



“You are not lacking in any spiritual gift
as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

- 1 Corinthians 1:7

December 3, 2023

ROLLING HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310-377-6771

**SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS
8:30 & 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.**

www.rhumc.org

OUR CHURCH AT WORSHIP

December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

8:30 and 10 a.m.

As we gather we hope you will visit quietly with friends.

Please silence cell phones.

*Standing - if comfortable

PRELUDE “Wachet Auf” (Sleepers Awake) – Bach-Busoni Althea Waites

CALL TO WORSHIP *based on Luke 1:46-49*

Leader: Let us proclaim the greatness of God.

People: Let us rejoice in God our Savior.

Leader: The Lord has done great things.

People: And holy is God’s name.

*HYMN “People, Look East” vs 1, 3 & 4 #202

**People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

**Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.**

**Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RENEWAL

Unison: God our Maker, you know how easy it is for us to fall into fear and frustration about the state of our lives and the state of the world. In this time of worship and prayer, strengthen our hearts, center our minds, and quiet our bodies so that we may await a new awareness of your arrival with faith-filled hope. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Mark Roulette

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(sung to tune #408)*

**A star shone bright across the plain
And calmed the earth so love could reign.
‘Twas in a child that hope was born,
A dream fulfilled! O happy morn!**

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH Jonathan Chute

Welcome pads are at the seats closest to the center aisle. Please share your name and other helpful information and pass down the row. Afterward please return to the aisle seat.

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN - Lighting the Candle of Hope

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 flame warm and bright,
A candle of hope in a winter's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

ANTHEM *"Waiting"* – Joel Rainey Chancel Choir

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION Jonathan Chute

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

- Mark 13:24-37 Jesus encourages alertness Mark Roulette Pg. 61, New Testament

SERMON *"While We Wait"* April Herron

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Jonathan Chute

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.

BLESSING AND SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

8:30 – Marianne Hagiya

10:00 – Meredith Capulong

HYMN

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” vs 1 & 3

#203

**Hail to the Lord’s Anointed, great David’s greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
To take away transgression, and the rule in equity.**

**He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
And righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.**

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

“Toccata in D Minor” – Torelli

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. Kristin Sutrave, Youth Ministry Director
Charles Dickerson, III, Music Director
Paula Kuno, 3rd Service Music
Myra Ghabrial, Preschool Director
Peggy Roulette, Church Office Administrator
Wade Welch, Treasurer

Rev. Dr. April Herron, Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. Martha Rowlett, Senior Pastor Emeritus
Althea Waites, Organist
Debra DeLuca, Children’s Ministry Director
Gabby Palacios, Kid Zone/Mid Zone Director
Catherine Dingman, Executive Assistant
& Finance Manager
Miguel Portillo, Custodian