

### UMCOR Coffee Project

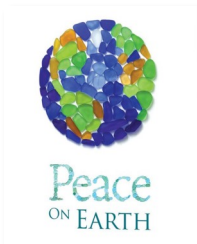
It's the first Sunday of the month, and that means Equal Exchange Fair Trade coffee and chocolate are available for purchase today in the Fellowship Hall.

### Christmas Wreaths

You are invited to contribute \$5 in honor or memory of a loved one to the Christmas wreaths that will adorn our Sanctuary this holiday season. Sign up at worship today or contact the office. The list of honorees will be published in a bulletin insert.

### Alternative Christmas begins today

Our Alternative Giving program gives you the opportunity to donate to a charity and give a card representing that donation to a loved one. This is a gift that honors your loved one while helping others in need. The four Alternative Christmas charities this year are Heifer International, Missionary Katherine Parker, NAMI, and Second Harvest. Online giving is available at [www.aptosumc.org](http://www.aptosumc.org).



**The Tide is in!** Paper copies are available today. The latest issue is always available at [aptosumc.org](http://aptosumc.org) under the 'News & Events' tab.

### Thanks Today to:

Our **Liturgist:** Marion Proffitt

Our **Usher:** Peggy Kaysen

Our **Communion Assistant:** Lee MacDonell

Our **Tech Team:** Carolyn Collins, Roger Swenson

Our **Coffee Volunteer:** Kathleen Hoaglund

### This Week:

Monday, 12/5: PACT 10 AM

Tuesday, 12/6: Alive Now 10 AM

Wednesday, 12/7: Village Santa Cruz County 1:30 PM, Upper Room Group 7 PM

Thursday, 12/8: Senior Stretch 11 AM, Bell Choir Rehearsal 3 PM

Friday, 12/9: Scott Group 10 AM

Sunday, 12/11: **Third Sunday of Advent, Special Offering for FIT**, Worship 10 AM, Blaney Group 11:15 AM

*You are invited to join our **Prayer Team**.*

The Prayer Team receives a weekly email with prayer requests. To **join** the Prayer Team or **submit** a prayer request, contact the church office.

# APTOS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**December 4, 2022 ~ 10 AM Worship**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

*Aptos UMC is an inclusive community that welcomes and encourages full participation of ALL PERSONS, regardless of race, culture, age, economic circumstance, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical/mental abilities. We affirm our denomination's motto, "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"*

## Stand as a Signal

AN ADVENT SONG OF ASCENTS WORSHIP SERIES



**Gabe House, Pastor**

**Daniel Goldsmith, Accompanist**

221 Thunderbird Drive, Aptos, CA 95003  
831-688-2210 [aptosumc.org](http://aptosumc.org) [office@aptosumc.org](mailto:office@aptosumc.org)  
Facebook: [Aptos United Methodist Church](https://www.facebook.com/AptosUnitedMethodistChurch)

## *Order of Worship*

### *Gathering Music*

#### *Call to Worship*

Get ready, people of God! The time of hope and peace is at hand.

**We are called to action rather than reaction.**

Open your hearts to God's word and God's will.

**Help us to be workers for God rather than observers.**

Come, draw near to God in faith.

**Let us prepare our hearts to receive the wondrous gifts of God.**

### *Prelude*

### *Announcements*

### *Passing of the Peace*

*Opening Hymn #216*                    **“Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming”**

#### *Opening Prayer*

**Gracious God, at this time when we busy ourselves in preparation for the festival of giving and parties and the swirl of social events, remind us that the true preparation is the readiness of our hearts to receive you. Help us look again at our lives and turn them around so that they may be in tune with your will. Amen.**

### *Advent Candle Lighting*

Jean Williams, Pat Carr,  
Barbara Coy-Bulicz

### *Children's Time*

#### *Prayer for Illumination*

**Lord, open our hearts and minds, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read, and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

*Scripture*                    Isaiah 11:1-10

*Sermon*                    “Stand as a Signal”                    Pastor Gabe

*Hymn #428*                    **“For the Healing of the Nations”**

### *Concerns and Prayers*

#### *Confession and Pardon*

**Merciful God, we live far too much in darkness and fear. We have let the fears invade the very center of our lives and find ourselves changing, moving from your light to the darkness of despair. Forgive us, we pray. Give us courage and strength to change our lives, that your light and love may become a reality in this world today. Amen.**

#### *Offering*

*Doxology #94*                    **“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

#### *Prayer of Dedication*

#### *The Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right.... ..with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you... ..as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here... ..now and for ever.

**Amen.**

#### *The Lord's Prayer*

#### *Holy Communion*

*Closing Hymn #593*

**“Here I Am, Lord”**

#### *Benediction*

#### *Postlude*

## Isaiah 11:1-10

<sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,

and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

<sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see  
or decide by what his ears hear,

<sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor

and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,

and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist

and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb;

the leopard shall lie down with the kid;  
the calf and the lion will feed together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

## **Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy**

*Reader One:* "They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious" (Isaiah 11:9-10 NRSV).

*Reader Two:* We are the followers of that root of Jesse Isaiah spoke of. We are the ones who are now called to stand as a signal to the world, to all of creation, that peace is the will of the one who created us. Peace is the knowledge of the Lord that we proclaim from sea to shining sea.

*Reader One:* "In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea proclaiming. "Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near." And "bear fruit worthy of repentance" (Matthew 3:1,2, 8 NRSV).

*Reader Two:* We light these candles, the candle of joyful hope and the candle of proclaimed peace, in part to remind ourselves that we are a people rising toward God's promise. But we also light them as a sign to the world, an announcement there are some who hold on to hope and there are some who work the ways of peace. We stand as a sign that Emmanuel is still our fervent prayer.

*Light two candles on the Advent wreath.*