

Whether you come as a searcher, stranger, faithful member or friend, your presence expands our faith community and enriches the fellowship of this church. We welcome you in friendship and in faith. We care for you in spirit and in deed, through Jesus Christ, the foundation of our faith and our window upon spiritual life.

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December 30, 2018      First Sunday after Christmas      9:45 AM

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*As a courtesy to other worshippers, please turn your cell phones off or to vibrate.  
Please do not take or post pictures and videos to media sites without permission first.  
Thank you.*

**PRELUDE**      John Douglas

**SHARING OF OUR FELLOWSHIP**      Stephanie Brown, President

**INTROIT**      *Good King Wenceslas*      John Douglas  
Traditional Carol  
By Fred Bock

**CALL TO WORSHIP**      Michelle Linton, Liturgist

One: Inspired by feelings of love, strength and unity we are drawn to gather together and be filled with God's Spirit.

**Many: We gather to worship, to listen, to give thanks and to be comforted by God's grace.**

One: May God the World Maker be in our heads and in our understandings as we journey forward along our spiritual paths.

**Many: May the Divine Goddess be in our eyes and our looking so that we may see and appreciate all of life's many blessings.**

One: May Jesus the Peace Maker be in our hearts and in our thinking when we are confronted with life's difficulties and complications.

**Many: Let us welcome the New Year by celebrating the fullness of life and the joys of our faith by embracing and giving thanks for the constant and loving Divine presence in our lives.**

**Prayer: O God, in the hallowed atmosphere of this day, we turn to the future without fear and welcome all the New Year may bring; secrets we may not know, but whose goodness we cannot doubt. With high hopes and renewed faith, we commit to following the light of Christ, knowing that when we walk with Thee, life is a grand adventure. Amen.**

**OPENING SONG** (please stand if able) *Go Tell It on the Mountain*      Page 154

Please greet those around you after this song, and then be seated. Thank you.

## WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Kel Henderson

*Please sign the blue Fellowship Tablet at this time, pass it to the person next to you and return it to the center aisle when everyone has signed. We invite guests to share addresses and phone #s.*

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Waving Through a Window*

Jamie Dann

## CHILDREN & YOUTH MOMENT with Rev. Kel Henderson

**CHURCH SCHOOL**      Children and youth are excused to Sunday School

**Go, our children, with our blessing, God's light to be. Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here the Spirit's power filled you, here with tender comfort stilled you. Go, our children, with our blessing, God's light to be.**

## MORNING PRAYERS

### Sharing Joys & Concerns

The Congregation

***Cards are available in the pew racks; please fill out and place in offering plate.***

Joan Kaul for Kelly & family, Susan & Larry, Dave & family, Tom & Jacky, Janet, Margaret, Lian, Kathy, Mike, Jan & Ellsworth Family. Susan Richardson for cousin Becky & Calvin Scott & family, cousin Beverly after losing husband Jerry, cousin Vicki for the care needed for my aunt & uncle. Carol Wilson for Clara & her parents. Debbie Hollister. Denise Womack for my mom. Dale & Arlene Post for Eileen Halcrof. Suvan Geer for friends Connie, Pam, Anne. Thanya McClaskey for family, friends, those in Mexico, those who live in poverty globally, & my classmate who recently got in a car accident. Coach Bob Goodrich for family of Joe Rutschke (age 19) killed in a motorcycle accident; Joe was my football player at Foothill High School.

### Quiet Meditation

### Pastoral Prayer

#### The Lord's Prayer Gnostic Version

Our Father and Mother God, You are within us all, and You make all things holy and united, as You are holy and united, one God living and true. Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, which is love to all that lives in the heavens and on the earth. Give us this day our daily bread, and let us give our daily bread to those who have none; and heal our broken spirits, as we heal and forgive others. And lead us, through the darkness of Your mystical love, to the light of the Christ, Amen.

## READING

Matthew 14:22-23

Page 3 of Insert

**MESSAGE**

*Don't Wear Fear*

Rev. Kel Henderson

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

Sharing Our Faith

Rev. Nancy Brink, Elder

Offertory

*All Is Well*

John Douglas

By Michael W. Smith

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**

Rev. Kel Henderson

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;  
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. (Repeat)*

**POSTLUDE**

John Douglas

*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.

