

St. Ambrose Episcopal Church

December 08, 2024 The Second Sunday of Advent

900 Edgewater Blvd Foster City, CA 94404

(650) 574-1369 - <u>office@stambrosefostercity.org</u> - <u>http://www.stambrosefostercity.org</u>

Priest-In-Charge • pastoral calls and emergencies The Rev. Rebecca Goldberg 650 291-5289

<u>revrebecca@stambrosefostercity.org</u>

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE: 6 Christmas Pieces Op.72

Mendelssohn

PROCESSIONAL #516 Come Down, O Love Divine



Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt. Music: Down Ampney, Ralph Vaughal Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

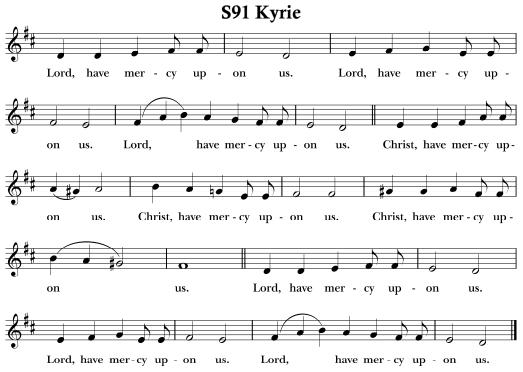
Opening Sentences

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever, Amen.

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Music: From Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Second Sunday of Advent

Celebrant: "Today we light the first and second candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE."

The candles are lit.

Scripture: "Colossians 3:15 – Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace."

Prayer: "Almighty God, you offer rest for our hearts, and peace for our souls. Give us grace to seek peace in our lives, peace in this community, and peace in the world. Through Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. **Amen**."

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you..

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Lesson Baruch 5:1-9

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.

For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness

For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle 16 Page 92, BCP

The Song of Zechariah Benedictus Dominus Deus

Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them
free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, * born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,

that he would save us from our enemies, * from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers * and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, * to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, * holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, * for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, To give his people knowledge of salvation * by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God * the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, * and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen

Second Lesson Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God

Sequence Hymn Celtic Alleuia

CELTIC ALLELUIA



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Holy Gospel Luke 3:1-6

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn Celtic Alleluia

Sermon

Chaplain Daniel Tate

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; *That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest. *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

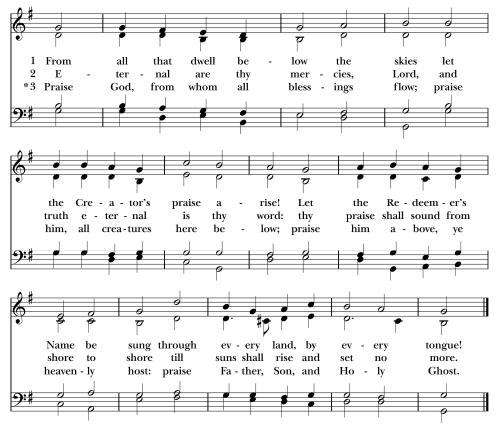
Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: Sans Day Carol John Rutter

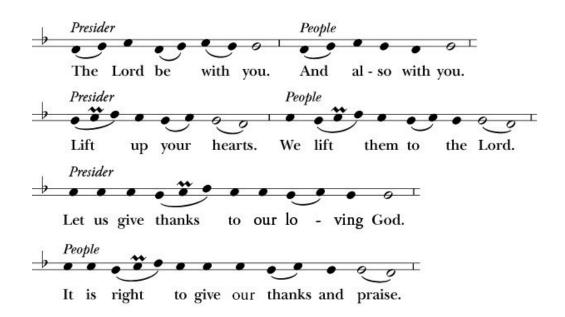
Doxology

Hymn 380 From All That Dwell Below the Skies Verse 3



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseaumes octante trois de David, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).

THE HOLY COMMUNION Eucharistic Prayer B



CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

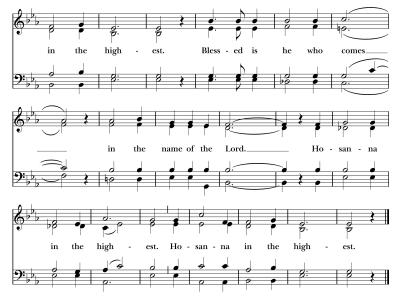
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

THE SANCTUS \$130





Music: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Ambrose and St. Francis, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

FRACTION ANTHEM S164



Music: From Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright $\mathbb O$ 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Invitation

COMMUNION HYMN # 81, Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



Post communion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

The Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk the way with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind. The Blessing of God: Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you always. **Amen**

RECESSIONAL #657, Love Divine, All Loves Excelling





Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: Hyfrydol, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE Organ Improvisation

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The Mission of St. Ambrose Church of Foster City

Is to proclaim the Good News of God in Jesus Christ as we care for each other and our larger community. We worship in the Episcopal and Anglican tradition, extending an open and inclusive invitation to all people, welcoming children into our church family and serving those in need.

