

ORDER OF WORSHIP  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
December 22, 2013

\* *Indicates a time to stand, if you are able*

PRELUDE *Bridget Hough-Meynenc*

GREETING *Dr. Brett Becker*

ONE: As we near the high point of this season of peace, hope, joy, and love, come celebrate the Savior with me!

**MANY: Jesus is the Lord of Lords and the Prince of Peace!  
We will worship him today with our whole heart, mind, and strength!**

\* **PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you!

**OTHER: And also with you!**

\* **HYMN OF PRAISE** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

Hymnal, #8

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP** *responsive*

*Karen Noffz*

ONE: O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

**MANY: Come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem!**

ONE: Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing.

**MANY: Come adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King!**

ONE: Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!

**MANY: O night divine, O night when Christ was born!**

ONE: Come and behold him, born the King of angels!

**MANY: O come, let us adore him!**

ONE: O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!

**ALL: And praises we'll sing to God the King, and say,  
"Peace to all the earth!"**

\* **HYMN OF HOPE** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Hymnal, #2

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *responsive*

ONE: We are in the presence of God who is our hope.

**MANY: God, we confess that often in the darkness of our lives, we become frightened and feel as though hope will never be realized.**

ONE: We are in the presence of God, who brings peace.

**MANY: God, we admit that sometimes our actions do not bring peace to our relationships or to your world.**

ONE: We are in the presence of God, who brings us joy.

**MANY: God, we often find ourselves thinking that things and possessions can bring us joy.**

ONE: We are in the presence of God, who brings us love.

**MANY: God, we are sorry for when we fail to love you as you would have us love, and we confess that we struggle to believe that you could love us completely.**

ONE: As we prepare this day for the birth of the Christ Child, may the Holy Spirit convince us of God's grace, acceptance, and forgiveness!

**ALL: Thanks be to God for the indescribable gift of Christ's love!**

**SILENT AND PERSONAL CONFESSION**

**SONG OF PROMISE** "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

(vss. 1 & 3) Hymnal, #38

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE** *unison*

The God of salvation, who desires everyone to be set free and come to the knowledge of God's truth, offers forgiveness to each of us through the Redeemer sent in human form. We are grateful that over and over again, we are offered the chance to begin anew, and that nothing we have done can separate us from God's love for us. Therefore, let us celebrate! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, made whole, and set free! Hallelujah! Amen.

**LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE**

*Martha & George Hitchens,  
Sandy & Ed Thoits with Shannon & Kelly*

**ANTHEM** "King of Kings" *St. Andrew's Choir*  
*Dauri Kennedy, directing*

**A READING FROM THE PROPHETS** Isaiah 9: 2-3, 6-7

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

MANY: **Thanks be to God.**

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN** *Julie Sommers*

**THE EPISTLE READING** I Peter 2: 9-10

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

MANY: **Thanks be to God.**

**AN INTERPRETATION OF THE WORD** *Dr. Brett Becker*

"How Does the Birth of Christ Benefit You?"

\* **HYMN OF RESPONSE** "What Child Is This" Hymnal, #53

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**OFFERING and OFFERTORY**

*This is an intentional time of expressing our gratitude to God. Whether you have an offering this Sunday or not, take the plate, feel its touch in your hands, give thanks to God and bless all that is given this day.*

\* **DOXOLOGY** Hymnal, #592

\* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING**

\* **HYMN OF GOD'S LOVE** "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

(vss. 1 & 2) Hymnal, #309

\* **BENEDICTION**

\* **BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

*on screens*

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

*It is our tradition at St. Andrew's to hold our neighbors' hands while we sing.*

\* **POSTLUDE**

*Bridget Hough-Meynenc*

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE**

*Tuesday, December 24,  
7p.m. in the Sanctuary*

## **PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:**

Greeters: Nina & Nevin Chamberlain; Liturgist: Karen Noffz;  
Children's Sermon: Julie Sommers

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sunday's Order of Worship is attached to this email to download and is also posted on the website under the News & Events tab.

**CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER & CAROLING ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 22.** The congregation is invited to join the PYF youth for a festive evening of fellowship and caroling. Potluck dinner in Morgan Hall at 5:30PM (bring your own table service), followed at 6:15PM by caroling in the church neighborhood and carpooling to Samarkand, returning to the church by 8:00PM to warm up with hot chocolate. Sign up (no charge) during coffee hour or contact David Adams at [davidadamsl.da@gmail.com](mailto:davidadamsl.da@gmail.com)

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY *LIGHTHOUSE* IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22.**

**ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE MONDAY, JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>.**

**NO CENTERING PRAYER UNTIL JANUARY.**

**A COLLECTION BASKET IS IN THE NARTHEX FOR FOOD FOR THE FOODBANK**

**THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed December 25 & 26.**

**ADULT ED. CLASS SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 11a.m.** in Morgan Hall. Diana Lee will be speaking on: "From Litigation to Mediation: How Poor Communication Spawns Disputes; How Good Communication Spawns Resolution."