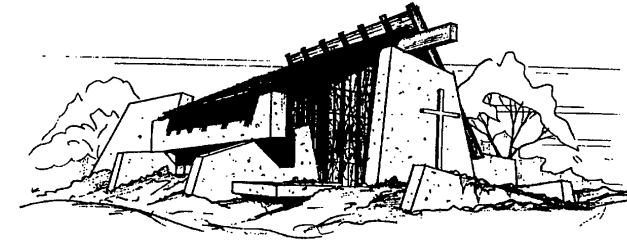
You can hear today's service, and download an mp3 file, from our website at: [www.churchofthefoothills.org](http://www.churchofthefoothills.org)

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)

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**THE FAIR-TRADE CORNER in Fellowship Hall is open only the Second Sunday of each month now**, for coffee, tea, chocolate, olive oil and other items. Proceeds support indigenous producers around the world



**United Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ**  
**A Progressive, Open and Affirming and Global Ministries Church**  
*...with God's help, we seek to keep this a Christ-centered church with a warm and friendly heart, an open mind and an adventurous spirit.*



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

Website: [www.churchofthefoothills.org](http://www.churchofthefoothills.org) E-mail: [churchoffice@choff.org](mailto:churchoffice@choff.org)

Rev. Dr. Michael Holland, Pastor  
Rev. Kel Henderson, Minister of Family Life  
Robbie Arevalos, Director of Youth Ministries  
Tina Peterson, Director of Music Ministries  
John Douglas, Organist  
Jeff Segal, Drummer  
Marci Carey, Preschool Director  
Kathy Vail, Office Manager  
Dana & Jordan Block, Childcare Personnel  
*Rev. Nancy Brink, Rev. Susan Chamberlain, Rev. Bernie Davis, Rev. Dr. Duane Day,  
Rev. Barbara Grear, Rev. Dr. Jerry D. Martin, Ministers in Residence*

*Church of the Foothills is an accepting, caring, open and affirming Christian congregation, that welcomes and includes all people of every ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, different ability, economic status or religious background.*

## Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." <sup>28</sup> Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup> He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." NRSV

### In Need of Prayers?

If you would like to request prayers for yourself or others, please contact the church office at [churchoffice@chotf.org](mailto:churchoffice@chotf.org) or 714-544-1319.

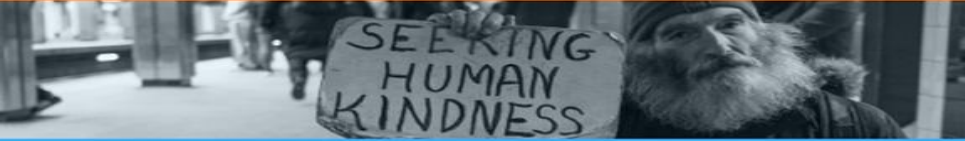
### The Use of Inclusive Language

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.

**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:

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

In addition to Small Groups, 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](mailto:Director@OCAJC.org)

web: [OCAJC.org](http://OCAJC.org)

## Help Wanted!!!

*The Growth Ministry needs a few people to help with the Welcome Booth in 2019!*

*If you can commit to one Sunday per month, we'd love to have you join our merry band of greeters. Training will be provided!*

*Contact Miguel Magaña or Laurie Van Cleve*



# 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.**

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Flowers today were brought by Gloria Wildman.

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

### THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES, December 30, 2018 – January 5, 2019

**Today 12/30**  
 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!)*  
 1:00 PM 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Feeding at Southwest Community Center  
**NEW YEAR'S DAY – Church Office Closed**

**Tues. 1/1**  
**Wed. 1/2**      **SUNDAY BULLETIN AND WEEKLY E-REMINDER ARTICLES DUE**  
 10:00 AM CWF, Fireside Room

# Ministry Opportunities

## TODAY:

**1:00 PM 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday feeding at Southwest Community Center - See Dan Griset**

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

**MONDAY, January 14: LGBTQI OPEN AND AFFIRMING MINISTRY** Bible Study, at the home of Lara and Michelle McKinley, **7:00 - 8:15 pm.** Using the book, Short Stories by Amy-Jill Levine, this monthly Bible study will focus on some of the most beloved (and challenging) parables of Jesus. Bring a Bible with you!. Discussion led by Rev. Nancy Brink, Chapman University. For more information contact Nancy.

**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.nbacares.org/xplor](http://www.nbacares.org/xplor) See Pastor Mike for more information.

## OUR GENEROUS CHURCH COMMUNITY:

CHOTF members, friends; CWF, PB and J; and Pre School families gave generously to the Southwest Community Center and 17 families identified by SWCC as in need this holiday season. Total cash donations for Thanksgiving Dinner at the center and holiday dinners for our adopted families, totaled \$3890. This amount does not include non-grocery gift cards and other presents delivered to families on Dec. 23. A special thanks to those who packed their cars, gave of their time, and made sure each family received the many wrapped gifts two days before Christmas. In community, your Peace, Benevolence and Justice Ministry.

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## 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.