



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 21, 2008

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

C E L E B R A T I O N

OPEN	"Pastorale on Resignation" (from Southern Harmony, arr. Johnson)	Cyril Deaconoff
	"Sing Out Earth and Skies"	Karen Irwin & choir
WELCOME & SILENCE		Theresa Cho
CANDLE LIGHTING	<p>one: The season of Advent continues. Today we light the candle of love. all: <i>No other word so completely describes what we know of our God.</i> one: For God so loved the world that a child was given....Love incarnate. all: <i>We light the candle of hope to proclaim that God's light is coming into the world.</i> one: We light the candle of peace to proclaim that the Prince of peace is coming to us heralded by the angels' song of peace and goodwill to all. all: <i>We light the candle of joy to proclaim that God came into the world to share our common humanity.</i> one: We light the candle of love to proclaim that God's love is revealed in the Child born in Bethlehem, and that we are challenged to proclaim and reveal that same love in all we do and say and are. We give thanks for a love that passes our human understanding, and we await the birth of God's enduring love once more this Christmas season.</p>	John Anderson
SING*	(*please stand as able) "Comfort, Comfort You My People" vv. all	blue book 3
PRAY	<p>one: No words can completely describe what we know of our God. For God so loved the world that a child was given. We proclaim that God's love is revealed in the Child born in Bethlehem, and that we are called to proclaim and reveal that same love in all we do and say. all: <i>It isn't easy to be loving all the time. Forgive us and empower us with your Spirit to proclaim your love to those who are close to us and to those who at this time feel rejected, unwanted, and lonely – especially those for whom this season is a time of sadness.</i> <i>(silent accepting of God's grace)</i></p>	Cindy Harris

one: Amen. God's steadfast love was established forever. (Psalm 89.1,2) The evidence of that love is found in Jesus Christ "not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

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

GREET*

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

CHOIR

"We'll Dress The House" by Alfred Burt

COMMUNITY

LISTEN

(The Lord of the language is also the Lord of our listening.)
2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16 (p. 480) Psalm 89.1-4, 19-26 (p. 926)
Romans 16.25-27 (p. 1769) Luke 1.26-38 (p. 1588)

ENGAGE

"Tobias' Story"
(See enclosure - children and adults are invited to participate in the program.)

Shaw Lenox,
narrator

COMMITMENT

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

SHARE LIVES
& GIFTS

(Please pass the clipboard. Guests may share as well.)
"Adagio" by Lefebure-Wely

AFFIRM*

Praise the Lord the world's Cre - a - tor
Praise our truth and hope, the Son;
Praise the ev - er rov - ing Spir - it,
Pulse of life and love for ev - 'ry — one.

DEDICATE*

Gracious God, whose glory angels sang when Christ was born. We offer these gifts with joy and in humility and we pray that you will prepare us once more to hear the good news of his coming, that hearing, we may believe, and so live praising and glorifying his name – Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME*

God invites us to commit ourselves to live with you in community, empowered by the Spirit. We desire that all of us, united in faith, may grow into the likeness of Jesus Christ, being faithful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge, faithfulness and compassion of our Lord.

BAPTIZE
WELCOME*

We commit ourselves to these parents as they lead this child in the way of Jesus Christ. We offer ourselves for support and encouragement, with our prayers and lives of service, striving to build a community, nurtured by God's Spirit. We promise to do this with God's strength.

COMPASSION

SING* "People Look East" vv. 1, 4, 5 blue book 12

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

CLOSE "Trumpet Voluntary" by Heron

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, 12/28 & 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 today, 9.45am, today.

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

FAMILY PAGEANT - TODAY in worship, all are welcome to dress up & be a part of our nativity scene.

TENDERLOIN CAROLING - Today, 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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