

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAN LEANDRO
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

December 24, 2021

7:00 pm

ORGAN PRELUDE

We Three Kings of Orient Are... *Robert Powell*

Mary Mackie

WELCOME

Rev. Anne Swanson

INTROIT

I Wonder as I Wander

Bob Kraut

*I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
How Jesus, the Saviour, did come for to die
For poor, ornery people like you and like I.
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.*

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow stall,
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
And the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing:
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing;
Or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing,
He surely could have it, 'cause He was the King!

CALL TO WORSHIP

* **HYMN** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* No. 41
(Please silently meditate on the words, as the hymn is sung on our behalf.)

*Those who wish may stand.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Lynn Roman and Jack, Nicholas, Hanna, Emmet Normart

THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS
AS TOLD IN SCRIPTURE AND SONG

SCRIPTURE **Isaiah 9:2-7**

Mander Kraut

* **HYMN** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

No. 9

(Please silently meditate on the words, as the hymn is sung on our behalf.)

SCRIPTURE **Isaiah 11:1-9**

Carly Horrobin

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind.
With Mary we behold it,
The Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to men a Saviour,
When half-spent was the night.

SCRIPTURE **Matthew 1:18-25**

Tyler Crosbie

BELL-TREE DUET

Richard and Sharon Dinwiddie

Carol of the Bells

Hark! how the bells, sweet silver bells,
 All seem to say, 'throw cares away.'
 Christmas is here, bringing good cheer
 To young and old, meek and the bold.
 "Ding, dong, ding, dong."
 That is their song, with joyful ring,
 All carolling.

One seems to hear, words of good cheer
 From ev'rywhere filling the air.
 Oh, how they pound, raising the sound
 O'er hill and dale, telling their tale.
 Gaily they ring, while people sing
 Songs of good cheer, Christmas is here.
 "Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas,
 Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas!"

On, on they send, on without end,
 Their joyful tone, to ev'ry home:
 "Ding, dong, ding, dong."

SCRIPTURE **Luke 2:1-7**

Madison Hickey

*** HYMN** *Away in a Manger*

(Please silently meditate on the words, as the hymn is sung on our behalf.)

No. 24

SCRIPTURE **Luke 2:8-20**

Nathan Hickey

ANTHEM *From the Arms of Heaven's Angels*

Chancel Choir

From the arms of heaven's angels,
 To a little town below,
 Jesus came that winter evening,
 Star-light making heaven glow.

From a place beyond our knowing
 To a stable bare and cold,
 Jesus came that winter evening
 As the prophets once foretold.

From the Father's love begotten
 To a mother's tender care,
 Jesus came that winter evening
 On the wings of fervent prayer.

From a place of peace and promise
 To a world of war and woe,
 Jesus came that winter evening,
 Came to save us long ago.

SCRIPTURE **Matthew 2:1-8**

Alexy Husary

SOLO*The Star Carol*
Mollie Wakeman, accompanist

Richard Jackson

Long years ago, on a deep winter night,
 High in the heav'ns, a star shone bright;
 While in a manger, a wee baby lay
 Sweetly asleep on a bed of hay.

Jesus, the Lord, was that baby so small,
 Laid down to sleep in a humble stall.
 Then came the star and it stood overhead,

Shedding it's light 'round his little bed.
Dear baby Jesus, how tiny thou art.
I'll make a place for Thee in my heart;
And ,when the stars in the heavens I see,
Ever and always, I'll think of Thee.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:9-12

Alexy Husary

ANTHEM

Never Been a Night Like This!

Chancel Choir

There were shepherds in the field
Keeping watch at night,
When out of the dark, a most unusual sight.
An angel of the Lord came with news of joy,
"The Savior's been born tonight, a baby boy!"

The shepherds rejoiced on that Christmas night
As the heavenly host turned the darkness bright.
There'd never been a night like this before!

There'd never been a night like this before
With the angels around singin' praise to the Lord.
The glory of the Lord was revealed that night!

There'd never been a song like this before,
Heaven's music proclaimed the birth of Christ,
the Lord.
There'd never been a night, a night like this before.

"Do not be afraid," the angels said to them,
"You will find the baby down in Bethlehem.
He's in a manger bed, such a humble birth,
The King of kings has come down to earth."

The shepherds rejoiced and began to run
To the newborn King, God's holy Son.
There'd never been a night like this before!

There'd never been a night like this before
With the angels around singin' praise to the Lord.
The glory of the Lord was revealed that night!

There'd never been a song like this before,
Heaven's music proclaimed the birth of Christ,
the Lord.

There'd never been a night, a night like this before.

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Never been a night, a night like this before.
Never been a song, a song like this before.
Never been a night, a night like this before.
Never been a night like this!

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYERS

Rev. George Swanson

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

(Please tip your unlit candle toward the lit candle next to you. Then turn to your neighbor and keep your candle upright as they tip their unlit candle toward yours. After Silent Night is sung for us by our choral team, please remove your mask briefly, to extinguish your candle.)

HYMN *Silent Night, Holy Night*

(Congregation remains seated; please silently meditate on the words, as the hymn is sung on our behalf.)

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.

9:30 a.m. More information can be found on our website, www.FirstPresbyterianChurchSL.org.

*** BENEDICTION**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying...*Robert Hobby*

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We welcome you to this service of worship and invite
you to join us for worship on Sunday mornings at