

11:00am Worship Service

[* All who are able are invited to stand]

Prelude *Carols from around the world*

Welcome and Announcements The Rev. Mark S. Peake

We Offer Ourselves Stephen Ministry

Gathering Around The Word

Introit *O come, thou Key of David, come* - Traditional

*** Advent Call to Worship** Alta Newcomer

One: In this final week of Advent, our attention is on love. Listen for the call to love in these words. "Teacher, which command in God's Law is the most important?" Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence. This is the most important, the first on any list. But there is a second to set alongside it: 'Love others as well as you love yourself.' These two commands are pegs; everything in God's Law and the Prophets hangs from them."

One: God, we have learned to love from being loved by you.

All: And so today, let us live that love.

One: We know that what the world needs now is more love.

All: Let us remember how much you love each one of us and let us share that love in turn.

*** Hymn** *People, Look East* # 12

Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, we know that you are always there to guide us, yet we often make plans without listening to you and discover that our human agendas can drown out our ability to hear your will for us. We repent of these faults and turn to you in love. Forgive our offenses and pardon our sins, that our lives may magnify your holy name forever.

[a time of silent personal confession]

Assurance of Pardon

*** Passing of the Peace**

*** Gloria**

Glo - - - ria in excelsis Deo;

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Proclaiming The Word

A Moment With the Children

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.

Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:

This is where children belong.

Prayer for Illumination

Astonishing God, send your Holy Spirit upon us as we await the coming of your Son. Fill us with good things that we may conceive your reign on earth and glorify you according to your Word; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

First Reading [page 161, New Testament - NRSV] **Romans 16:25-27**

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *Come and worship medley from It's Christmastime* - David T. Clydesdale

Second Reading [pages 55 - 56, New Testament - NRSV] **Luke 1:26-38**

*** Hymn** *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers* # 15

Sermon Love The Rev. Katie Day

Responding to The Word

The Prayers of the People and the 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Offer Our Gifts

*** Offertory** *Caroling, Caroling* - Alfred Burt

[Please sign and pass the red friendship pad to the outside aisle and back to the center so you can greet one another. Thank you! Guests are invited to complete a visitor card. Please include your phone number.]

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Bearing The Word Into The World

*** Hymn** *Once In Royal David's City* # 49

*** Charge and Benediction**

*** Postlude** *Nigh Bethlehem* - Alfred Burt

If you leave during the postlude, please leave quietly so that those who stay may enjoy the music. ~ Thank you.

What's Happening at FPC

SUNDAY 24

No 9am Worship Service

10:00am - Education for All Ages
11:00am - Traditional Worship
12:00pm - Fellowship Time
12:00pm - Christmas Eve Play Rehearsal
5:00pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Family Service with *Beneath a Shining Star* Musical
6:00pm - Potluck Dinner - Everyone is invited!
8:00pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Chancel Choir
11:00pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Communion

MONDAY 25 Merry Christmas

Office Closed
5:00pm - I-HELP for Women Dinner/Overnight

TUESDAY 26

8:30am - Tuesday Troopers
4:30pm - Men's Bible Study
6:30pm - Deacons Meeting

WEDNESDAY 27

9:00am - Mothers of Babies
11:30am - Office Staff Meeting
1:00pm - Worship Planning
2:00pm - Worship and Arts Committee Meeting
6:30pm - NIP Program
6:30pm - Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY 28

12:00pm - VISTA folding
7:15pm - Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY 31

No 9am Worship Service

10:00am - Pancake Breakfast

10:00am - Education for All Ages
11:00am - Traditional Worship
12:00pm - Fellowship Time

Stephen Ministry: You stayed up to watch the New Year in together. You talked about the past year, all the memories, good and bad. You laughed over some of them. But this year you're alone and memories bring you nothing but pain. During this time, a Stephen Minister would like to listen and care as you sort through your feelings. Call Pastors Mark or Katie, 373-3031, for more information.



Ongoing Study Opportunities

Sundays:

9:00 Bible Study is studying the Acts of the Apostles. We meet in the conference room.

10:00 Education Classes:

Pastor Katie Day will be teaching a class called *Names for the Messiah* based on a course of study by Walter Brueggemann. Meet in the Conference Room.
Elder Alice Yamanishi will be exploring the stories behind your most loved Christmas songs based on a book by Ace Collins. On hiatus until January 9.

Children 0 - 5th grade check in at the Lighthouse table in the lower courtyard.

Youth 6th - 12th grade check in at the Lighthouse table to be a leader.

Tuesdays:

Tuesday Men's Bible Study is studying the Acts of the Apostles at 4:30 in Fellowship Hall.

