Announcements

Today's Chancel Flowers are given by Carolyn Croom in memory of Tom Croom "Through the Years."

Music Ministry Gifts. Thank you to all our musicians for a glorious Christmas concert. If you would like to support our music ministry with a gift to the music ministry designated fund, you may place your envelope in the offering plate or turn it in to the church office.

HIS-OC Giving Tree. We are celebrating again this year the lighting of the Giving Tree. Children being served by HIS-OC have made their Christmas "wish." Bring your unwrapped gift to church by next Sunday, December 10.

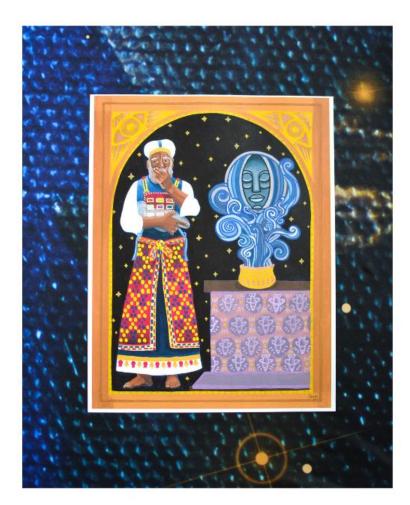
Advent Activities. Today, join us in the MPR after worship to come together in gentle relationship, supported by activities that extend our engagement in the scripture of the day. For the rest of Advent, visit the Christian Education room.

Cookie Exchange. Monday, December 4 at 5:30 p.m. All are invited to a festive evening with dinner, dessert, entertainment, and fellowship. If you would like, bring 3 to 6 dozen cookies (homemade, bakery or store-bought). Three dozen of your cookies (please pack separately) will be donated to WISE Place and HIS OC. Bring your friends, family, and neighbors! Cookies are not required to attend!

Service for the Weary. Saturday, December 16 at 2:00 p.m. For those who have experienced loss, the joy of the holiday season can often feel elusive and out of reach. This service provides space for prayer, reflection and remembrance amidst the holiday hustle and bustle.

Christmas Eve Worship. Sunday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. Celebrate the birth of Christ with a glorious worship service filled with carols, communion, and candles.

Year-End Giving. As we close the year and welcome the new one, consider a year-end donation to YLPC. If you wish to see your year-end gift in your 2023 contribution statement, please submit it to the church office by Sunday, December 31. If you are using automatic bill-pay, be sure to check the date it goes out to allow time for processing.



First Sunday of Advent

Yorba Linda Presbyterian Church December 3, 2023



YORBA LINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH worship equip love

December 3, 2023
*Please stand as you are able
Congregation reads text in bold italics

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME Rev. Lynn Stone

BELL PRELUDE In The Bleak Midwinter Arr. Matthew Prine

Gloria Ringers - Roxanne Ford, director

*CALL TO WORSHIP Mike Jacobs

Leader: In God's house, we can be weary.

People: We can be anxious.

We can be grieving.

Leader: In God's house, we can be joyful.

People: We can be grateful.

We can be hopeful.

Leader: In God's house, we can be honest -

People: inspired or tired,

delighted or doubtful, connected or curious, and everything in between.

Leader: This is God's house. You are welcome exactly as you are.

CANDLE LIGHTING Terry & Chris Sutton

Hope blooms in a weary world when creatures, once forlorn, find wilderness reborn.

Hope booms in a weary world: the promised green of Eden comes.

Upcoming Events

Sundays @ 8:30 a.m.	Chancel Choir Warm Up
Sundays @ 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service
Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.	Youth Group
Sundays @ 11:30 a.m.	Choral Scholars
Thursdays @ 9:30 a.m.	TLC Bible Study
Thursdays @ 6:00 p.m.	Gloria Ringers Rehearsal
Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Monday, December 4 @ 5:30 p.m.	PW Cookie Exchange
Tuesday, December 5 @ 7:15 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 6 @ 9:00 a.m.	Blessed Connections via Zoom
Wednesday, December 6 @ 6:00 p.m.	Deacons' Meeting
Monday, December 11 @ 4:00 p.m.	Caregiver's Support Group
Tuesday, December 12 @ 3:00 p.m.	Nominating Committee Meeting
Tuesday, December 12 @ 6:00 p.m.	PW Christmas Dinner
Wednesday, December 13 @ 2:00 p.m.	Mission Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 13 @ 6:00 p.m.	Stewardship Committee Meeting
Saturday, December 16 @ 8:00 a.m.	Men's Fellowship
Saturday, December 16 @ 2:00 p.m.	A Service for the Weary

Worship God.
Equip Disciples.
Love and Serve the World.

19301 E. Yorba Linda Blvd. Yorba Linda, CA. 92886 714.777.6822

Kevin Jeffries-Phan, Director of Music Ministries Kim Wisnia, Director of Spiritual Engagement Jennifer Acosta-Licea, Office Manager Rev. Lynn Stone, Pastor

*HYMN #82

Invitation to the Offering

The Offertory O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Mark Hayes

*The Doxology #607

Neil Weatherhogg

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit ever more; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

John Weaver

(verses 1, 6 and 7)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Toccata on Veni Emmanuel

Maurice Greene

"Gloria." MUSIC: Stuttgart

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow."

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Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

WE CONFESS AND RECEIVE FORGIVENESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we are weary.

For weary bodies that ache and cry out, we pray:

Forgive us for pushing ourselves too hard.

Remind us that we deserve Sabbath rest.

For weary minds that feel overwhelmed and saturated with news, we pray: Forgive us for creating so many distractions.

Remind us that in the quiet, we can hear you.

For weary hearts that long to feel the joy of this season, we pray: Forgive us for being impatient with ourselves.

Remind us that healing takes time, and that joy and grief can coexist.

For the weary edges of our faith that struggle to hold onto hope, Forgive us. Remind us of Zechariah and Elizabeth.

Remind us that your good news knows no bounds. Amen.

(We silently confess our sins.)

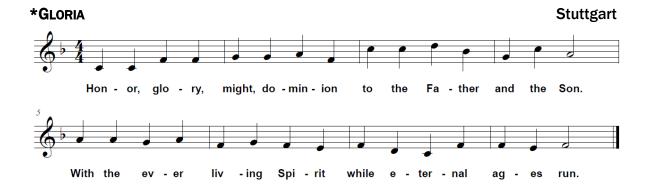
WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith,

No matter how many times we wear ourselves thin, no matter how many times we lose ourselves to distractions, no matter how many times we ask ourselves, "How can this be?" God's love keeps showing up for us.

So say this with me:

We are loved. We are claimed. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.



WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM Advent Douglas E. Wagner

Worship in Action Kim Wisnia

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:1-23

SERMON We Acknowledge Our Weariness

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a God who hears our prayers, who knows the shape and form of our weariness.

We believe in a God who wants joy and delight for us, not just survival and existence.

We believe in a God who looks ahead, who is not done dreaming for the world – a God who spends hope in the form of people and change, movements and Spirit.

And so we return to this space.
We bring our joy and our weariness
like two sides of the same coin,
and we trust that God is already at work.

Yes, we believe in a God who hears our prayers. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion Meditation

Robert Wetzler

Take of the Wonder

Prayer After Communion

God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation. Strengthen us as we seek to serve your holy realm. Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.