's eternal
days before thee,
God's own hand
shall guide thee
there. Soon shall
close thy earthly
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days, hope shall
change to glad
fruition, faith to
sight and prayer to
praise.”*

HYMN OF RESPONSE • #213

PLEASE STAND

“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.

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

BENEDICTION

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WEEKLY BIBLE READING (December 9 - December 11)

1 Timothy 1-3 • 1 Timothy 4-6 • 2 Timothy 1-2 • 2 Timothy 3-4 • 1 Peter 1-2

Announcements

OUR MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK are Alan and Amanda Halbrooks with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Papua New Guinea. Alan serves as a high school English teacher and Amanda is a learning therapist for elementary students. They teach children of other missionaries which allows the translators to spend more time focusing on translating God's Word for more than 800 languages of Papua New Guinea.

- **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT:** Join us during the Sunday School hour (9:45 AM) in the Fellowship Hall as children ages 4 - 6th grade perform the Christmas story for the congregation.
- **CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK:** Tonight, at 5:00 PM, we will have our 6th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting in Altadena Park. There will be cookies and hot chocolate, a craft for the kids, and a gospel presentation. Invite your friends!
- **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING DECEMBER 15:** The Session has called a congregational meeting on December 15, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour (9:45-10:45). We will elect officers at this meeting and consider proposed changes to the AVPC bylaws. A list of the officer nominees and a description of the proposed bylaws changes are available in the Parlor and Welcome Center. Copies can also be found on the church website.
- **DECEMBER SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Following AVPC tradition, we will have joint Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall with many fellowship and worship opportunities through the month of December. We will have a congregational meeting on December 15, and a Carol Sing on December 22. There will be no Sunday School on December 29 and only one service at 10 AM.
- **CHILDREN'S ADVENT DEVOTIONALS:** Join your AVPC family as we read through "Fear Not, For Behold" this Advent season. Pick up your Advent family devotionals in the Welcome Center, Parlor, the AVPC Kids table, or on the church website.
- **KID'S BRIDGE NIGHT:** Kid's Bridge Night will continue 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!
- **LESSONS & CAROLS:** Our annual Lessons and Carols Service, featuring the AVPC Chancel Choir, Orchestra, Preschool Praisers, and other AVPC musicians, next Sunday, December 15. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Please note that doors will open for seating in the Sanctuary at 5:15 PM. You will not be able to save seats. Childcare will be provided through age three during the service.
- **HOLIDAY SERVICE TIMES:** On December 29, we will have only one worship service at 10:00 AM. There will be no Sunday School.
- **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE:** This year, we will have two Candlelight Services in the Sanctuary. The first service will be at 4:30 PM, and the second service will be at 6:00 PM.

Calendar

SUNDAY (DECEMBER 8)

8:30 AM Worship Service
 Kyle Parker | Colossians 2:1-7
 9:45 AM Christmas Pageant
 11:00 AM Worship Service
 3:30 PM Lessons & Carols Rehearsals
 5:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 Christmas in the Park

MONDAY (DECEMBER 9)

6:30 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast

TUESDAY (DECEMBER 10)

7:00 PM Diaconate Meeting

WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 11)

6:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY (DECEMBER 12)

9:00 AM Men's Coffee

SATURDAY (DECEMBER 14)

8:00 AM Lesson's and Carols Rehearsal

SUNDAY (DECEMBER 15)

8:30 AM Worship Service
 Kyle Parker | Colossians 2:7-15
 9:45 AM Congregational Meeting
 11:00 AM Worship Service
 6:00 PM Lessons & Carols

SAVE THE DATE - MORE INFORMATION COMING

December 8 – Children's Christmas Pageant

December 15 – Lessons & Carols

December 8 – Christmas Tree Lighting in the Park

December 22 - Christmas Carols (Sunday School)

December 15 – Congregational Meeting

December 24 – Candlelight Services

	Contributions for the Week	Year-To-Date Contributions	Year-To-Date Requirements	Over(Under) Budget
General Fund	\$22,526	\$1,406,649	\$1,400,580	\$6,069
Faith Promise	\$6,500	\$251,058	\$262,459	(\$11,401)

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