

# *Baptism Sunday*

## *January 12, 2025*



### *St Andrew's & Unity Lutheran Church*

San Mateo & South San Francisco, CA

[www.unityssf.org](http://www.unityssf.org)

[www.standrews.org](http://www.standrews.org)

## **GATHERING**

**Prelude**

Linda Underwood

**Welcome**

Pastor John Kuehner

**Call to Worship**

Unity Choir and/or Mission Bells

**Gathering Hymn**

*Arise, Your Light Has Come*

*Next Page*

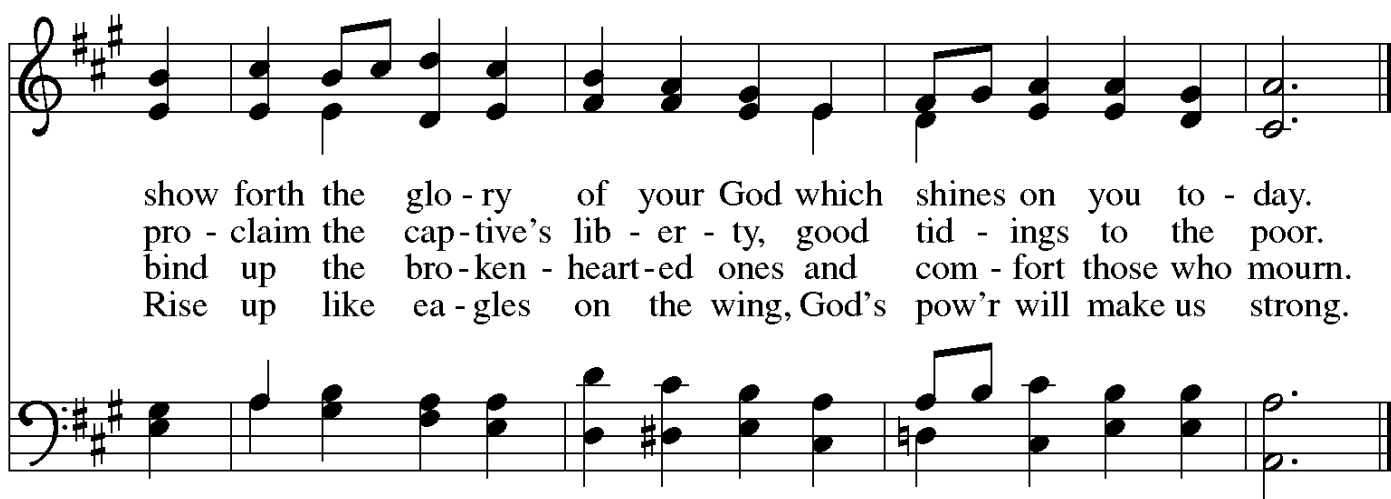
**Apostolic Greeting**

**P:** The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God and the power of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** and also with you.



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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# Hymn of Praise - *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper* ACS 901



1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.  
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.  
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:  
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.  
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!  
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.  
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.  
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.  
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody; arr. hymnal version

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Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed Christ among us. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.. **Amen**

## WORD

### First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

*Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.*

<sup>1</sup> But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine.

<sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

<sup>3</sup> For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

<sup>4</sup> Because you are precious in my sight and honored and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

<sup>5</sup> Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;

<sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—

<sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

## Call and Response Reading: Psalm 29

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup> **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup> **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup> The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup> **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup> O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

## Second Reading: Acts 8:14-17

*Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.*

<sup>14</sup> Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup> The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup> (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in

the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup> Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

### Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.  
Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

### Gospel Verse

P: The Gospel according to Luke

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### Gospel – Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor John Kuehner

Hymn of the Day *Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized* ELW 304

1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spir - it on you  
2 God called you, "My be - lov - ed Son"; you are God's ser - vant  
3 Straight - way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed the  
4 Bap - tize us with your Spir - it, Lord; your cross on us be

came, as peace - ful as a dove, and yet as  
true, sent to pro - claim the reign of heav'n, God's  
call to serve with free and will - ing heart, to  
signed, that like - wise in God's ser - vice we may

ur - gent as a flame, as ur - gent as a flame.  
ho - ly will to do, God's ho - ly will to do.  
give your life for all, to give your life for all.  
per - fect free - dom find, may per - fect free - dom find.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

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## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was  
buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right  
hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living  
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection  
of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Response to each petition*

**A:** God in your mercy,

**C:** **hear our prayer.**

## **Offering Time and Reflection**



# Offertory Response



☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -  
one what God has done. Let all who seek the  
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.  
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and  
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -  
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

## MEAL

### Offertory Prayer

### Holy Communion

P: God be with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: And also with you.

C: We lift them to God.

P: Let us give thanks to our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

# Holy, Holy

see screen



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Institution | *Jesus' Invitation*

### Lord's Prayer

see screen

**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 and ever.  
Amen.**

# SENDING

## Post Communion Prayer

### Blessing

P: The God of love,  
Creator, † Savior, and Sustainer,  
lavish you with grace, illumine your path,  
and increase your joy, today and always.

C: **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**      *Go My Children, with My Blessing*      ELW 543

*(Turn to final page)*

### Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

Linda Underwood

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1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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**Notice: Annual Congregational Meetings**

**On January 26**

**For St. Andrew's and Unity after each worship.**