



ST. JOHN'S

St. John's exists as a new family to embody God's reality & hope in our world.

A D V E N T

10^{am} December 14, 2008

We welcome you to discover and experience God's presence as you choose.

CELEBRATION

OPEN	"Praeludium Pastorale" by Stainer	Cyril Deaconoff
WELCOME & SILENCE		John Anderson
CANDLE LIGHTING	<p>one: The Advent season encourages us to be joyful always; to pray continually and give thanks in all circumstances; this is God's will promised to us in Jesus Christ.</p> <p><i>all: We light the candle of hope to proclaim that God's light is coming into the world.</i></p> <p>one: We light the candle of peace to proclaim that the Prince of peace is coming to us heralded by the angels' message of peace and goodwill to all.</p> <p><i>all: We light the candle of joy to proclaim that God came into the world to share our common humanity.</i></p> <p>one: We rejoice that 'humanity' embraces people of diverse cultures - from every background. Our great joy is that God chose to share all of humanity.</p>	
SING*	(*please stand as able) "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?" vv. all	blue book 11
PRAY	<p>one: We give thanks, O God, that you are unchanging, that your concern for justice and righteousness was so strong that you came in human form to share that concern with us in person. We admit that too often we hesitate to speak or act when we see people being treated unjustly.</p> <p><i>all: Forgive us for when we have been happy to hear the gospel without truly living it. Forgive us for uncaring attitudes. Help us base another person's worth on who they are - people made in your image.</i></p> <p>one: Forgive us when our longing to live simply and with humility is defeated by selfish desires - for pursuing profits before seeking your will.</p> <p><i>all: Forgive us for placing our hope in other than the Christ-child born in a poor stable. Our hope lies in the promise of your mercy. Heal, restore and bless us, we pray, for the sake of Jesus Christ.</i> <i>(silent accepting of God's grace)</i></p>	Theresa Cho

one: Amen. May the God of peace cleanse us thoroughly. The promise is that our whole being - spirit, soul and body will be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thessalonians 5.23) Rejoice and give thanks as we receive forgiveness and healing in Christ's name.

all: *Thank God! We hear and believe the good news that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven, reconciled and empowered to begin again.*

AFFIRM*

*Jesus, your joy is living within us.
Let not my doubts & my darkness speak to me.
Jesus, your joy is living within us.
Let my heart always welcome your love.*

GREET*

(Share a greeting of peace, comfortable for you.)

COMMUNITY

LISTEN

(The Lord of the language is also the Lord of our listening.)
Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11 (p. 1157) Psalm 126 (p. 967)
1 Thessalonians 5.16-24 (p. 1841) John 1.6-8, 19-28 (p. 1646)

ENGAGE

Choral Christmas Program

Karen Irwin
& choir

(see insert)

COMMITMENT

SING*

"Still, Still, Still" vv. all

PRAY

(ecumenical version - or use a version or language you prefer)
Our Father in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

blue book 47

SHARE LIVES
& GIFTS

(Please pass the clipboard. Guests may share as well.)
"Andantino" by Scharwenka

AFFIRM*

*Praise the Lord the world's Creator;
Praise our truth and hope, the Son;
Praise the ever roving Spirit,
Pulse of life and love for everyone.*

DEDICATE*

God of all righteousness, bless these gifts, and all our giving, we pray. Anoint and empower us with your Spirit to reveal your love as clearly as Jesus did, by binding up the brokenhearted, proclaiming the good news of justice and peace, and releasing those who are oppressed in any way. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

Cindy Harris

KIDS

COMPASSION

SING*

"Jesus Comes with Clouds" vv. all

blue book 6

SEND & BLESS*

(You're invited for conversation & caffeine in the back.)

CLOSE

"Glory Be to God" by J.S.Bach

T O D A Y

COFFEE/TEA - You may indulge before, during & after worship. You're also welcome to share in the snacks.

GUESTS - We welcome you to this family of faith. As your hosts we love your questions & comments.

OUR KIDS - may wander or color at the table at left front. Animals & books in back are for restless parents.

LIGHTHOUSE - is our nursery for kids 0-4 located in the chapel on left, front.

LITTLE MARINERS - is Sunday School class for ages 2-4, offered 1st Sun of the month, downstairs.

A.R.K. (All Remarkable Kids) - kids K - 5th grade, downstairs in Fellowship Hall.

FAITH NAVIGATORS - gr 6-8 in Fireside Rm, thru sanctuary & left. They break today, 12/21, 28 & 1/4.

LISTENING DEVICES - Are for hearing impaired, or for parents with kids in *The Lighthouse*, to listen to worship.

NAME TAGS - Help others remember your name. Indicate on the clipboard if you wish one made for you.

PARKING - Guests may Dble-park on Lake St. (DPT ticket if cars blocked) & free @ St Anne's Home, 3rd & Lake.

