



ST. JOHN'S

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

SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

10^{am} December 28, 2008

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

CELEBRATION

OPEN	<p>"In Quite Joy" by Langlais</p> <p>"On This Day Earth Shall Ring"</p>	<p>Cyril Deaconoff</p> <p>Karen Irwin & choir</p>
WELCOME & SILENCE		Theresa Cho
SING*	<p>(*please stand as able) "O Come All Ye Faithful" vv. all</p>	blue book 41
PRAY	<p>one: How can we help shouting for joy, O Lord, in this wonderful season, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus - how can we resist bursting into joyful song? all: <i>Let our worship be an expression of our joy, and our desire to live lives in harmony with your world, with one another and with the One whose birth we celebrate, our Lord Jesus Christ.</i> <i>(silent offering of gratitude)</i></p> <p>one: What is it with you, holy God? What caused you to seek us out from the inside of life, as truly one of us, through your Son born in the stable at Bethlehem? What is it with you except love; the most holy, unspeakable love; a love that arrives to seek and save the lost, no matter the cost. all: <i>God of incarnate love, we who are often confused, frustrated and rebellious come to your saving love this Christmas. We seek your forgiveness on each of us and on this tumultuous world.</i></p> <p>one: Loving God, we admit to each other and to you: We are far from fulfilling our Christmas hope - far from fairness and justice in distributing our riches - far away from peace; in our hearts, our relationships and with the world. all: <i>We are far from that good will that builds up communities and families - far from a spiritual graciousness where all are valued and respected. Savior, by the mighty, humble grace of your incarnation, continue to seek us all. Cut down our pride, pity our wanderings and forgive our unloving ways. May your light lead us to your liberation and healing, through Jesus, the very Child of God.</i> <i>(silent accepting of God's grace)</i></p> <p>one: Amen! Sisters and brothers: "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will</p>	Cindy Harris

save his people from sin." Be set free, receive peace and may your hearts be lifted with thanksgiving and joy. The peace of our Savior Jesus, is always with you!

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

"What Do You Bring?" by Katherine K. Davis

COMMUNITY

LISTEN

(The Lord of the language is also the Lord of our listening.)
Isaiah 9.27 Luke 2.1-20

ENGAGE

Christmas Reflections

SING*

Carol requests

COMMITMENT

PRAY

one: O God, we thank you for the message of love that Christmas brings to a world where hatred and violence is experienced by so many people in so many places. Help us to reveal in our lives the love that Jesus so embodied, the love that Paul wrote about so eloquently - the love ...

all: that is patient and kind; the love that is never envious or boastful, or arrogant or rude; the love that does not insist on its own way, is not irritable or resentful; in all things may we put love first.

one: O God, we thank you for the message of joy that Christmas brings to a world grown used to suffering.

all: We remember in your presence the hungry and homeless children, our brothers and sisters in Christ, who cry out for a word of tenderness, a touch of love, a sign of hope, and help;

one: we remember those for whom this season is clouded by loneliness, anxiety or bereavement. We remember those known and unknown to us, who are victims throughout the world of disaster, war, violence, terrorism, abuse or accident - those who suffer in some way at this time. May they be kept from bitterness and despair as they remember the birth of him who bore our grief, carried our sorrows, yet was born at Bethlehem that all may experience life to the full.

all: O God, thank you for the message that Christmas brings to a world grown self-centered and cynical through greed. Help us remember that Jesus came not to be served but to serve. May we all find true joy and

fulfillment in giving ourselves to others as we remember together the birth of him who came to give himself to us. Give peace among nations; in our homes and in our hearts in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen

SHARE LIVES
& GIFTS

(Please pass the clipboard. Guests may share as well.)

"Andante" by Volckmar

AFFIRM*

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

DEDICATE*

Loving God, receive and bless these gifts which we give in response to the greatest gift of all - your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. May our lives and offerings be used to reveal your love in as many ways and to as many people as possible. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

KIDS

COMPASSION

SING*

"Angels We Have Heard" vv. all

blue book 23

SEND & BLESS*

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

CLOSE

"Short Prelude in C" 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 & 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) January 21 (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.

PHOTO DIRECTORY - Eric Guarisco photographs members & friends 1/2 hr before & after worship in the Fireside Room, today.

Contact him, 931-9998 eric-sf@pacbell.net if needed or to help.

POINSETTIAS - Feel free to take yours home or share with another.

LAY CARE MINISTRY TRAINING - A Lay care minister is trained in Christian care to walk with others dealing with illness, transition, aging, disability or crisis. For participation info: contact pastor John.

INTERACTIVE WORSHIP - January 18 for Epiphany - sanctuary stations invite our imagination in self-guided faith journeys.

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.

YOU! - What ministry effort do you wish to initiate? Talk to a team member or pastor & let's do it!

GO TO YELP.COM - Want to share what's here at St. John's w/ SF?

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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