

SONG *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* Page 131

MESSAGE *A Love Story* Pastor Mike Holland

SPECIAL MUSIC *Some Children See Him* Jamie Dann & Brittany Alvidres

A TIME FOR GIVING (Online giving is also an option through churchofthefoothills.org)

Sharing Our Faith Miguel Magaña, Elder

Offertory John Douglas and Jeffrey Segal

Receiving of Gifts (please stand if able)

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks for the Holy One,
Give thanks because God's given so much love to us. (repeat)
(ending) Give Thanks!**

BENEDICTION Pastor Mike Holland

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom Captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Child of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

POSTLUDE John Douglas and Jeffrey Segal

*Anyone desiring to be a disciple of Christ and member of this church
is encouraged to speak to the minister after the service.*

Be sure to place your food or cash donations for Southwest Community Center
in the shopping cart located in the fellowship hall.

You can hear today's service, and download an mp3 file, from our website at:
www.churchofthefoothills.org

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for coffee and refreshments.

Interested in knowing more about "Progressive Christian" faith?
Copies of Dr. Marcus Borg's book, *The Heart of Christianity*, available at the
Welcome Booth (\$10 donation)

**THE FAIR-TRADE CORNER in Fellowship Hall is open TODAY for last minute
shopping**, for coffee, tea, chocolate, olive oil and other items.
Proceeds support indigenous producers around the world.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

For the Whole Family

Monday, December 24, 5:30 PM

Lighting the Christmas Candle

Children's Story

Sacrament of Communion

Sacred Christmas

Closing Candle Circle Outside

Invite family, neighbors and friends!



Matthew 1:18-21, 24

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When Jesus' mother Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph was a righteous person who was unwilling to disgrace her; he planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰This was Joseph's intention when suddenly an angel of God appeared in a dream and said, 'Joseph, heir to the house of David, do not be afraid to wed Mary, it is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived this child. ²¹She will have a son that you are to name Jesus, who will save his people from their sins.' ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of God had directed; he and Mary were wed. ²⁵but he had no marital relations with her until she gave birth; and they named him Jesus. NSRV and the Inclusive Bibles

In Need of Prayers? If you would like to request prayers for yourself or others, please contact the church office at churchoffice@chotf.org or 714-544-1319.

The Use of Inclusive Language

Our church believes the Holy or Divine Spirit can be experienced as both male and female gender. We use inclusive language such as God, Goddess, Creator, Christ, Logos or Sophia to express the universal nature of this Spirit. Sophia (Greek word for Wisdom) is used for Christ in the New Testament.

Our Philosophy of Worship

Recognizing the diversity of personal preferences, taste and interest in the people who worship here at Church of the Foothills, we are committed to a "blended" approach in our service that includes traditional, classical, contemporary, gospel, folk, modern, and other types of music. We hope the richness of the worship experience will enhance the spiritual life and faith of all who participate. Please address any suggestions, questions or concerns to Pastor Mike, the Elders or the Worship Committee. Thank you for participating in our worship service today.

Small Group Ministries provide opportunity to share spiritual fellowship, activities, support and mission projects with others. For more information about the following Small Group Ministries, please contact:

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| Bridge Club | Gloria Wildman |
| Chancel Choir | Tina Peterson |
| Christian Women's Fellowship (CWF) | Lynn Stiegler |
| Family Promise (homeless families with children) | Andy Bartley |
| | Malia Carey |
| Hearts & Minds (compassionate listening) | Suvan Geer |
| Mixed Media (arts, plays, movies) | Kathy Dunlap |
| Monday Night Study Group | Lianne Oakes |
| ONA (LGBTQI) Ministry | Carmen Mercado |
| | Rosadelia Mercado |
| PB&J (Peace, Benevolence & Justice) | Sunny Erickson |
| Sacred Seasons Center & OCICE | Rev. Susan Chamberlain |
| Soup Kitchen (feeding the homeless) | Dan Grisct |

Church of the Foothills offers a host of Ministry Teams opportunities as a way to be involved in church, community and around the world for peace, love and justice. Just complete and turn in the **Passion and Gifts Survey on the table in the Narthex**. Thanks



ORANGE COUNTY ALLIANCE FOR JUST CHANGE
ORANGE COUNTY UNITED WAY
 present
UNITED TO END HOMELESSNESS
 The Faith Community's Role in Moving People to Action

Sunday, January 6th 3-5pm
 St. Mark Presbyterian
 2200 San Joaquin Hills Rd., Newport Beach

RSVPs Encouraged at EventBrite

UPCOMING FORUMS:
 March 3: Why Solving Homelessness Matters to Business
 May 5: Act Local: How OC Elected Officials Can Unite for the Greater Good



email: Director@OCAJC.org

web: OCAJC.org

WELCOME!