RESTROOMS - Behind the sanctuary on both levels (upper level is fully accessible & has changing table).

THE EAGLE - Getting the Eagle newsletter? It's in back & on our website. Request to get it, on the clipboard.

WELCOME - If you'd like to help welcome others, bring snacks or tidy after fellowship, any Sunday, please indicate that on the clipboard as it's passed. Please place clipboard pages in the offering basket. Thanks.

LIVING OUR VISION

OUR COMMITMENT is to passionately follow Jesus.

COMMITMENT CLASS - Explore what it means to take a step in a journey of commitment to Christ & being a part of St. John's as your spiritual home. Indicate any interest on the clipboard or call/email a pastor & we'll let you know of the next class. Childcare available upon request.

FAITH on TAP - At The Bitter End pub (441 Clement, btw 5th & 6th Av) December 17 (each 3rd Wednesday, 6³⁰-7^{30pm}) No faith required, but curiosity to explore with your own integrity. See pastor John or just show up.

GIVING - envelope boxes for all, in back of sanctuary, or use secure eGive @ our home page, stjohssf.org

OUR COMMUNITY is empowered by the Holy Spirit.

COMMUNITY CLASS - Explore growth in study, prayer, giving & fellowship. Monday, February 2, 7-8^{pm}, in Library. Please confirm with pastor John by 10^{am} of class day. Child care available by request.

MEN'S BREAKFAST - Every 1st Saturday, 8-9^{am}, @ Lucky Penny, Geary/Masonic Call: John Lenox 752 1365.

STUDY GROUP - Thursdays, 7-8.^{30pm}. Contact pastor Theresa for info on the next series starting in January.

PASTORAL CARE - Pastors are available for questions, care & short-term counseling. Feel free to contact them.

FACEBOOK - Check out the St. John's community through our website homepage, link up & be part of it.

OUR COMPASSION embodies the peace & justice of God.

COMPASSION CLASS - Discover gifts, talents & passions - your compassion. Monday, January 5, 7-8^{pm}, in Library. Please confirm with pastor John by 10^{am} of class day. Child care available upon request.

HAYES HOME - Worship with residents, 2-2^{45pm}, 1250 Hayes St. (3rd Sundays). Info: David Miller, 673 4810.

HARVEST - Saturdays, 7⁴⁵-9^{45am}. Come share food with our hungry neighbors. Info: dalewalker@aol.com

ST. JOHN'S CINEMA - Thurs., Jan. 8, 7-8^{45pm}, 4 Little Girls The story of the '63 church bombing & killing of 4 girls - a pivotal civil rights moment. Invite friends - free. (Views aren't necessarily of St. John's or members.)

OUR GIFTS - 10+% of our income is for others. Some recipients shown on back bulletin board.

What's New!

YOUTH - 1st Saturdays, Harvest, 7⁴⁵-9^{45am}, help give out food - invite friends, join us for cocoa & donuts. See Evelyn, Eric & Iain.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - To approve pastoral terms of call & any other business on Sunday, Dec. 21, 9.45am, before worship.

PHOTO DIRECTORY - photos of members & friends ½ hr before & after worship, this month in the Fireside Rm, by Eric Guarisco, 931-9998 eric-sf@pacbell.net if needed, or - to help.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PAGEANT - Next Sunday worship, Dec. 21, all are welcome to dress up, be part of our nativity scene & sing.

TENDERLOIN CAROLING - Sunday, Dec. 21, 4.30 ^{pm} 555 Ellis St.

CHRISTMAS EVE - 4.30 ^{pm} Kids & Families, 7 ^{pm} Lessons & Carols

7^{pm} CHRISTMAS EVE READERS - Sign up to read on the clipboard.

SNO TRIP - Feb 6-8 at Zephyr Point Conference Center in Lake Tahoe. 7 rooms left. Contact Leslie Bacho, lbacho@sffb.org.

ISRAEL/PALESTINE - Come plant olive trees, hear voices of justice, pray in Jesus' places & reflect on peace. February 3-19, '09, led by pastor John & Nancy. Cost: \$2750, fundraising available.

DONATE OLIVE TREES - Honor someone by planting a tree (\$20 each) in Bethlehem See back display & purchase Palestinian olive oil.

more info @ stjohssf.org

**ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PC (U.S.A.)**

Ministers all members

Choral Director Karen Irwin

kcirwin@stjohssf.org

Organist Cyril Deaconoff

cdeaconoff@stjohssf.org

Coordinator of Ministries

Susie Moore: smoore@stjohssf.org

Seminary Intern Cindy Harris

cindyleigh15@yahoo.com

Pastors

John Anderson: janderson@stjohssf.org

Theresa Cho: tcho@stjohssf.org

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