

*Order of Worship*  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
9:30 am – December 19, 2021

***Participating Live?***

*Text your prayer requests to 805-309-6867 before the end of the first hymn.*

**PRELUDE** *Improvisation on a Traditional Normandy Tune* Lance Crane, organ

**WELCOME** Pastors

**CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING AT VENTURA FUMC**

**HYMN** *Love Divine, All Excelling* UMH 384

Text: Charles Wesley, 1747, Public Domain. Tune: BEECHER, John Zundel, 1870, Public Domain.

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;  
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!  
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.  
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;  
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

**ADVENT WREATH** (responsive) *Micah 5: 2-5a* Marlett Family  
The Word of God, for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The Mighty One has done great things! Holy is God's Name! The Light of the World is coming.  
**With Micah, we cry out for the time when all things will be made right.**

God's mercy endures from generation to generation for those who are in awe of God.

**The proud, the rich, the mighty no longer have power over us.**

The lowly are lifted up, and the hungry are satisfied.

**With Elizabeth and Mary, our spirits rejoice as we see the light of God dawning over the land.**

We light a fourth candle in anticipation of the wondrous birth.

**We will open our hearts, that Love may have a place to dwell.**

Let us pray: **Lord Jesus Christ, we await Your coming filled with hope, knowing Your light will shine in the darkness. We anticipate Your peace, believing that one day it will fill our world. We embrace Your love, reaching out to share it with neighbors. We wait with joy, bubbling up in expectation of Your birth. Lord, we wait: come soon and fill us with Your life. Amen.**

(adapted from *umcdiscipleship.org*)

**HYMN** *He Came Down* TFWS 2085

CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song # 4679219

He came down that we may have \*love; he came down that we may have \*love;  
he came down that we may have \*love; Hallelujah forevermore.

\* peace, joy

**PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**ANTHEM** *The Jesus Gift* Gilbert M. Martin  
FUMC Chancel Choir; Rich Medrano, director; Lance Crane, accompanist

**SCRIPTURE** *Luke 1: 39-55 (NRSV)* Esther Benedict  
The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE** *A Song of Faith* Pastors

**OFFERTORY PRAYER (unison)**

**Gracious God, we rejoice as we offer these gifts in response to the great things you have done for us. We give thanks especially for the great gift of your love clothed in human flesh. We pray that Jesus will be born anew into our hearts, and that the witness of our lives will convince others of the wonder and the miracle of Christmas. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.** (Rev. Moira Laidlaw, ©1992)

**ANTHEM** *Creation Will Be at Peace* arr. J. Paul Williams  
FUMC Chancel Choir; Rich Medrano, director; Lance Crane, accompanist

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *Rocking, a Czech Carol* Lance Crane, organ

***Prayer Requests:***

Cal-Pac Conference — Bishop Hagiya, staff and conference leaders

Camarillo UMC — Pastor Elbert Kim

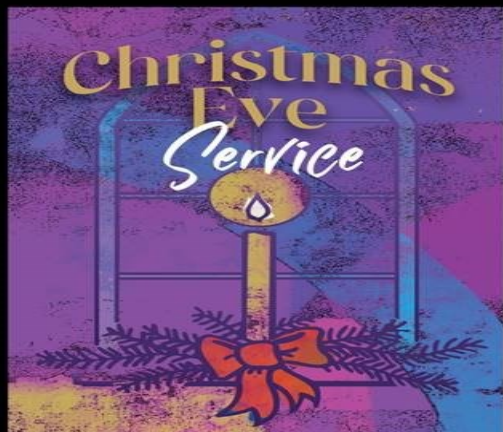
Kate Stradling (Kimmie's twin sister) — recovering from surgery

Ginger and Vern Novstrup and Emma King (Garden Church) — family in South Dakota recently diagnosed with Covid, in particular 4 year old Maggie Jane who was recently hospitalized

LONGEST  
NIGHT



DECEMBER 21, 2021  
6:00 PM



**Christmas Eve  
Lessons & Carols**

Family Service:  
4:30 PM

Candlelight  
& Communion:  
7:30 pm