



November 28, 2021 — 09:30 a.m.

First Sunday in Advent

Welcome Home

*Whether this is your first time stepping into this sanctuary or the thousandth,
we celebrate this opportunity to be together with you today.*

*As Christians, we take seriously our call to care for and protect one another, which sometimes
asks us to assume some discomfort to ensure someone else's good.*

*Therefore, we will continue to wear masks in worship at St. Mark's to protect
children under 12 years-old, as well as our neighbors who experience immune deficiencies. We
invite all worshipers, also, to be generous with physical distance from other households and no-
touch greetings while on campus.*

*During this transitional season, we invite families with young children to sit together in wor-
ship. An activity booklet is available for hands that like to stay busy, and more space to wiggle
is available during the service in the Narthex (foyer).*

Words of Meditation: "There is a sense, after all, in which we as Christians live the apocalypse on a daily basis. Amid the destruction and devastation that are ever taking place in the world, Christ beckons us to participate in the ways that he is already seeking to bring redemption and healing for the whole of creation." Jan Richardson

***Prelude**

Faith of Our Fathers

Michael Burkhardt

Welcome and Greetings

Rev. Darin Arntson

***Call to Worship**

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***Introit**

Outburst of Joy

Dale Wood

***Opening Hymn**

Lift Up Your Head, Ye Mighty Gates

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in us reveal.

***Opening Prayer**

**Holy One,
you have promised us that the day of our salvation is near.
Keep us faithful in love and watchful in prayer,
so that we may stand with confidence and joy
at the coming of Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

***Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Ministry in Music

Worthy

Mark Burrows
Cherub Hallelujah Choir

Worthy! I will live a life worthy;
worthy of the calling I have received!
Worthy! I will live a life worthy;
worthy of the calling I have received!
I will be tireless, I will be fearless,
being my best to serve those in need .
Watching and waiting, hearing and helping,
heading the call, heading the call, heading the call,
to go where God leads.
Worthy! I will live a life worthy;
worthy of the calling I have received!

(continued on next page...)

Worthy! I will live a life worthy;
worthy of the calling I have received!
Filled with a passion, filled with a purpose,
Filled with the power of God's love.
Worthy! I will live a life worthy;
worthy of the calling I have received!
Worthy! I will live a life worthy;
worthy of the calling I have received!
Worthy of the call, God calls us all!

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Brian, Susie, Cole and Clay D'Agostino

We light this candle as a symbol of the hope
we have in the promise of the Lord's coming.
For the Lord will fulfill his promise
to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.
A righteous Branch will spring up for David;
and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.
Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

Sung Response

Light a Candle for all to See

Lloyd Larson

Light a candle for all to see.
The king shall come for you and me.
Endless hope Emmanuel.
And with us he shall ever dwell.

First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Rev. Jeri Newell-Davis

Anthem

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Steve Dunn

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That Mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.
O come, O come, Emmanuel.
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, O come, Emmanuel.
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 way to go.
O come, O come, Emmanuel. Shall come to thee, O Israel.
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.
O come, O come, Emmanuel. Rejoice! Emmanuel has come to thee, O Israel!
Rejoice!

Second Reading

Luke 21:25-36

Rev. Darin Arntson

Sermon

In Our End Is Our Beginning

Rev. Darin Arntson

Call to Prayer

Creator of the Stars of Night

Creator of the start of night, thy people's everlasting light,
O Christ, thou Savior of us all, we pray thee, hear us when we call.

At the great name of Jesus now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
and things celestial thee shall own, and things terrestrial, Lord alone.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Jeri Newell-Davis

Time of Silence

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation to Christian Stewardship

Offertory

Es ist ein ros' Entsprungen

Johannes Brahms

***Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God,
in gratitude for all that you have given us,
we bring our tithes, offerings, and labor
to help feed a world hungry for healing and hope;
for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Blessed Be the God of Israel

Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free,
who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.

Now from the house of David a child of grace is given;
a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.
Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise, t
he dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,
to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace;
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

*Benediction

Rev. Darin Arntson

*Benediction Response

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man yet very God, from sin and death now save us, and share our every load.

Postlude

O for a Heart to Praise My God

Healey Willan

*Those seated in the socially distanced section who wish to may exit the sanctuary
through the rear doors during the postlude.
Those who are seated in the non-distanced section are invited to remain seated until the
conclusion of the service.*

Reporting a Positive Test Result - Those who test positive for Covid-19 and have interacted with members of the congregation while presenting, or within 48 hours of presenting symptoms are strongly urged to contact the front office or a pastor within 24 hours of receiving test results. The identity of the individual who tests positive will be kept in confidence, but those who are exposed will be alerted and encouraged to be tested immediately. Thank you for your ongoing support in keeping our community safe.

Percentage of Vaccinated Worship Attendees in November

Nov 7: 83% **Nov 14:** 95% **Nov 21:** 95% **Nov 28:** %

These numbers represent those who have confirmed their vaccination status when registering or checking in. Please be sure, if you are willing to share, that your vaccination has been registered with the greeter next Sunday.

