



*“Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist,
and his food was locusts and wild honey.”*

- Matthew 3:4

December 7, 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 7, 2025

Second 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

"Sleepers Awake" – Bach-Busoni

Althea Waites

*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 72

Leader: Give to the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son.

People: May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

Leader: May he defend the cause of the poor, and give deliverance to the needy.

People: May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon shines forth.

Leader: May he be like rain that falls on the grass, like showers that water the earth.

People: In his days may righteousness flourish, and peace abound.

*HYMN

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

#196

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RENEWAL

Unison: Loving God, so often we lose sight of you in our busy days. Forgive us for being driven by our schedules, rather than following where you lead. Help us to let go of needless worry. Give us patience as we await your coming. Forgive us when we fail to see the needs of our neighbors, and help us to move toward one another in love. Open our hearts, that we might receive the new life and hope which you offer us in your Son, Jesus. In his name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Merrietta Fong

*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 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” – Benjamin 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

- Matthew 3:1-12

The message of John the Baptist

Merrietta Fong

Pg. 3, New Testament

SERMON

“Blast from the Past”

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.

BLESSING AND SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

8: 30 – Chris Larson

10:00 – Heather White

*HYMN

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

#218

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 prophets 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 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 G Major" – J. S. Bach

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