



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian Church
of Aptos**

Rev. Anne McAnelly, Pastor
Dr. Don Adkins, Music Director

9850 Monroe Avenue
Aptos CA 95003
Phone 831 688-4211
aptospres@gmail.com
www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

10:30 A.M.

✦ Second Sunday After Christmas ✦

January 5, 2025

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

A WORD OF WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*responsive*)

Children of God: welcome!

Welcome to this place of truth and grace,

Welcome to this place of hope and light.

God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,

God invites all of us to share in the good news:

We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

***HYMN**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

GtG #133 (vs. 1,3)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant; O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!

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

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of tender mercies, we admit that sometimes we don't know what to do with ourselves.

We anger at the slightest insult and imagine great vengeance upon those who wronged us. We laze about in the good news of our faith and do not consider the deep commitment of faith. We care for ourselves but not for others. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive us, help us to repent, and make us whole. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Alleluia! Amen.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Song of prayer Come and Fill (*pew song sheet*)

Prayers lifted to God

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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.

*HYMN

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

GtG # 505

The trumpets sound; the angels sing; the feast is ready to begin.

The gates of heaven are open wide, and Jesus welcomes you inside.

Refrain:

Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight.

Come and revel in heaven's love and light.

Take your place at the table of the King.

The feast is ready to begin; the feast is ready to begin.

Tables are laden with good things; O taste the peace and joy he brings.

He'll fill you up with love divine; he'll turn your water into wine.

Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight.

Come and revel in heaven's love and light. (Refrain)

The hungry heart he satisfies, offers the poor his paradise.

Now hear all heaven and earth applaud

the amazing goodness of the Lord. (Refrain)

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

God, source of all light, by your Word, you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding, that our hearts and minds may be opened to know your truth and your way. Amen

FIRST LESSON

Ephesians 1:3-14

OT page# 192

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

SECOND LESSON

John 1:10-18

NT page# 91

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me."') From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

SERMON

God Moved Into the Neighborhood

The Rev. Anne McAnelly

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

OFFERING

Offertory Music

Don Adkins, Piano

Doxology

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

Offering Prayer (*unison*)

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, we ask for the grace to be vessels of your love, compassion and truth. Impart a spirit of generosity, compassion and love to those entrusted to our care. May our words and actions be a reflection of your grace, inspiring those gathered here to experience the transformative power of your love through generous giving. Amen.

COMMUNION (see insert)

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*HYMN

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

GtG #666

O splendor of God's glory bright, from light eternal bringing light;
O Light of Light, light's living spring, true Day, all days illumining:

Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love, rain down your radiance from above,
and to our inward hearts convey the Holy Spirit's cloudless ray.

O joyful be the passing day with thoughts as clear as morning's ray,
with faith like noontide shining bright, our souls unshadowed by the night.

O Lord, with each returning morn, your image to our heart is born;
O may we ever clearly view our Savior and our God in you.

BENEDICTION

The service of worship ends, the service of neighbor and world begins!

Upcoming Events

Monday, January 6th	Bible Study @ 1 pm Bell Choir @ 2:30 pm
Tuesday, January 7 th	Nurture Meeting @ 10 am Enrichment Meeting @ 2 pm
Thursday, January 9 th	Choir Rehearsal @ 2 pm

Today's Servers

COFFEE HOST: Michele Pomroy
LITURGIST: Al Cheney
GREETER: Michele Pomroy
COUNTER: Erik Ottem