St. Mark’s Calendar At-a-Glance- November 28, 2021 – December 12, 2021

Sunday, November 28

9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship – In-person & online
 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour-Courtyard
 12:00 p.m. Tongan Fellowship

Wednesday, December 1

1:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Jeri - Zoom
 3:00 p.m. Bible Study - New Room
 6:30 p.m. GriefShare Class with Diane Moreno - Zoom
 6:30 p.m. What is Pastor Jeri Reading - Zoom

Thursday, December 2

3:30 p.m. Cherub Choir Resumes!/Zoom
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir - Choir Room

Friday, December 3

10:00 a.m. First Friday Book Club - Joy Lewis’ house

Sunday, December 5- Advent 2

 CCSA December’s food drive begins
 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship - In-Person & Online
 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour - Courtyard
 4:30 p.m. Christmas at St. Mark’s Concert - Sanctuary & Online

Wednesday, December 8

10:00 a.m. UMW Friendship Circle/New Room
 12:30 p.m. UMW Harmony Circle/Sylvia Dismuke’s’ house
 1:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Jeri - Zoom
 3:00 p.m. Bible Study - New Room
 6:30 p.m. GriefShare Class with Diane Moreno - Zoom

Thursday, December 9

12:00 p.m. UMW Faith Circle – Mary Sue Smith’s house
 3:30 p.m. Cherub Choir/Zoom
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir - Choir Room

Saturday, December 11

8:30 a.m. Drive Thru Pancake Breakfast
 2:00 p.m. All ages Advent Event

Sunday, December 12-Advent 3

9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship - In-Person & Online
 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour - Courtyard
 12:00 p.m. Tongan Fellowship

Announcements , November 29, 2021 – December 12, 2021

CCSA Reminders –

- **Holiday Basket Sign-Ups** - CCSA is still looking for sponsors for this year's Holiday Basket program. Drop off registrations with the front office or directly at CCSA.
- **Monthly Food Drive** - Beginning December 5, St. Mark's monthly food drive for CCSA will be returning. Going forward, food will be collected at the worship service the first Sunday of every month. There will be a container in the narthex, as well as one on the patio, in which you can place your food donations. Food should be non-perishable and not past the expiration date.

UMW Announcements –

- **Chrismon Tree**
The United Methodist Women are pleased to provide the Chrismon Tree in the narthex again during this Advent season. The Chrismon's are the needlepoint ornaments on the tree of various Christian symbols. They were made by various members of the United Methodist Women. Please let the office know if you would like a list of the symbols used and their meaning.
- **Storefront Shelter Donations**
St. Mark's provide a meal for homeless teens at the Storefront shelter on the fourth Monday of each month. Because of the pandemic, they can accept only cash to buy food or pre-packaged food. No home cooked meals are accepted, and food providers cannot stay and eat with the teens. Sign-up on the patio after Sunday worship during the month of December to provide meals in 2022. A UMW member will provide more details at that time.

First Friday Book Club - Friday, December 3 at 10 a.m.

The St Mark's First Friday Book Club is currently reading Night of Miracles by Elizabeth Berg. You are invited to join us for fellowship and discussion on Friday, December 3rd at 10am at Joy's place. Contact the church office for more information.

Christmas at St. Mark's Concert - Sunday, December 5, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

Celebrate music of the season as St. Mark's handbells and voice choirs prepare our hearts for Advent and the birth of Jesus. There may be a surprise visit by our toy soldiers. Register at www.stmarksumcsd.org/concert-series. Masks are required. The next Concert will be on December 17 at 7:00 p.m. with performance by SACRA/PROFANA. Visit their website at www.sacraprofana.org. Don't forget to save the date!

Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to order a poinsettia to be placed on the altar, please submit your order no later than December 6. Cost will be the same as last year -- \$8.00 per poinsettia. Your order form and payment can be placed in the offering plate over the next few weeks or mailed to the church office.

Free Drive-Thru Pancake Breakfast – Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Open to the Community! Pancake Volunteers are still needed! If you can help from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., please contact Tim Higgins at 619-549-3805. Thank you in advance!

Save the Date - Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. Stay tuned for more information about an upcoming, family-friendly, fellowship event to celebrate the season together! We anticipate snacks, and crafts, and visions of Christmases past. Keep an eye out for more details soon!

To donate altar flowers for Sunday services there will be a binder located in the Narthex every Sunday, or you can contact the office via email at office@stmarksumcsd.org or call 858.273.1480 to sign up.

To make a donation to St. Mark's UMC visit our website and click on make a donation.

Today's Worship:

Organist	Craig McIlwain
Interim Music Director	Zlatoslav Sokolov
Sound and Video	Andy Guevara, Bob Hout, Robin & Elias Nuspl

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Rev. Darin Arntson, Lead Pastor	darin@stmarksumcsd.org
Rev. Jeri Newell-Davis, Associate Pastor	jeri@stmarksumcsd.org

3502 Clairemont Dr. San Diego, CA 92117 858-273-1480

www.stmarksumcsd.org

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