



“Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see:
the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed,
the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.’”

- Matthew 11:4-5

December 14, 2025

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 14, 2025

Third 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 *"Come, Savior of the Nations" – Bach-Busoni* Althea Waites

INTROIT *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* Joyful Ringers

*CALL TO WORSHIP *adapted from Luke 1:46-55*

Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

People: For God has scattered the proud in the imaginations of their hearts.

Leader: The Lord has brought down the powerful from their thrones

People: And lifted up the lowly.

Leader: God has filled the hungry with good things

People: And sent the rich away empty.

Leader: The Lord has given hope to the people, remembering to show mercy,

People: According to the promise God made to our ancestors.

*HYMN *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* #211

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RENEWAL

Unison: Almighty God, you caused light to shine in our darkness in the advent of Jesus Christ; in him you open to us the way of salvation. We confess our reluctance to see the light and walk in your ways. We have not always opened our eyes to the needs of others, and our feet have wandered from the paths of peace. Let the Spirit of Christ be born anew in us, that our hearts may be stirred to glorify him in compassion and service. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Michele Nelson

*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

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

THE CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM (10 a.m.)

Congregational Response: With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround you with a community of love and forgiveness, that you may grow in God, and be found faithful in your service to others. We will pray for you, that you may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN - Lighting the Candle of Joy

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 joy,
A candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy;
Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow
As joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.**

ANTHEM

"Every Valley" – Patti Drennan

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

Matthew 11:2-11

John's disciples question Jesus

Michele Nelson
Pg. 13, New Testament

SERMON

"Evidence of Christmas"

Jonathan Chute

*HYMN

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

#384

**Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.**

**Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**

***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

"In Dulce Jubilo" – Waltham

Althea Waites

We celebrate the baptisms of Matilda Youngsoo Lee and Eloise James Sooyun Lee. Tilly and Elsie are the daughters of Andy Lee and Laura Brown, and have been worshipping with us for several months. We rejoice with their family and friends as we celebrate God's grace on this special day.

Important year-end note! To have your gifts count toward 2025 please be sure they are received or postmarked by December 31. Thank you for your generosity as we bring this remarkable year to a strong finish.



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 Director
Michele Nelson, Executive Assistant
Catherine Dingman, Business Manager
Miguel Portillo, Custodian