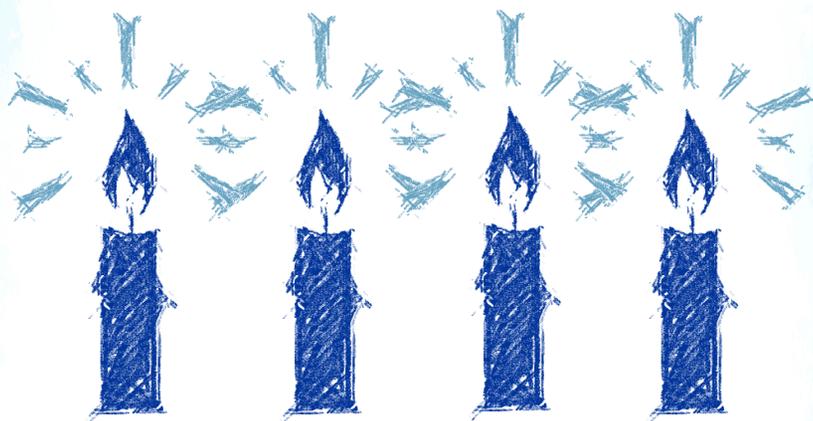


RIDGE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FOURTH OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 19, 2021

“Christmas is built upon a beautiful and intentional paradox; that the birth of the homeless should be celebrated in every home.”

-G.K. Chesterton

Happenings!

A few things to be aware of

Christmas Eve at Shaffer Ranch: Dec. 24th—After a hiatus last year due to Covid, we’re back on for Christmas Eve at the ranch this year! (3882 Keefer Rd.) Join us at 5:30pm for carol singing, scripture readings, food and fellowship. Bring finger foods to share if possible and warm clothes! See you there!

Family Service: Dec. 26th—It’s nearly that time again! As a church we want to continually grow as a worshipping body together and that includes teaching and discipling our children in worship as well! In addition to all of our normal worship elements, we’ll look forward to a Christmas themed children’s moment this Sunday as well, as our kiddoes show-off some of what they’ve been learning! Normal children’s ministry classes will be suspended. Extra wiggly, here we come!

Mask Requirements in Dec/Jan— California has reinstated the requirement for face masks in public, indoor spaces. So we’ll be asking our congregants to mask up during the worship service for the next month. Extra disposable masks can be found at the welcome table in the Sanctuary entryway. Thank you for your kindness and respect towards one another in this season!



Deacon Helpers at Vespers—We continue to look for new faces to help bolster our volunteer teams at our new facility. There’s a particular need for people to help Deacons with setup/greeting/ushering! Let us know if you want more info or are ready to dive in by scanning the code.

How To Find Us Online—Did you know we have a website? An Instagram? A community ListSrv? Church email list? We do! And if you are trying to find ways to be more “in the loop” throughout the week, these are great places to start. Check out ridgepresbyterian.org to find links to YouTube, Instagram, Church email list, and other resources. For the Listsrv, scan the QR code to get added to the group.



Contacting Ridge Presbyterian Church

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Scriptures & Readings

For December 19, 2021

Call to Worship - Adapted from Psalm 98

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
Break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
The world and those who dwell in it!
Let the rivers clap their hands;
Let the hills sing for joy together**

For the LORD has made known his salvation;
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

**All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**

Scripture Reading for Advent: Love - John 3:16-18

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

An Advent Prayer - Fourth Week of Advent

Heavenly Father – Like the Christmas Star that shone above Bethlehem,
Your love shines brightly in the gift of Jesus.

**Thank You for loving this world so much that you would send your
one and only Son.**

As we are reminded in the gospel, the love that entered our world at Christmas is relentless, refusing to abandon your people or let them go

**Let your love shine so brightly, that your people begin to love God
and neighbor with that same relentlessness.**

As we are also reminded in the gospel, the love that entered our world at Christmas is boundless, offered to any who would draw near to you in faith

**Let your love shine so brightly, that revival breaks out in our world
and the multitudes sing the praise of King Jesus.**

As we light the love candle of our advent wreath, we pray together:

Come Lord Jesus. Let your love shine ever brighter. (*Lighting of Candle*)

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.” Amen. (Is. 9:2)

Confession of Faith - Adapted from Philippians 2

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped. Instead, He emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, and was born in our likeness. We believe He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death—even death on a cross. We believe God has highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the Name above every other, that at the Name of Jesus, every knee shall bow—in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. We believe we are called to rejoice in Him, and shine His light, as we daily work out our great Salvation. AMEN.

Preaching of God's Word - Romans 5:1-5

Sermon Title: “Roman Candles: The **LOVE** of Christmas in Romans 5”
Pastor Bryan Laws

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

“This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me...”

Benediction - II Corinthians 13:14

“The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Joy To The World

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing

We will sing joy oh

Joy to the world the Saviour reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy

We will sing joy
We will sing joy
We will sing joy
Joy to the world

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love

CCLI Song # 7095548
Autumn Hardman | Ben Tan | George Frideric Handel | Harrison Wood |
Isaac Watts | Melodie Wagner | Michael Guy Chislett

Who Can Compare To You

Where would I be
If it wasn't for Your kindness toward me
You've been closer than a friend could ever be
There is nothing on the earth
That could take Your place

I am undone
For You see all there was and all that will be
Yet You've set Your vast affection upon me
By Your voice the world was made
And still You called my name

Who can compare to You
Who moves my heart the way You do
Who can compare to You
Who moves my heart the way You do

Kingdoms come and kingdoms fade
But always You remain
Ages pass and seasons change
But always You remain (the same)

CCLI Song # 7030066
Matt Stinton
2014 Bethel Music Publishing

God With Us

Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love
To be nearer to us
You've come to bring life to be Light
To shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Our Deliverer You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over ev'rything our Redemption
God with us
You are God with us

Oh You've come to be Hope to this world
For Your honor and name
And You've come to take sin to bear shame
And to conquer the grave
Oh Emmanuel God with us

You are here
You are holy
We are standing in Your glory (Lord)
(REPEAT)

Oh God with us
You are God with us

CCLI Song # 6460237
Jason Ingram | Leslie Jordan
2012 Open Hands Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)

O Come O Come Emmanuel

O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

O come Thou Dayspring come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

O come Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go

O come Desire of nations bind
All peoples in one heart and mind
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace

CCLI Song # 31982
John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore
Words: Public Domain

Reckless Love

Before I spoke a word You were singing over me
You have been so so good to me
Before I took a breath You breathed Your life in me
You have been so so kind to me

(And) O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God yeah

When I was Your foe still Your love fought for me
You have been so so good to me
When I felt no worth You paid it all for me
You have been so so kind to me

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me

CCLI Song # 7089641
Caleb Culver | Cory Asbury | Ran Jackson
2017 Cory Asbury Publishing (Admin. by Bethel Music Publishing)

Silent Night

Silent night holy night
All is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born

Silent night holy night
Son of God love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord at Thy birth
Jesus Lord at Thy birth

Silent night holy night
Wondrous star lend thy light
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born

CCLI Song # 2684749
John Freeman Young | Joseph Mohr
Public Domain