

Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

*Open Mind, Open Heart, Open Door*

**First Sunday of Advent**  
with *Hangings of the Greens*

Sunday, December 3, 2023, 10 am

**We welcome all visitors today!** Thank you for being here and gracing us with your presence. Please fill out the “*Visitation Card*” found in the pew and either place it in the offering plate or deposit into the *Suggestion Box* back in the narthex.

**Prayer Candles** are located back at the narthex for anyone who wants to light a candle for someone or something and offer it to God in prayer.

**Children** are invited to enjoy the resources in the **Children Learning Center** located at the back of the sanctuary during worship. Children are welcome to check out books and activity items to take home by signing the simple “*Check-out Sheet*” on clipboard there.

Today’s altar flowers are dedicated my Marieta Flores.

*(\*Please stand if you are able)*

**Prelude**

*French & Catalan Carols*

Marina Thomas

**Bringing in the Light** (The flame symbolizes Christ’s light in the world.)

**Welcome & the Life of the Church**

Rev. John Song

**\*Advent Blessings** (Wave to your neighbors and exchange greetings of...

*“Advent blessings be with you. And also with you.”*)

**“Centering Breath**

**\*Advent Candle Song**

*Light the Advent Candle*

FWS #2090 (vs. 1)

**Lighting the First Advent Candle of Hope**

Magdalena Heredia, Leah, Catalina

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: When an angel of the Lord appeared to Mary,  
Mary said YES, even in the midst of the unknown.

People: **When an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph,  
Joseph said YES, even in the midst of uncertainty.**

Leader: When the host of angels of the Lord suddenly appeared to shepherds tending  
flocks by night, they said YES, even in the midst of fear.

People: **When we consider the origins of our Christian faith  
in the mist of mystery and glory, we say YES, to God.**

Leader: When we celebrate the birth of Christ,  
we proclaim God is with us, Emmanuel.

All: **Come! Let us worship.**

**\*Gathering Song**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

#211

**Children's Time**

"Advent Calendar: Countdown to Christmas"

Pastor John

### ***Hanging of the Greens***

**Sing-Along**

**Medley of Carols**

"While children and youth help decorate the Christmas tree,  
congregation will sing **medley of carols** shown on the screen or in the bulletin.

**\*Gospel Reading**

**Luke 1: 39-56**

*Mary Visits Elizabeth*

<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."

### ***Magnificat* (Latin for "My Soul") or *The Song of Mary***

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,  
<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
<sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.  
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
<sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
<sup>50</sup> His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
<sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
<sup>52</sup> He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;  
<sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.  
<sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
<sup>55</sup> according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."  
<sup>56</sup> And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## Celebration of Holy Communion / Celebración de la santa comunión

The Lord be with you. / *El Señor sea con ustedes.* Spanish Reader: Laura Andrade Sorensen  
**And also with you. / *Y también contigo.***

Lift up your hearts. / *Elevemos los corazones.*

**We lift them up to the Lord. / *Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. / *Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.*

**It is right to give our thanks and praise. / *Es justo darle gracias y alabanza.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you.

Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. In the fullness of time you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior, and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**(The Faith we Sing #2007, “HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”)**

**(The Faith We Sing #2007, “SANTO, SANTO, SANTO”)**

**Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!**

**My heart knows how to say to you: You are holy, Lord!**

***Santo, santo, santo, mi corazón te adora!***

***Mi corazón te sabe decir: ¡Santo eres, Señor!***

Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus Christ.

*Santo eres Tú, y bendito sea Jesucristo.*

As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

*Como María y José viajaron de Galilea hacia Belén y no encontraron albergue, así Jesús fue de Galilea a Jerusalén y fue despreciado y rechazado. Como Jesús nació en la pobreza de un establo, así por el bautismo de su sufrimiento, muerte y resurrección tu diste a luz a tu Iglesia, nos liberaste de la esclavitud al pecado y la muerte, e hizo un nuevo pacto por medio del agua y el Espíritu.*

As your Word became flesh, born of Mary, on that night long ago so, on the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

*Como tu Palabra se hizo carne, nació de María, en esa noche hace mucho tiempo, en la noche que se entregó por nosotros, tomó pan, dio gracias, lo partió y lo dio a sus discípulos diciendo:*

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

*“Tomen, coman; esto es mi cuerpo dado por ustedes. Hagan esto en memoria de mí”.*

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to his disciples, and said:

*Después de la cena, tomó la copa, y después de haber dado gracias, la dio a sus discípulos, diciendo:*

“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

*“Beban de ella, todos ustedes; ésta es mi sangre del nuevo pacto,  
derramada por ustedes y por muchos para el perdón de los pecados.  
Hagan esto todas las veces que la beben, en memoria de mí”.*

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

*Y así, recordando tus actos poderosos en Cristo Jesús, nos ofrecemos en alabanza y agradecimiento como un sacrificio santo y vivo, en unión con la ofrenda de Cristo por nosotros, mientras proclamamos el misterio de la fe.*

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

***Cristo ha muerto; Cristo ha resucitado; Cristo vendrá de nuevo.***

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Creator, now and forever. Amen.

### **Advent Prayer in Unison**

We may not know the day or time of your coming,  
but we know that it is time to wake from sleep.  
In a world where there is no room for Christ child to be born,  
Let us make a room for Christ to be born in us.

### **\*Receiving of the Bread and the Cup**

(The United Methodist Church practices open Communion. All are invited, including children,

to come forward in the middle aisle in two lines to receive the Communion. If you wish to receive Communion at your seat, please raise your hand or ask one of the ushers.)

