

The Lord's Day Worship

December 24, 2023

The congregation's responses are in *bold italics*.

** Please stand as you are able*

Prelude *Christmas Gloria* Mary McDonald

Lighting of the Advent Wreath *The Andrews Family*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you!

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope in the midst of strife and unease. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of reconciliation.

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Peace, under whom true reconciliation comes. May the light sent from the Prince of Peace show us the way to forgiveness.

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy, the fountainhead and exemplar of forgiveness. May the light sent from God's presence make us rejoice in the unity of the Body of Christ.

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Love, the summation of reconciliation, forgiveness, and unity. May the light sent from the Spirit make us to provoke one another to love and good works.

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way, the Truth, and the Life. May the birth of Christ, the Son of God, the Head of the Church, move us to live in imitation of his life, love, and sacrifice.

***The Peace** *The Andrews Family*

May the love, hope, joy, and peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

***Song of Praise** *Gloria Patri*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

*Today's offering may be deposited
into the plates at the rear of the sanctuary.*

Christmas Prayer

"The Gift of Gifts" from the Valley of Vision

Choral Cantata

O Holy Light

***Benedictory Hymn**

Please light your neighbor's candle.

As the candles are lit, line up around the perimeter of the sanctuary.

Silent Night, Holy Night

¹Silent 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.

²Silent 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!"

³Silent 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.

⁴Silent night, holy night!

Wondrous star, lend thy light;

With the angels let us sing,

Alleluia to our King;

Christ the Savior is born,

Christ the Savior is born!

***Postlude** *Angels We Have Heard on High* arr. Edward Barnes

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Servers

Today's Lay Reader

Martha Moore

December Usher

Sang-il Lee

Prayer Requests

Our session & church leaders

Dennis Janiak

Our nation & elected leaders

Glenn Jefferson

God's guidance at APC

Silas Allen

Doug Robertson

Collin Adams

Margaret Liebchen

William (Jo Jo) Phillips

Alice Barkdoll

Donna Hendricks

Billy Robertson

Hugh Rountrey

Linda Giles

Kay Gagnon

Essie Moore

Emily Ragsdale

Mike Smith

Jo Ann Houchins

People at APC

Session Elders

Staff

Gary Andrews ('24)

Administration

Rev. Ed Soto

Minister of Word & Sacrament

Kevin deBernard ('24)

Outreach

Carolyn Doss

Church Secretary

Stephanie Moehlenkamp ('24)

Discipleship

Stephanie Moehlenkamp

Choir Director

Barbie Andrews ('25)

Outreach

Linda Giles

Organist & Pianist

Ron Coleman ('25)

Discipleship

Gary Andrews

Co-Treasurer

Mark Younkin ('25)

Administration

Mark Younkin

Co-Treasurer

John Erb

Clerk of Session

December Events

- December 3** 10 AM Worship/Communion
Collect Two Cents-A-Meal Offering
Return Angel Tree Gifts
- December 6** 8 AM Men's Bible Study
10 AM Bible Study
12 PM Men's Lunch - El Cazador
6 PM - Video Bible Study
- December 9** 10 AM - 6 PM Bell Ringing at Wal-Mart
5 PM Clair Parker - Deck the Heels Run
- December 10** 10 AM Worship/Children Church
2024 Pledge Card Deadline
- December 12** 4 PM Session Meeting
- December 13** 8 AM Men's Bible Study
10 AM Bible Study
- December 17** 10 AM Worship/Children Church
Collect Joy Offering
5 PM Christmas Koinonia Dinner
- December 20** 8 AM Men's Bible Study
10 AM Bible Study
12 PM Men's Lunch - Main St. Café
- December 21** January Link Deadline
- December 24** 10 AM Choir's Cantata & Candlelight Service
- December 25-28** Church Office Closed
- December 31** 10 AM Worship/Children Church

Announcements

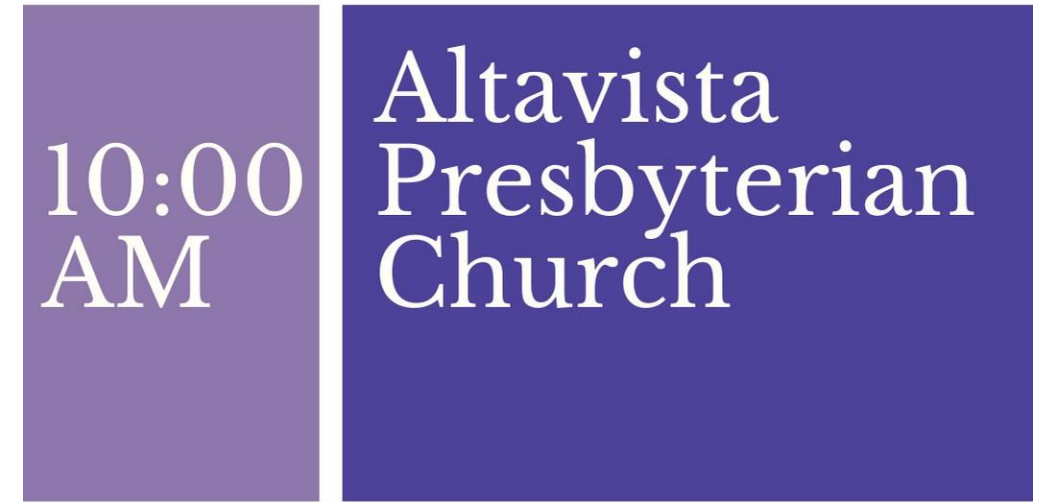
There will be no Bible Studies December 27th and January 3rd. The Video Bible Study will meet January 10th instead of January 3rd.

The Church Office will be closed December 25-28 for the Christmas Holiday.

On behalf of the Session and Staff, we wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Betsy and I would like to express our deepest love and appreciation for all those who have helped to make 2023 a year of grace and gratitude. The challenges that beset us all are but molehills compared to the goodness and mercy of the Almighty. As the Apostle Paul reminds us, "nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus!" My prayer is that 2024 will be another year of witnessing the power of the Gospel to transform lives, families, and our church!

Rev. Eduardo Soto, Jr.



4th | SUNDAY OF ADVENT