Fridays:

Women's Bible Study: We will not meet this week because of the Christmas holiday.

We are glad you joined us for worship.
Please let us know how we may serve you.
Fill out a guest card and place it in the offering plate.
We look forward to meeting you.

Mission Statement

We encounter and glorify God as individuals and as a congregation through authentic worship, meaningful nurture, and relevant service.

The ushers at the 11am service are:

Mariah Ortega, Aaliah Ortega Clyde Roberson, Claire Rygg, and Travis Rygg.

Church Staff

The Rev. Mark Stephen Peake - Pastor • revpeake@fpcmonterey.org
The Rev. Katie Day - Associate Pastor - Interim Youth Director • katie@fpcmonterey.org
The Rev. Ben Newcomer - Parish Associate
The Rev. Chris Williams - Parish Associate
Susan Weir - Church Administrator • Financial Secretary
John Koza - Director of Music
Margaret Bellisomi - Organist
Jason Stout - Director of Music for the Early Service
Linda Thompson - Children's Ministry Director - childrensministry@fpcmonterey.org
Monique Garretson - Mother's Morning Out Director
Elaine Cole - Office Assistant • office@fpcmonterey.org
Charlie Edwards - Sexton
Jeff Barrett - IT and Tech Support
Diane Grindol, Suzanne Schmitt, and Dakota Sherry - Worship Tech
Jan Mason - Sacristy Coordinator
Kelsey Hand, Franca DeVost, Maria Misco, Ally Thompson, and Anne Stevens
- Nursery Staff

How to reach us:

501 El Dorado Street, Monterey CA 93940
831-373-3031 • office@fpcmonterey.org • www.fpcmonterey.org



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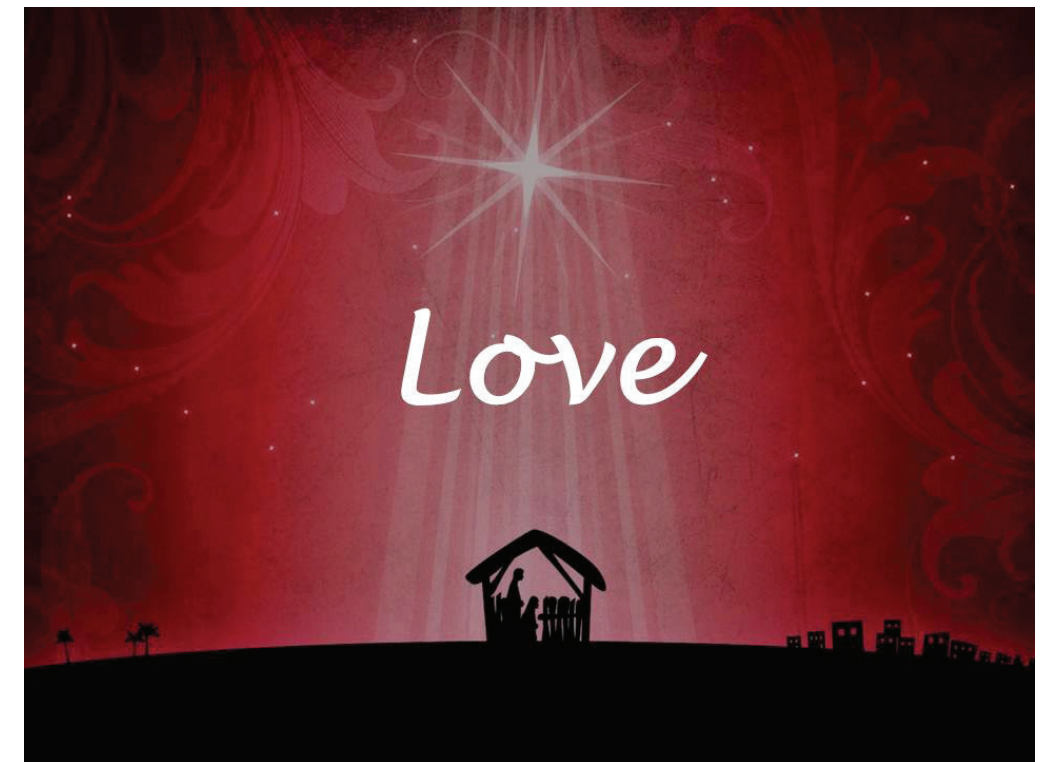


We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation.

The Church Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistant system. Headset are available in the Narthex.
Large print hymnals are also available.

First Presbyterian Church of Monterey

December 24, 2017



Something to think about before worship:

"Love comes from the most unexpected places."

- Barbra Streisand