

Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church

On a journey with God to Reach, Grow, and Serve

TLPC is a congregation of both the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We began in 1992 with a vision for a new expression of the ELCA in Truckee and later joined with the PC (U.S.A.) to be the liturgical, eucharistic expression of Christ's church in Truckee, California. We welcome everyone to worship and grow with us as we live in God's amazing grace!

To our visitors and guests: Welcome! Please join us for fellowship and refreshments after the service, and let us know how we may serve you.

Sheet music and large print bulletins are available at the entrance.

Assistive listening devices may be obtained from the person at the soundboard (rear of worship space).

Supervised childcare for infants is available in the nursery.

Sunday School is offered for children age 3 through grade 8 following the opening liturgy. They will re-join us in worship for communion.

Restrooms are located past the front entrance, down the hall to the right.

Fair trade coffee and chocolate are available at cost after the service.

This Week at TLPC (*See www.tlpc.org for complete calendar of events.*)

Friday

9:00am Hike/Snowshoe

Saturday

7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at TLPC

Sunday

9:00pm Christmas Day Service of Lessons and Carols at TLPC

Pastor

Rev. Edward Hilton

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18 2011

The pastor or worship leader will read the regular print text.

The congregation will read the **bold** text.

Please stand, as you are able, for sections marked with an asterisk *.

PREPARING TO ENCOUNTER GOD IN WORSHIP

We invite you to sing or listen as we quiet our minds to hear God's voice and open our hearts to feel his presence.

♪ "The King of Glory Comes"

♪ "Christmas Offering"

WELCOME

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

* **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH** – Lynn and Jan Rogers

Blessed are you, God of our salvation;
you promised that the One of peace would come from Bethlehem
to feed your flock and make us live securely.

As we light these candles,
kindle in us the fire of your love,
infuse in us the fruit of your Word,
and empower us to lift up the lowly
and to fill the hungry with good things;
Let your face shine on us and bless us.
Amen.

* **GATHERING SONG**

♪ "Light One Candle"

* **GREETING**

Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.
With your abundant grace and might,

free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy,
that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world,
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who shapes the whole creation, who comes with might and mercy,
who fills the hungry with good things.
Amen.

Let us approach the throne of grace with repentant hearts.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,
we confess that we have been unfaithful to you.
Like dry leaves and withered grass,
our lives are blown about by our sins
and the powers of evil around us.
Restore us, O God;
let the light of your face shine on us, and we shall be saved.
Amen.

God is patient, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.
In the name of + Jesus Christ, I bring you this good news:
We are free from all that imprisons us;
our sins are forgiven; God heals our broken hearts.
Let us live in peace and harmony as we wait for the day of God.
Amen.

*** SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

*All are invited to share a handshake or a hug as a sign of reconciliation and peace,
saying "Peace be with you."*

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent."

Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 89: 1-4

Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love
is established forever;**

you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

"I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

**'I will establish your line forever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"**

*** PREPARING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS**

♪ **"He Came Down"** - vs. 2,4

*** GOSPEL READING**

Luke 1:26–55

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

"A Capital C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S" by Gail Gaymer Martin
Jenna Hilton, Executive Producer; Lori Breuch, Nancy Settle, Producers

*** PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

In recognition that all that we have and all that we are come from God, we return a portion of our wealth for the Lord's work here and around the world, we offer our talents that he may use them for his purpose, and we dedicate our lives to serve God and our neighbors.

*** PRESENTATION OF GIFTS, SONG OF THANKS**

"I'm Forever Grateful"

*** PRAYER OF THANKS**

God of abundance,
**we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation,
and with them our very lives.**
**Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need
until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

*** GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor continues with the Eucharistic prayer, concluding:

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection,
we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share:
strengthen our faith, increase our hope,
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever.

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We invite all members and visitors to share in Holy Communion, also known as the Lord's Supper, the Sacrament of the Altar, or the Eucharist. We believe that Jesus Christ is present in and with the bread and wine. We receive this sacrament in remembrance of what God has done for us through the death and resurrection of Jesus. You may either eat the bread and drink from the common cup of wine (first chalice) or hold the bread and dip it in the grape juice (second chalice). Children who do not yet receive communion are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Some people wish to receive communion every week, others less often. Please do what is meaningful and comfortable for you. If you prefer to receive communion while seated, please indicate this to an usher.

COMMUNION SONGS

♪ “Like a Child”

♪ “Magnificat anima mea Dominum” (*“My soul magnifies the Lord”*)

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord God,

**we give you thanks that you have fed us even now
with the banquet that is yet to come.**

Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us.

**Send us as healing oil and sheltering comfort to those in need,
and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

*** SENDING SONG**

♪ “Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn”

PREPARING FOR OUR MISSION IN THE WORLD

We are called to make Christ known by our words and actions - in our church family, in our local community and throughout the world.

*** BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE**

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