Worship Leaders:

Reverend Rebecca Goldberg Chaplain Daniel Tate Amanda Yuxin Dai, Music Director

Worship Leader Rota:

Lighting Advent Candle & Reading
Intercessor
Eugene Hetzer, Lectors
Chaplain Daniel Tate, Eucharistic Minister
Usher
Alison LeBlanc, Livestream Technician

Next Week's Scripture Lessons

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18 Canticle 9

_Presider	Date
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday. December 08, 2024
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday. December 15, 2024
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday. December 22, 2024
Reverend Debra Low-Skinner	Sunday. December 29, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Waiting in Hope: The Season of Advent

The four Sundays of Advent are a time of waiting and expectation for the coming of Christ among us at Christmas. The readings, the sermon, and the music will focus on preparing ourselves for the Advent of the Holy One in our own hearts. We will light a candle on our Advent wreath each Sunday, as a sign of the Light coming among us. The color of the vestments and altar appointments are blue, signifying royalty. During this approaching winter season, with the colder, shorter, darker days, let us slow down, wait in the stillness, and make ready for the joy of Christmas!

Dorothy Matsuo

Dorothy Matsuo is recovering well and is now at Los Altos Subacute and Rehab Center, 809 Fremont Ave. Room 315 Los Altos, CA. Visits, and cards are welcome. Please keep her and the Matsuo family in your prayers.

Advent Study- Practicing Peace with all your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind

The Diocese is offering this Zoom Study on **Mondays Dec 9, 16, and 23**, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Come join us as we look at the practice of peace in a divided world, and enter a season in which we find much joy, and yet, stress and sadness for some. There is a book which accompanies the course, which you can download for free. I would encourage you to participate. If you receive the weekly diocesan news email, the information about the course, how to register, and download your free copy of the book we are using is there. If not, you can find it on the diocal.org web site. If you are unable to access it, please see Mother Rebecca, and she can help you get signed up.

Catholic Charities Christmas Drive

We are partnering with Sea Breeze school to help families in need in our community. St. Ambrose has been asked to help with teenagers. They need teen hygiene items. Please bring women and men's shampoo, and deodorant, and hygiene products for the young women. There is a box in the Narthex for the collection of these items.

2025 Stewardship Campaign

If you missed our Stewardship Ingathering on 11/24, it is not too late to submit a pledge of your time, talent, and treasure for 2025. You can mail in or bring in the pledge card you were sent, or if you did not receive one, there are extra ones in the Narthex. Thanks to those who have already pledged. We give thanks for God's abundance in our midst! If you would like to use 2025 pledge envelopes, please contact the office.

A Special Invitation for Children this Christmas Eve

St. Ambrose Episcopal Church Sunday School children will be singing some familiar Christmas songs as part of our service at 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve. We invite all children to participate. There will be minimal rehearsal time. If your out- of- town guests have brought their children, they are also most welcome! If you would like to sign any children up to participate, or have any questions, please contact Kay Ballantyne (650)773-7972 (rose466@earthlink.net)

Annual Christmas Cookie Sale- December 15

This year, the Altar Guild invites everyone to join our beloved bake sale tradition. On **December 15th***, we welcome bakers and/or buyers to contribute 2-4 dozen holiday cookies or treats (non-perishable only, please) for our festive coffee hour. Enjoy filling holiday boxes with 18 delightful cookies, available for \$20.00 per box. Payment can be made by cash or check.

*Please drop off your cookies on December 14th by 1pm at the parish hall or kitchen.

Get Ready for a Joyful Christmas Event!

Join us for a heartwarming evening of caroling at senior and residential homes in Foster City!

- *When:* Friday, December 20th
- *Time:* 4:00 pm (meet at St. Ambrose parking lot)
- *Who:* Everyone's welcome!

Let's all join some of the members of the choir to spread the cheer!

We'll bring festive holiday spirit to those who need it most. Your voice, your smile, and your presence will make a difference in the lives of our neighbors!

