



*"...the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness."*  
-Luke 3:2

**December 5, 2021**

**ROLLING HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**310-377-6771**

**[www.rhumc.org](http://www.rhumc.org)**



THE WORD FOR CHILDREN - Lighting the Candle of Peace

*The children are invited to gather in front of the steps for a brief sermon and prayer.*

*Afterward, they may leave for Sunday School or stay for the rest of the service.*

**A candle is burning, a candle of peace.**

**A candle to signal that conflict must cease.**

**For Jesus is coming to show us the way,**

**A message of peace humbly laid in the hay.**

ANTHEM

*“Prepare the Way of the Lord”* – B. Harlan

Chancel Choir

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

April Herron

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

**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

Luke 3:1-6

John preaches repentance and offers hope

Suellen Fung

SERMON

*“In the Wilderness”*

Jonathan Chute

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

(the pastor will offer a prayer of thanksgiving and consecration, and the people shall say)

**People: Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*(As you come forward to receive the elements, those wishing to make a communion offering may place their gifts in the baskets near the front of the two side aisles.)*

*"Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"* Handbell Choir  
\*HYMN #218 *"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"* Everyone

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.**

**For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,  
When with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold  
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.**

\*BENEDICTION Jonathan Chute

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

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

POSTLUDE *"Toccata in F Major"* – Buxtehude Althea Waites

### **New to the Church?**

We are grateful that we can worship together.  
Please use our digital welcome pad by  
opening the QR code. Thank you!



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  
Rev. Kristin Reksc, Youth Ministry Director

Rev. Dr. April Herron, Associate Pastor  
Charles Dickerson, III, Music Director  
Althea Waites, Organist  
Paula Kuno, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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