



“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.”

- John 1:1-3

December 27, 2020

ROLLING HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310-377-6771

www.rhumc.org

OUR CHURCH AT WORSHIP

December 27, 2020

First Sunday after Christmas

PRELUDE

Althea Waites

CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from 98

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.

People: You have remembered your steadfast love and faithfulness for your people.

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

People: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Leader: Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

People: Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy!

HYMN #230

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Charles Dickerson

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wondering love.**

**O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RENEWAL

Unison: Eternal God, your glory is revealed in the vastness and power of the universe and the humility of a stable. Today we remember your gentleness, hidden in a mother's hope and in the birth of her child. We proclaim again that love is stronger than our fear, peace more enduring than hatred, and that darkness will never put out the light. Help us to let go of our failures and disappointments, and to receive the love you offer us in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Brent Howell

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy, holy holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

ANTHEM

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Merrietta Fong, Kathy Kerstein, Annette Matsuda

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Susan Welch

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 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.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

Althea Waites

DOXOLOGY #95

Charles Dickerson

**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.**

SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-14

The Word became flesh

Brent Howell

HYMN #184

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" (vs 1)

Charles Dickerson

**Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he
Of the things that are, that have been and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.**

READING

The Birth of Christ to be celebrated

Augustine of Hippo

HYMN #184

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" (vs 2)

Charles Dickerson

**O ye heights of heaven, adore him; angel hosts his praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore.**

READING

Penalty for Keeping Christmas

Massachusetts, 1659

HYMN #184

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" (vs 3)

Charles Dickerson

**Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be:
Honor glory and dominion, and eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore.**

READING

Christmas Day in the Morning

Pearl S. Buck

HYMN #224

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Charles Dickerson

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: News, news! Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today, Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: News, news! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and ye are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!**

BENEDICTION AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**There's a Spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere:
Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.**

POSTLUDE

"The Gift"

3rd service ensemble

3rd service ensemble:

Paula Kuno – guitar/mandolin/vocals, *Teresa James* – piano/flute/vocals

Michael Starr – guitar/violin/mandolin/vocals, *Zach Provost* – piano/vocals

Cory Tramontelli – bass/vocals, *Jack Sollecito* – percussion/guitar/piano

Rev. Jonathan Chute, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Martha Rowlett, Senior Pastor Emeritus

Myra Ghabrial, Preschool Director

Annette Matsuda, Parish Nurse

Gabby Palacios, Kid Zone/Mid Zone Director

Debra DeLuca, Children's Ministry Director

Kristin Reksc, Youth Ministry Director

Rev. Dr. April Herron, Associate Pastor

Charles Dickerson, III, Music Director

Althea Waites, Organist

Paula Kuno, 3rd Service Music

John Fitzgerald, Treasurer

Nicole Lowery Zakman, Church Business Mgr.

Roksolana Vecerek, Exec. Asst. to Pastor

Peggy Roulette, Church Office Admin.

Miguel Portillo, Custodian