

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



WORSHIP SERVICE

9:30 A.M.

January 1, 2023

First Sunday of Epiphany New Year's 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

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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

**Community Congregational Church of Chula Vista
United Church of Christ
First Sunday of Epiphany New Year's Day
January 1, 2023**

Prelude: Lionel Jasmin

Gathering Music: It's a Great day to Praise the Lord
We are Marching in the Light of God
Go, Tell It on the Mountain
Way Maker

Welcome and Announcements: Rev. Victoria Freiheit

Liturgist: Belen Hebreo

Call to Worship: Belen Hebreo

One: God of work and love, of play and rest and joys of awakening,
we give you thanks for the gift of life itself.

All: Give new life out of your love for us.

One: Turn our grief to dancing, our sleep to dreaming.

All: Turn our awakenings into the stirring of your love in our lives.

One: Send your Spirit to invigorate, empower and enliven us.

All: Help us to discover your healing presence as we reach toward the future. Amen

****Hymn:** "This is the Day of New Beginnings" NCH p. 417 v. 1 and 5

Invocation: (Unison)

We have never gone this way before. We do not want to let go of the familiar and face the unknown. We are resistant to change. Go with us God. Be Bread for our journey. Be water for our thirst. Be music for the march. Then shall we dare to ask your leading in our lives. Amen.

Hymn: "In the Bleak Midwinter" NCH p128 v. 1, 2,4

Choir: **Come to the Table of Grace**
Words and Music by Luke Woodard

Children's Sermon: Rev. Victoria

Scripture and Sermon: **Matthew 2:1-12** Rev. Victoria
"Meaning of Epiphany"

Prayers of the People, Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

COMMUNION

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, our loving creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made.

We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior.

We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our voices with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere:

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Merciful God, as sisters and brothers in faith, we recall anew these words and acts of Jesus Christ. Now, as they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you do it, in remembrance of me.”

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Come Holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread, and this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died. The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks Almighty God that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Call to Offering: Unison

Belen Hebreo

Let everyone give, not grudgingly or of necessity, but from the fullness of our gratitude to God. Amen.

Offertory:

Lionel Jasmin

**Candles in the winter (Candles of Hope)
Dedicated to the people of Ukraine**

****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: Unison**

Belen Hebreo

O God, through the offering of these gifts, may we become a more open people. . .Open-minded in hearing your word and wisdom, Open-hearted in healing a broken world, Open-handed in heeding your call for charity and enacted love, with thanks for all good gifts, we give a portion of our substance, and the whole of ourselves. Amen.

****Closing Hymn:** “Jesus Loves Me” NCH #327 v.1.2.3

****Benediction:**

Rev. Victoria

Form a circle **Let There Be Peace on Earth**

Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God as our Maker, All one Family.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.

With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow.

To take each moment, and live each moment

With peace eternally,

Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.

Postlude:

Lionel Jasmin

Announcements

WE WELCOME YOU to the Community Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. To our visitors we extend a special greeting. We are delighted that you have joined us today. Please sign the information card and let us know if you need prayers.

SCHEDULE FOR TODAY January 1st

9:30 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Fellowship & Coffee – Bradley Hall

TUESDAY January 3rd

9:00 AM Quilters – Quilters Room
11:30 AM Quilter Lunch

THURSDAY January 5th

7:00 PM Choir Practice – Music Room

FRIDAY January 6th

10:00AM Bible Study Twelve Extraordinary Women @ Lounge

SUNDAY January 8th

9:30 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Fellowship & Coffee – Bradley Hall

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“HOME BY ANOTHER WAY” James Taylor

Those magic men the Magi, some people call them wise or Oriental, even kings.
Well anyway, those guys, they visited with Jesus, they sure enjoyed their stay.
Then warned in a dream of King Herod's scheme, they went home by another way.
Yes, they went home by another way, home by another way.
Maybe me and you can be wise guys too and go home by another way.
We can make it another way, safe home as they used to say.
Keep a weather eye to the chart on high and go home another way.

Steer clear of royal welcomes, avoid a big to-do.
A king who would slaughter the innocents will not cut a deal for you.
He really, really wants those presents, he'll comb your camel's fur
until his boys announce they've found trace amounts of your frankincense, gold
and myrth.
Time to go home by another way, home by another way.
You have to figure the Gods, saying play the odds, and go home by another way.
We can make it another way, safe home as they used to say.
Keep a weather eye to the chart on high and go home another way.

Home is where they want you now,
you can more or less assume that you'll be welcome in the end.
Mustn't let King Herod haunt you so or fantasize his features when you're looking
at a friend.

Well it pleasures me to be here and to sing this song tonight,
they tell me that life is a miracle and I figured that they're right.
But Herod's always out there, he's got our cards on file.
It's a lead pipe cinch, if we give an inch, old Herod likes to take a mile.
It's best to go home by another way, home by another way.
We got this far to a lucky star, but tomorrow is another day.
We can make it another way, safe home as they used to say.
Keep a weather eye to the chart on high and go home another way.