



Angels Announcing Christ's Birth to the Shepherds, Govert Flinck, 1639

**First Congregational Church of Palo Alto
United Church of Christ**

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

An Open and Affirming Congregation
www.fccpa.org • 650-856-6662

Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. service
December 24, 2021

Order of Worship for Christmas Eve – Lessons and Carols

Prelude

In Dulci Jubilo
Manz, Dupre; Joe Guthrie, Organ

Welcome

Rev. David Howell

Lighting of the Christ Candle

CeCe and Joanna Parks

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Dr. Eileen Altman

Opening Carol #137

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Reading of the Prophet

Isaiah 9:2,6-7

Musical Response

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

Quartet

Reading of the Prophet

Isaiah 11:1-2,6

Musical Response

Lo, How a Rose

Chancel Choir

Reading of the Gospel – The Annunciation

Luke 1:26-38

Carol #135

Angels We Have Heard on High

Reading of the Gospel – The Birth

Luke 2:1-7

Musical Response

Virgin Slumber Song

Women's Ensemble

Reading of the Gospel – The Shepherds

Luke 2:8-16

Musical Response

Glory to God

Chancel Choir

Reading of the Gospel – The Magi

Matthew 2:1-11

Musical Response

What Songs Are Sung

Jenny Matteucci

Reading of the Gospel – The Light

John 1:1-5, 14-16

Christmas Reflection

Rev. David Howell

Choral Anthem

A Christmas Blessing

Chancel Choir

Benediction

Closing Carol #142

Silent Night

*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.*

Participating in Tonight's Service:

Senior Pastor: Rev. David Howell
Associate Pastor: Rev. Dr. Eileen Altman
Dir. of Children's Ministries: Todd Erickson
Music Director: Joe Guthrie
Choral Director: Jenny Matteucci
Assistant Organist: Daniel Lockert
Liturgists: Rowan Erickson, Audrey Erickson, Eryl Aynsley, Todd Erickson,
Abby Howell, Sarah Howell, Peter Tarantino
Ushers: Alan and Carole Stivers
Tech and A/V Support: Chris Beer, Ben Roberts, Steve Terry, David Morrison

Ways to Give: You can contribute financially to the church by: dropping a gift in the red box at the welcome table, mailing a check to the church address, giving online at www.fccpa.org, texting "Give 25" (or any amount you choose) to 650-459-0688, or scanning the QR code to give via PayPal.



If you would like to take a **poinsettia** to one of our shut-ins, you're invited to stay after worship to collect a plant and contact information.

Coming in 2022

- **Worship:** We worship every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. in person or on Zoom, and you are always welcome!
- **Faith in Film:** This movie discussion class will meet on January 11, 18 and 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. The first film will be announced in this week's enews. Please see the film before coming to class. Contact Dave Howell with any questions.
- Our annual **Women's Retreat** will be January 29 and our **Men's Retreat** will be February 11-13. Find registration information at our website or in our electronic newsletter.
- Auditions for our **Spring Musical**, Danger Dan, will be held for all ages after worship on January 16 and 23 at 11:15 in the sanctuary. No preparation is required, and everyone who auditions gets a part.
- **Backyard Sunday School:** Come to the Backyard for songs, a story, and some fun together following the Children's Story every Sunday during worship!
- **Cherub Choir and Children's and Youth Choirs** meet following worship on Sundays, and new members are always welcome!
- **Youth Groups:** Our High School Youth Group meets every other Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Middle School will begin meeting every other Friday evening starting January 21 at 6:00 p.m. To learn more or to be added to the email list, contact [Sam Putney](#).
- **Ash Wednesday and Lenten Services:** Join us for the season of Lent, beginning Wednesday, March 2 for Ash Wednesday worship at 7:30 p.m. We will have Lenten Vespers every Tuesday from March 8 - April 12 at 7:30 p.m.
- **Easter Sunday:** Join us for Easter Worship on Sunday, April 17, with our annual egg hunt.
- **Vacation Bible School:** Children entering a four-year old program through those entering 5th grade are invited to join us June 13-17 for Vacation Bible School, a great week of puppets, singing, Bible stories, art, games, and snacks. Mark your calendars now! Registration will begin in February.

Land Acknowledgement: As we gather for worship today, we remember that for thousands of years this area has been the traditional land of the Puichon, an independent tribe of the Ramaytush Ohlone people. We are grateful to work, live, and worship on this land.

Open and Affirming Statement, adopted in 2007: As we, the members of the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto, seek to embody God's extravagant welcome to all, we declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ, welcoming into the full life and ministry of our church all who are LGBTQ+.

Get social: We'd love your support on social media! Follow @FCCPA on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) and like the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto on [Facebook](#) to interact with and share our content to extend our reach. Additionally, if you have something you'd like to promote, please reach out to Julia Satterthwaite at julia.satterthwaite@gmail.com or text her at (248) 302-4289.

Contact our Pastors: If you would like to learn more about the church or talk with one of our pastors, please contact us at David@fccpa.org or Eileen@fccpa.org. We would be very glad to talk with you. For Pastoral Emergencies, you may contact Rev. David Howell at 650-906-7284 or Rev. Dr. Eileen Altman at 831-345-3830.

Do you get our weekly "This Week at FCCPA" email newsletter? It's the best way to stay up-to-date on church events. Contact office@fccpa.org to sign up to receive it.

Poinsettia Dedications

Given By

Beery/Rogers Family

The Blandings & Bonnie

Collins/Blanding Family

Carol Chivers

Lori and Sean Cottle

Ed & Linda Eckert Family

Greg, Vicki, Andy and
Maddie Eckert

Steve & Carole Eittreim

John & Mary Grundy

John & Mary Grundy

John & Reo Haynes

June Hildebrand

Annette Howitt

Lindstrom Family

Debby & Tom Martin

Debby & Tom Martin

Ann E McCown

Rosemary & John McGuire

Lynn Mitchell

The Petersons

The Pirrotta/Moroney Family

Karen Routt

Einar & Cammy Sunde

Kathy & Steve Terry

The Warner Family

Elizabeth B. Wolf

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Dedication

Angilee Beery, beloved mother, and grandmother, who made life special, especially Christmas. We miss you.

Bob Larson, we love and miss your charisma, kindness, compassion, and that amazing smile. We wish you peace.

Kevin Collins, we miss you every day. We miss your wit and unconditional love. This world isn't as bright without you light. We love you, Uncle Cookies Monster.

In honor of Annette Howitt who will turn 100 years old on January 31st!

Ann Davis, Mildred Tarleton, and Robert Cottle

Our beloved family and friend we lost this year

In memory of loved ones

For the joy and love of family & friends!

In honor of our beloved Roy R. Grundy

In loving memory of Stanley Zarakov

Our parents and friends that are no longer with us this Christmas

For Everyone to know God's love!

In loving memory of Ralph Howitt

To everyone that makes FCCPA such special place, thank you!

Celebrating our family and our church family

Praying for peace and cherishing the Earth and all its inhabitants

In memory of my mother, Elizabeth Langstroth

In honor of Kevin Frances Philley

In loving memory of David Mitchell

My marvelous Mom would have turned 100 on December 20.

Sean Moroney, beloved father, and Papa. We miss you.

In memory of my parents, Robert Fletcher Routt and
Catherine Weiss Routt

Christmas Joy!

Wishing everyone a healthy and Happy Christmas!

In loving memory of Tim's and Clare's parents

In loving memory of Hans Wolf

In loving memory of my two brothers, Robert and David Bassett

In loving memory of my grandson, Alexander Wolf