



Order of Worship

December 15, 2024 ~ 10:00 am
Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome

We are delighted that you have joined us for worship this morning.
Hymnals and Bibles may be found under the pew in front of you.
The asterisk (*) in the order of worship indicates
when the congregation may stand.

Mission

Pilgrim Congregational Church is an independent community of Christian faith, which glorifies God through worship and service to others, respects individual spiritual growth, and inspires compassionate fellowship.

Vision

Pilgrim is the spiritual home of our community where all people are welcomed, known, and loved.

600 N. Garey Avenue | Pomona, California 91767 | Call 909-622-1373
www.pilgrimchurchpomona.com

Prelude “What Child Is This?/Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child” Mary McDonald
 “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” Mary McDonald
 Susan Winckler, organist

Hymn #249* “There’s a Song in the Air” CHRISTMAS SONG

Welcome Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn

Parish Concerns Dr. Horn

Call to Worship Dr. Horn

Introit "O Worship the Lord" Dale Grotenhuis

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
 Bow down before Him, all the earth.
 Ascribe to the Lord all Honor and majesty.
 Give God the glory due His name.
 Strength and joy are in this place.

Invocation* Mr. Arthur Truman
 O God of the exiles and the lost, you promise restoration and wholeness through the power of Jesus Christ. Give us faith to live joyfully, sustained by Your promises as we eagerly await the day when they will be fulfilled for all the world to see, through the coming of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Gloria Patri*
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Lesson One Zephaniah 3:14-20 Mr. Truman
¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!¹⁵The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather

** indicates when the congregation may stand*

Lesson One (continued)

you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord. (*New Revised Standard Version*)

The Lighting of the Candle of Joy –

Daniel and Julie McCormick, Charlie, Harrison, William, Keaton, and Remington

(The youth are invited to attend Sunday School following the Lord's Prayer.) Dr. Horn

The Lord's Prayer

Mr. Truman

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Anthem

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Dan Forrest

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly, sweetly through the night
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brief delight

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing,
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?

Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer

Dr. Horn

Prayer Response

“May the God of Hope”

Dale Grotenuis

May the God of hope now fill us with all joy and peace.

Offering

Dr. Horn

** indicates when the congregation may stand*

Offertory Solo

“And Can It Be?”

Dan Forrest

Jeremy Taylor, baritone

And can it be that I should gain
 An interest in the Savior’s blood?
 Died He for me, who caused His pain
 For me, who Him to death pursued?
 Amazing love! How can it be,
 That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

For O my God, it found out me!
 ’Tis mercy all, immense and free,
 For O my God, it found out me!
 No condemnation now I dread;
 Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
 Alive in Him, my living Head,
 And clothed in righteousness divine,
 Bold I approach th’eternal throne,
 And claim the crown, through Christ
 my own.

He left His Father’s throne above
 So free, so infinite His grace
 Emptied Himself of all but love,
 And bled for Adam’s helpless race:
 ’Tis mercy all, immense and free,

Doxology Hymn and Dedicatory Prayer *

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below,
 Praise God above ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Hymn #229*

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

W ZLOBIE LEZY

Lesson Two

Luke 3:7-18

Mr. Truman

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am

** indicates when the congregation may stand*

Lesson Two (continued)

not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

(New Revised Standard Version)

Sermon

“The Anointed One”

Dr. Horn

Hymn #248*

“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”

PERSONENT HODIE

Benediction*

Dr. Horn

Congregational Response*

“God Be with You”

Hymn #672

God be with you till we meet again, By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

“God Rest Ye Merry, Guys”

arr. Bruce Jones

Bruce Jones, organist

** indicates when the congregation may stand*



*Third Sunday
of Advent*

*Thank you for joining us today for worship service!
Please join us for fellowship following the service.*

Today's Theme: Jesus the Messiah

Color: Purple

Organists: Susan Winckler and Bruce Jones

Videographer: Bill Parnell and Andrew Olson

Flower Dedications: This morning's flowers are lovingly provided by:
Janet Beech: "Pilgrim – my second family!"

Boutonnieres: Our Boutonnieres for December: "Happy Holidays" to Everyone who worships at Pilgrim Congregational Church during this holiday season."

Liturgical Notes by Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn: Purple was originally associated with royalty because it was a more expensive color to dye, and it was used to welcome the coming of a king. It also evokes pain and suffering. Purple symbolizes fasting, faith, patience, and trust. It is the liturgical color used during the seasons of penance, Advent, and Lent. For Advent, purple symbolizes the impending birth of Jesus while foreshadowing his death.

Meeting & Event Reminders

Today

10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Christmas Market Place

11:30 am, Meeting Sunday

Noon, CREW Meeting

Tuesday, December 17th

5:00 pm, Dress Rehearsal for Pageant

5:45 pm, Twilight Bible Study

Wednesday, December 18th

6:30 pm, Christmas Dinner and Pageant

Thursday, December 19th

Hand in Hand Distribution Day

10:00 am, Joyful Endeavors

Friday, December 20th

11:30am, Staff Christmas Party

(our office will be closed after 11:30am)

Sunday, December 22nd

11:30 am, Board of Trustees Meeting

Pilgrim Congregational Church...
where you are welcomed, known, and loved.