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OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship, for worship, and for service.
Thanks be to God!

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

THE GOSPEL  Luke 1:46b-55

The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

SERMON  “Where New Life Starts: According to the Promise”

WE RESPOND

INVITATION TO PRAYER

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

“My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its praise. God lifted up my lowliness
In many marvelous ways. My God has done great things for me: yes, holy is this name.
All people will declare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim.”

LISTENING FOR THE VOICE OF GOD

Tricia Guerrero

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

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to the church or drop it into the mail slot of our offices any day of the week. You may also give online at
www.santamonicaumc.org/give, or mail checks through your online banking programs. You may continue to
earmark gifts for our various mission projects. May God grow in us generous and joyful hearts. Thank you.

OFFERTORY

Chancel Choir Quartet:
Barbara Smith, Vera Lugo, William Martinez, Ryan Brown

Who But the Lord? (Craig Courtney)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until
the Son of God appear. Who but the Lord can give the shadows light, can break into the
dark, draw morning from the night? Who but the Lord will hear our cry and answer, “Here
am I”? Who but the Lord makes blinded eyes to see, brings music to the deaf, sets the lonely
captive free? Who but the Lord will by His glory show the paths of peace? O shine on us the
brightness of Your face, to earth’s remotest end, ev’ry people, ev’ry race. O shine on us until
to each is shown Your saving grace. O shine on us! Who but the Lord can give the shadows
light? None but the Lord.

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Larry Wilson

Thanks be to you, O God, maker of heaven and earth—giver of justice, lover
of righteousness, hope of the afflicted, and friend of the poor. Your faithfulness
never fails. Take and use these gifts we offer to further your purpose in the world
and to fulfill the promise of the world to come; through Christ our Lord we pray.
Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

BENEDICTION  Rev. Farris

POSTLUDE  Good King Wenceslas (arr. Robert MacDonald)

Ty Woodward
OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

Dan Nessel, Lay Lector

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SERMON “Where New Life Starts: According to the Promise” Rev. Patricia Farris

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ONLINE Worship • Third Sunday of Advent • December 13, 2020

WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Let us pray without ceasing, giving thanks in all circumstances.
God’s name be praised.

The coming of the Lord is near.
Let us keep joyful hearts. Let us be steadfast, and be faithful and creative, offering all the gifts with which we have been blessed to hold one another through these times. Be sure to check the church website for updates on worship and ministry opportunities: www.santamonicaumc.org.

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Grief and Graces: a sacred space for weary souls - Meets Today
Join Rev. Keri Olsen for a time of reflection, to name the challenges and gifts of this time, listen for God’s invitation, and close with prayer. It is a drop-in group, as needed. All are welcome, invite a friend. Meetings run through January. To register, go to www.santamonicaumc.org/grief-graces-registration. Meets today and Dec 27, 4 p.m. via Zoom or Phone In

December Messy Church via Zoom!
Join us for a Zoom Meet-Up as we will tell the Christmas story together and prepare for the baby Jesus to be born into our hearts this Christmas. All are welcome! We will share Zoom details and coloring pages you can download ahead of time in our Messy Church email. To sign up for the monthly email, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/messychurch or contact Tricia Guerrero (t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org) for more information. Saturday, December 19, 4:30-5:15 p.m. via Zoom

ACT presents: “Christmas Choir” on Facebook Live
(All Community Theater) and Ben Ing present “Christmas Choir,” a hilarious homage to a church choir, whose members are there for just about every other reason than to sing, (in contrast to our outstanding First UMC music program and Chancel Choir which we so look forward to hearing again in person!)
*SATURDAY, December 19, 7 p.m. on First UMC Facebook Live.
*Note date correction. (You may also watch the show anytime after it airs on Facebook - no need to have a Facebook account.)

Alternative Christmas - ONLINE
Alternative Christmas continues on the website until this Tuesday, December 15. Fill out the Giving Form online, then you will receive a receipt via email with your donation. Go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/acfair for more info.

Sunday Zoom Coffee Hour - Special Guest Jocelyn Hicks-Garner
Join Jocelyn Hicks-Garner for the second coffee hour discussing mission projects participating in Alternative Christmas. Today at 11 a.m. All are welcome via Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/957 0989 7528
Zoom ID: 957 0989 7528 Password: fumc

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Christmas Concert 2019
We miss many of our in-person traditions this year, especially our annual Christmas Concert with beautiful music and carols. We are grateful to provide you with a recording of the music from last year’s concert, available on our website. You may click to hear each track, and view the program here: www.santamonicaumc.org/christmas-concert-2019
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First UMC Virtual Sanctuary - Advent
If you’re missing being in the First UMC Sanctuary, we now offer a contemplative video experience of the interior of the Sanctuary beautifully decorated for Advent and Christmas, with organ music provided by Ty Woodward. To view, go to the First UMC YouTube page: www.youtube.com/c/SantaMonicaUMC, look for title “First UMC Virtual Sanctuary 2020."

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