**2014 MISSION CONFERENCE: TECHNOLOGY IN MISSION**

The rapid pace of technological change is bringing with it a new era in missions, an era which allows us to multiply our evangelism and discipleship efforts greatly, and at minimal cost. John Edmiston will lead a workshop on technology in mission at the Santa Barbara Mission Conference, Jan. 24-25. Register for the conference now by going online at [www.sbmissionconference.org](http://www.sbmissionconference.org) or by picking up and completing a brochure in the narthex.

## **POINSETTIAS**

### **In Memory of:**

Robert & Ruby Frenchick,  
Bob Frenchick  
Walton Ross  
Mr. & Mrs. Lester Sutter  
Harold & Mildred Berg  
Marjorie Acquistapace  
Our parents  
Deborah Goetz Bohn,  
Wesley Bohn  
Husband, Shad Monk,  
mom & dad, Dave & Dorothy Abraham  
Our son, Thomas Vickers  
Norma Jean Walters  
In loving memory of Bill Hayes  
Eleanor Vos  
Bruce, Barbara & Joanne Lee  
Richard Lee "Rick"  
Martin Damron, Wilbert &  
Adrianna Lemkuil  
A dear husband, father &  
grandfather  
Husband, Doug Willsie,  
Parents, Dorothy & Carroll Ault  
Beloved husband & father  
Bob Grimesey,  
Beloved father and mother  
Bob & Elva Wightman  
My darling dad, Peter Cary

### **Given by:**

Marie Sue Parsons  
Shirley Ross  
Berna Sutter  
Susan Berg Arnold  
Bruce & Louise Keeler  
Bob & Randi Rice  
Joan & David Bohn  
Dana Monk  
Don & Sara Vickers  
Fred & Bev Walters  
Karen Hayes & Family  
Mona Wise  
Steve & Diana Lee  
Lorraine Haynes  
Bud & Peggy Sue Lemkuil  
Lily and the Lefley Family  
Caroline Willsie  
Elaine Grimesey  
Pam Cary

**In Memory of:**

**Given by:**

My loving parents James & Grace Scialom Mothers, Ocea Allbright & Dorothy Klassert Ariel's beloved and missed parents, Jack & Judy Andersen, John's much loved father, Ed Bowers Fay Reese, Ed Reese, Helen Beal Father, Frederick Moore Loving memory of Peter Wisner	Renee Cary  The Allbrights  John & Ariel Bowers  Rachael Tobler Lindy Moore Linda Wisner
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**In Honor of:**

**Given by:**

Much loved children, Suzanne & Robert, and grandchildren, Amanda, James, Robbie, Anna & Taylor Siblings, Charles, Susie & Jennifer My children, Todd & Cheryl Ford St. Andrew's Deacons The Becker Family Tavia Damron Pastor, Brett Becker, Mother, Audrey Bowers, and many thanks to those who serve our church in voluntary capacity	Elaine Grimesey  Dana Monk Bev Ford Marie Sue Parsons Harold & Enid Englund Bud & Peggy Sue Lemkuil Ariel & John Bowers
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**OFFERINGS OF PRAYER**

**Joys and Concerns from last Sunday's Worship Service**

**Please note** - On Sundays, joys and concerns may be written down on the forms provided in the sanctuary lobby. They will be displayed on the screens during the prayer time. Prayers may also be submitted by email to [standrewsprayers@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsprayers@gmail.com) by 7:00 pm each Saturday. Please indicate in your email whether we can share your joys and concerns with the congregation by email and on the church website.

***Concerns***

<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>For</u></b>	<b><u>Concern</u></b>
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***Joys***

<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>For</u></b>	<b><u>Joy</u></b>
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**Ongoing Prayer Requests**

*Those who have been ill or injured:*

David Benson, Ernie & Betty Brooks, Dorothy Naegle,  
Carole Wallace

*Please let us know of changes we should make in the Prayer List.*

*Those who grieve:*

Family and friends of Muriel Krebs. A memorial service will be held on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 11 a.m. at St. Andrew's

*Those in convalescent care:*

Goleta Cottage: Liz McNeil

Mission Terrace: Patricia Collins

Samarkand Health Care Center: George Hitchens

Vista Del Monte Health Center: Margaret Blake, Joan Cyr  
Barbara Hagen

*Presbytery Prayer Concern:*

Congregation and staff at Word of Life Presbyterian Church in Oxnard, Pastor Rom Urzua and Commissioned Lay Pastor Jesse Rodriguez; Word of Life's Gang Prevention Ministry