We are glad you are with us this morning. Please use the blue Friendship Booklet from the pew rack:

- To include your name, address and phone number
- To get a message to the minister
- To indicate your interest in church membership

If you are a visitor, please take one of the name badges (located in the Friendship Booklet) write your name on it and wear it so that we may recognize you as our guest, greet you by name and extend to you our hand of friendship. Packets for visitors are available outside the sanctuary at the Information Booth and by the board for name tags. **Telex Sound Enhancement receivers are available in the narthex for the convenience of the hearing impaired.**

Infant & Toddler care is offered in the nursery.

Need someone to talk with about life and faith? For pastoral assistance: Pastor Mike is available during office hours of 9-2, M-T-Th; for other times call 714-423-0182. For an Elder, call the church office at 714-544-1319. Peace to you.

Sanctuary is decorated with poinsettias from members & friends.

Greeter: Donna Martin
 Elders for the week: Michelle Linton and Miguel Magaña
 AV Technicians: Justin Underwood, Dean Delgado, María Pérez, Anthony Henderson & Krista Owens
 Digital Recording: Justin Underwood

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES, December 23 -- 29, 2018

Today 12/23
 9:45 AM Morning Worship
 10:00 AM Sunday School - Ages Pre-K through Senior High
 (Nursery available for infants & toddlers)
 11:00 AM Fellowship/Coffee time - Fellowship Hall (remember to bring goodies to share during the month of your birthday!)

Mon. 12/24 SUNDAY BULLETIN AND WEEKLY E-REMINDER ARTICLES DUE

Tues. 12/25 5:30 PM Christmas Eve Service -- Sanctuary
CHRISTMAS DAY – Church Office Closed

Wed. 12/26 CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 11 AM
 10:00 AM CWF, Fireside Room

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Church of the Foothills

United Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ
 An Open and Affirming Congregation

19211 Dodge Avenue, Santa Ana, California 92705, (714) 544-1319, Fax (714) 573-7722

Website: www.churchofthefoothills.org E-mail: churchoffice@chotf.org

Ministry Opportunities



'Tis the Giving Season

Wrapped gifts and cards are due today. Volunteers needed to help with delivery of gifts & cards, see Susan Richardson or Sunny Erickson.



FAMILY PROMISE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES THIS MONTH:

- 1) Sign up to bring meals for the last two weeks of December.
- 2) Provide SCRIP that will be given to the families - Target is best. It will be used for shoes, uniforms, school supplies, etc. See Malia Cary and Andy Bartley, Family Promise Coordinators, after church. Thanks so much!

2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN to Date: \$178,951.25; Giving Goal is \$240,000. Estimate of Giving Cards in Narthex. Place in offering plate, or mail to church office.

LAST DAY TO UPDATE CHURCH DIRECTORY of Members & Friends for 2019.

An email with the current directory was emailed to everyone recently. A paper copy is also available in the Fellowship Hall. Please look over your information and make any needed changes, corrections, updates. You also can notify the church office: churchoffice@chotf.org. Send a picture of you or your family too and it will be included in the new directory as well!



Last Chance to Shop for SCRIP Gift Cards before Christmas! during Fellowship time today. You can give the SCRIP cards as last minute gifts or stocking stuffers. And since a percentage of SCRIP comes back to Church of the Foothills, you are also contributing to a balanced budget with your purchase.

YOUNG ADULT OPPORTUNITY (21-30 years old). The National Benevolent Association (NBA) of the Christian Church (DOC) is now receiving applications for the **XPLOR 2019-20 program** year. XPLOR provides young adults opportunity to deepen their spiritual life, develop professional skills, and practice vocational discernment while working with churches and community organizations. Youth serve 10 months in cities across America in partnership with DOC churches and regions. Info and Applications can be found online at: www.nbaca.org/xplor See Pastor Mike for more information.

Pastor Mike will be on vacation December 26 to January 2. For pastor assistance, contact Rev. Kel Henderson, 714-465-6991, pastorkelhenderson@gmail.com.