



November 24, 2019

Today's Worship

In the Christian Year, today is known as **CHRIST THE KING** Sunday when we celebrate Jesus as Lord and sovereign over all the world. As Israel's true king, Jesus revealed a servant identity and used power to liberate, not dominate. We worship his life-giving, transforming rule in heaven and on earth that is without challenge and without end!

As part of today's offering, we present our **2020 PLEDGE** or **ESTIMATE OF GIVING**. Additional pledge forms are available at the Connect Center or you may place it in next Sunday's offering or mail it to the church office.

Next Sunday, December 1

We begin Advent. The **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT** carries a twofold observance of Christ's coming: it closes one year with an expectant hope of Christ's glorious return (the second coming) and commences a new Christian year as we await the birth of Jesus who comes into our world as its savior. This combined sense of waiting and anticipation is reinforced with our observance of the Lord's Supper. In each of the Sundays of Advent, leading up to Christmas, we light candles of the Advent wreath to represent our waiting and the blessings which accompany Christ's coming.

God's redemptive purpose for the world is carried by a covenant promise. The fulfillment of that promise and all that it means for us is realized with the coming of Jesus. Thus we have titled our **ADVENT CHRISTMAS SERMON SERIES**, *The Power of a Promise*. We will explore God's promise of—a new beginning, justice and peace, God with us, and a blessed future.

Next Sunday, December 1, we will gather in Ingram Hall at 4:30 p.m. for our annual **ADVENT WREATH-MAKING FESTIVAL**. Materials for making an advent wreath will be provided for you to decorate a wreath for your home. Suggested donation for these materials (which includes a reusable wrought-iron base) is \$10. We will conclude this event with a brief program and lighting the first candle in our wreaths as a community.

A copy of our **2020 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE** is available at the Connect Center and also on our website.

Alongside you for Christ,

Dale

TODAY @ THE CONNECT CENTER

Sign up for:

- ◆ Advent Wreath Making Festival (12/1)
- ◆ Nomadic Shelter (12/3)
- ◆ Presbyterian Women Annual Christmas Luncheon (12/7)
- ◆ Photo session with Lifetouch (12/9 or 12/10)
- ◆ Rhythm of Life workshop (1/11/20)

Pick up:

- ◆ 2020 Giving Envelope
- ◆ Lost & Found!
- ◆ 2019 Advent & Christmas Schedule
- ◆ Advent Devotional for Youth

Click QR code to read:

- ◆ Newsletter online and 10:30 bulletin online

WE SUPPORT

Financial Assistance for Fire Relief

If your home was or needs to be treated for smoke damage or if you suffered financial loss due evacuation orders during the recent Kincade Fire, please contact any member of the Fire Response Team – Dale Flowers, Frank Gorman, Preston Paull, Linda Maloney, Allie Shoulders, Colleen Soldate, or Emily Stockert – to receive financial assistance. Funds restricted for this purpose are available to help with out-of-pocket expenses.

Per Capita Assessment

If you have not received a monthly envelope packet for donations in the mail, stop by the Connect Center to get one. If you have any questions related to financial giving, please contact Ann Hall, Finance Coordinator at ann@fpcsantarosa.org or 890-8014. All information and communication is strictly confidential.

WE GROW

Advent Wreath Making Festival

Sunday, Dec. 1, 4:30 PM, Ingram Hall
Create an Advent Wreath to mark the four Sundays of the season. This year we are introducing a reusable wreath base. A \$10 donation for supplies can be made the night of the event. As it turns dark, we will light the first Advent candle of each wreath as a community. Optional: Please bring a plate of cookies or fruit to share at the event.

Advent Adult Education

Dec. 1, 8, & 15 - 10:30 AM, Rm 113
Following the Messiah

Our class will use Scripture in conjunction with technology and class discussion to gain a deeper understanding of the birth and childhood of Jesus. We will view online resources about the Holy Land, see the supposed sight of Jesus' birth, and be introduced to the creativity of The Bible Project videos. Discussion leaders will be Jack Swearingen, Nancy Swearingen and Allie Shoulders.

In January, we start a new series entitled *Deciding What Is Best for the Phase of Your Life in 2020*.

WE CELEBRATE

Music Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 8 - 4:30 and 7:00 PM

Join the congregational musicians of First Presbyterian for our annual community Advent/Christmas musical presentation. The format will be the traditional Lessons and Carols service, a choral and handbell musical reflection of the scriptures prophesying the coming of the Messiah and His birth. The program is free to attend and open to all ages.