Questions? Reach out to: Dulce (650-918-8691) or Mother Rebecca

The 37th Annual Christmas Crèche Exhibit

COME TO BETHLEHEM

December 7 - 11, 2024 | Saturday - Wednesday | 12:30-8:30 pm

3865 Middlefield Road | Palo Alto, California

Admission is free! For more details, see christmas creche.org.

Celebrate Jesus Christ's birth. Feel His light and His love. Share the joy of Christmas.

The Christmas Crèche Exhibit is the longest-running (37 years!) community-led, annual crèche experience in the country. Our beloved tradition features nativity art from around the world, hands-on activities for all ages, concerts, stories, marionette shows and more. It's a free gift to the community from The Church of Jesus Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints— in collaboration with exhibitors, artists, and musicians from many faiths.

Questionable Text/Emails

There is a text and scam email that is circulating, signed Rev. Rebecca Goldberg, which requests a copy of the Church directory. Please delete it. None of the St. Ambrose or Sea Breeze staff will send you an email asking you to divulge personal information, or contribute funds to a questionable cause. Please let Mother Rebecca know if you have any questions.

Mother Rebecca's office hours

Mother Rebecca will be in her office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:30-4:30. She can be reached during office hours at 650-574-1369. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call 650 291-5289 revrebecca@stambrosefostercity.org

Coffee Hour

Join us for Coffee Hour after the service at 11:00 am in the parish hall. Please volunteer to contribute (cakes, cookies, finger food or sandwiches) by using the link below or by the signup sheet in the Narthex by the Reflections & Gratitude Board: Sign Up Genius https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA5A82CA0F94-coffee1

Worship Leaders Needed

Please sign up as a Lector for our 10:00* am Eucharist by emailing office@stambrosefostercity.org or the Church signup sheet. We also need Worship Leader volunteers for our 10:00* am Eucharist. There are openings for Intercessors, Lectors, Greeters, Ushers and Acolytes, and Livestream Technicians. Contact us at office@stambrosefostercity.org or use the following link to signup: Signup@signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA5A82CA0F94-worship *No 8:30am service at this time

Sunday School 10 AM

Sunday school is at 10:00am every week Please contact Raphael Gerber raphaele.gerber@gmail.com and Kay Ballantyne is rose466@earthlink.net

Rides for Gene Hetzer

Gene Hetzer a longtime church member and Karl his guide dog need rides on an alternating basis from church members. Please contact Jim Neubert to schedule a day for driving.

Bible Study

Every Tuesday at 1:00pm, we meet for Bible Study on Zoom and discuss the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday Service. Join us! For questions, please contact Daniel Tate at 650-799-7084, or dtate@ses.cdsp.edu or Warren Wong at wwwong@nd.edu

Contemplative Meditation

Every Wednesday 10am-11am we meet for Contemplative Meditation on Zoom. We read a variety of authors. We have read Jimmy Carter's book 'Faith'; a couple of prayers from Jean-Pierre Isbouts 'Ten Prayers That Have Changed The World'. We are currently reading David Brooks' 'How to Know a Person...'
If interested, please contact Hamilton Fong. hfongster@gmail.com

Prayer Support Group

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday after the service at 11:30am, we will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall to have a prayer meeting. Please join us any time as you are able. For questions, please contact Daniel Tate at 650-799-7084, or dtate@ses.cdsp.edu

<u>Prayer list:</u> We pray especially for Renee Sheldon and family, Darren Su, Stephen, Carol Frisch and the Frisch family, Yvonne Sidell, Jerelyn Weber, Charlene Adolph, Miles Martin, Barbara Milligan, Ed Avakoff, Max Gumbert, Isabella, Jerry Boykin, Carol Newman, Clara Padilla, Arjun Katyan, Janet Mc Annally, Elliott Dun, Alison LeBlanc, Peggy Chapman, Ronnie Rosen, Leo Gauthier, Alice Deckel, and the pupils and staff of Sea Breeze School.

For those who have died: Veneranda Ramirez, Arthur Labrador, Buck Schott, Ercira Puig, Zaw-Sing Su, Mike Frisch, John Miller, Eva Rios Chong, Judi Guilford, John David Tate, Martin Gardiner [Please contact the parish office to add any names of the sick and suffering to be prayed for in our monthly cycle of prayer.]

The Altar Flowers are given by

The Altar Guild for the Glory of the Lord

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Nellie Wong -December 16 Lydia McIntyre – December 18 Grant Cherrington – December 19



Season's Greetings: Join Us for a Christmas Eve Celebration!



Sign Up or Ask Questions: Contact Kay Ballantyne **६** (650) 773-7972 ™ rose466@earthlink.net

