

**COMMUNITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
OF CHULA VISTA  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**



**WORSHIP SERVICE  
9:30 A.M.  
December 25, 2022  
Christmas Day**

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's  
journey, you are welcome here!*

***Welcome! Mabuhay! Bienvenidos!***

We welcome you in the name of the still speaking God!

We invite all *guests* to please **PRINT** their name and contact info

on the ***“Information Card”*** in the pew rack and place the card

in the offering plate. Anyone with a prayer request,

please put it on the ***“Information Card”***

and place it in the offering plate.

***If you need assistance***, please ask our Greeters.

Church Staff and Contact List

(619) 422-9263

[www.chulavistachurch.com](http://www.chulavistachurch.com)

Email: [churchsecretary@chulavistachurch.com](mailto:churchsecretary@chulavistachurch.com)

P.O. Box 5574 Chula Vista, CA 91912

Rev. Victoria Freiheit- Senior Minister

Lionel Jasmin- Minister of Music

Kim Appleget- Pre-school Director

Erika Dennis- Prayer Chain Coordinator

Sylvia Campbell- Event Coordinator

Corinne McCall- Financial Secretary

Pelito Capistrano- Custodian

Louise Lopez- Office Secretary

Audio Visual Team- Kevin Hewitt, Ko Tangen, Jerry May

Rod Nickels- December Custodian

Nathan Purificacion- Moderator

Chris Dunn- Coffee Hour

Rueben Barrera- Head Usher

# Festival of Lessons and Carols

## December 25, 2022

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Victoria Freiheit

### **Call to Worship**

L: Let us celebrate Christmas in the Spirit of Jesus Christ, who came to us from the heart of God's own being, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness.

P: Like Jesus, we would seek at this season more to give than to receive, and more to love than to be loved.

L: We celebrate God's entering in our lives in human form, to bring light to all the world.

All: May every knee bow before the newborn Savior; with the angels, may every tongue sing: Glory to God in the highest! Amen.

### **Prayer of Invocation (in unison)**

Loving God, who stopped at nothing to show us your great love we come this morning to sing hymns of joy and thanksgiving for your Son Jesus Christ. Fill us, Holy Spirit, with your joy as we worship your Holy Name on this last Sunday of the year. May all that we say, sing, hear, and do bring you glory, honor, and praise. Amen.

### **First Lesson:**

#### **“The Prophet Announces the Birth of a King”**

Isaiah 9:2,6-7

For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord Of hosts will do this.

### **Carol:**

“All the Earth Is Waiting / Toda La Tierra”- NCH #121; Verse 1  
in English and verse 1 in Spanish.

## Second Lesson:

### “A Ruler from Bethlehem is Foretold”

Micah 5:2-4

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,

whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

Therefore, he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has  
brought forth;

then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty  
of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

**Carol:** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” Red #178, Verses 1 and 4.

## Third Lesson:

### “The Angel Gabriel’s Announcement to Mary”

Luke 1 :26-38

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.”<sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” <sup>35</sup> The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

**Carol:** “Away in a Manger” Red #185; Verses 1 and 3.

## Fourth Lesson:

### **“Jesus is Born!”**

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**Carol:** “The First Noel”, Red # 179; Verses 1 and 2.

## Fifth Lesson:

### **“The Shepherds and the Angels”**

Luke 2:8-20

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>9</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**Carol:** “Angels We Have Heard on High” Red #192; Verses 1 and 3.

## Sixth Lesson:

### **“The Wise Men Follow the Star”**

Matthew 2:1-11

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage.” <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**Carol:** “We Three Kings of Orient Are” Red # 206: Verses 1 and 5.

## Seventh Lesson:

### **“John Unfolds the Great Mystery of the Incarnation.”**

John 1:1-14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept

him. <sup>2</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**Carol:** "Joy to the World" Red #171 Verses 1 and 4.

**Offering** Rev. Victoria

**Call to Offering:** Unison

**Let us be Christ's light in the world! Let us spread Christ's love!**

**Doxology:** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.*

**Prayer of Dedication** NCH #885 Unison

**We give thee but thine own, what e're the gift may be  
All that we have is thine alone, a gift, O Lord from Thee. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn** "Go Tell It on The Mountain" NCH #154 verses 1 and 3.

**Benediction** Rev. Victoria Freiheit

### **Announcements**

*We welcome you to worship! Please make sure to introduce yourself to our Pastor or our ushers if you are new to us. Also, please fill out the information card found in the pew in front of you. All are invited to stay for fellowship in Bradley Hall after worship.*

## SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

9:30 AM Worship Service

10:30 AM Fellowship & Coffee – Bradley Hall

TUESDAY December 27th

9:00 AM Quilters – Quilters Room

11:30 AM Quilter Lunch

THURSDAY December 29th

7:00 PM Choir Practice – Music Room

FRIDAY December 30th

10:00am Bible Study @ the parsonage

SATURDAY December 31<sup>st</sup>

11:00pm New Year's Eve gathering in meeting room @ Tower

SUNDAY January 1st

9:30 AM Worship Service

10:30 AM Fellowship & Coffee – Bradley Hall

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