### **Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings**

Let us respond to this word of grace and hope by the giving of our tithes and offerings, which support the varied ministries of the Watsonville First United Methodist Church, mission at home and throughout the world.

**Offertory** *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* Marina Thomas

### **Presentation of Offering**

**\*Doxology** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* #211 (v.1)  
O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

### **\*Offertory Prayer** (In unison)

Accept these gifts from our hearts, O God, and our lives in the ministry of love and peace, through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

**\*Recessional Song** *There's a Song in the Air* #249

### **\*Benediction**

[\*This ends Live Streaming]

### **Prayers of the People**

- a. Sharing of Joys & Concerns (Please raise your hand & mic will be given to you)
- b. Pastoral Prayer

### **The Lord's Prayer/Padre Nuestro** (You are invited to pray in the language of your choice)

- a. 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. Amen.
- b. Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre; venga tu reino; hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbanos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo el poder y la gloria por siempre. Amen.

**Postlude** *Angels from the Realms* Marina Thomas  
H. Smart

*We warmly invite everyone to a delicious cup of quality coffee,  
refreshments and fellowship in the Social Hall following worship.*

Today's refreshments: Marjorie Martinez, Marieta Flores

\*If you want to bring Refreshments in the future  
you can sign up on the clipboard in the narthex or see Marjorie Martinez.

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor	Rev. John Song
Pianist	Marina Thomas
Choir Leader	Carmelita Abenoja
Liturgist	Mark Sorensen
Spanish Reader	Laura Andrade Sorensen
Greeters	Harry & Clarice Wiggins
Head Usher	Marieta Flores
Communion Stewards	Marieta Flores, Laura Andrade Sorensen
Tech Team	Antonio Pantaleón, Lucila Pantaleón, Elizabeth Reitano
Nursery Attendants	Tatyana Martinez, Julissa Solis
Coffee Hour	Marjorie Martinez, Marieta Flores

### **Advent/Christmas Services @ 10 am**

<b>December 10</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent/ Sunday School with Joan</b>
<b>December 17</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent / Sunday School with Joan</b>
<b>December 24</b>	<b>Family Christmas Celebration</b> <b>5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</b>

### **Calendar for the Week**

Sun., Dec. 3	10:00 am	<b>First Sunday of Advent</b> with <b>Holy Communion</b>
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:40 am	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Mon., Dec. 4	1-3 pm	<b>Sewing Group</b> , St. Stephen's room
Wed., Dec. 6	4:30 pm	<b>Wed. Bible Study</b> , St. Stephen's room
Thu., Dec. 7	4:00 pm	<b>Food for Children</b> , Back Church Parking Lot
Sun., Dec. 10	10:00 am	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>
	11:15 am	Marieta Flores Birthday Luncheon, Social Hall
	11:40 am	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

### ***Opportunities!***

#### **Weekly Wed. Bible Study!**

**Every Wed. from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm**, St. Stephen's room

Bring your Bible. Don't have one? We'll provide you.

*All are welcome!*

Church Website: [watsonville1stumc.org](http://watsonville1stumc.org)

Email: [office@watsonville1stumc.org](mailto:office@watsonville1stumc.org) | Phone: (831) 724-4434

Office Hours: Tue-Thu 9 am – 5 pm, Fri 9 am – 12 pm (Closed for lunch 12-1 pm)

229 Stanford Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

## Sing-Along

## Medley of Favorite Christmas Songs

### ***O Christmas Tree***

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Forever green thy branches.  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Forever green thy branches.

Not only green in summer's glow,  
But green as well in winter snow.  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Forever green thy branches.

### ***I'll Be Home for Christmas***

(Verse 1)

I'll be home for Christmas  
You can plan on me  
Please have snow and mistletoe  
And presents by the tree

(Verse 2)

Christmas eve will find me  
Where the love light gleams  
I'll be home for Christmas  
If only in my dreams

### ***God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen***

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,  
to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray.  
  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

### ***Deck the Halls***

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
'Tis the season to be jolly,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Don we now our gay apparel,  
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.  
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

### ***Jingle Bells***

Dashing through the snow, in a one horse open sleigh,  
O'er the fields we go, laughing all the way!

Bells on bobtail ring, making spirits bright,  
what fun it is to laugh and sing a sleighing song tonight.  
Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way,  
oh what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh, hey!

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way,  
oh what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh!

***Joy to the World***

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

***Feliz Navidad***

Feliz Navidad. Feliz Navidad.  
Feliz Navidad Prospero año y felicidad.  
  
Feliz Navidad. Feliz Navidad.  
Feliz Navidad Prospero año y felicidad.

I want to wish you a merry Christmas.  
I want to wish you a merry Christmas.  
I want to wish you a merry Christmas  
from the bottom of my heart!

***It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas***

(Verse 1)

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas  
Soon the bells will start  
And the thing that'll make 'em ring is the carol that you sing  
Right within your heart

(Verse 2)

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas  
Toys in every store  
But the prettiest sight to see is the holly that will be  
On your own front door

***We Wish You a Merry Christmas***

(Verse 1)

We wish you a merry Christmas. We wish you a merry Christmas.  
We wish you a merry Christmas, and a happy new year!

Good tidings we bring, for you and your kin.  
Good tidings for Christmas and a happy new year!

(Verse 2)

Oh bring us a figgy pudding. Oh bring us a figgy pudding.  
Oh bring us a figgy pudding, and a cup of good cheer.

Good tidings to you wherever you are.  
Good tidings for Christmas and a happy new year!