Nativity Worships

Advent 2020



Episcopal Church of the Nativity

San Rafael, California

*The Rev. Kirsten Snow Spalding, Rector*

*The Rev. Scott Sinclair, Assisting Priest*

*The Rev. Lynn Oldham Robinett, Assisting Priest*

*The Rev. Rebecca Morehouse, Deacon*

*10 a.m. Sunday Services will be* [*Livestreamed on Facebook*](https://www.facebook.com/Nativity-in-San-Rafael-113940705355878/videos/?ref=page_internal) *and may also be offered outside with COVID19 protocols, weather permitting.*

**Prelude** *Prelude in B Minor Chopin*

**Opening Hymn** *Jolly Old St Nicholas* Text: J M ROSENTHAL Tune: Traditional

On this happy day  
You bring joy and happiness,  
Hear us as we say,  
Teach us how to be like you  
Loving, showing care;

Sharing gifts, we celebrate

Joy beyond compare.

Each December we await,  
Come without delay,  
[Saint](https://www.stnicholascenter.org/glossary#term181754) of children everywhere,  
On your festive day.  
You love people far and near;  
Help us to prepare  
For a Christmas filled with joy,  
Saint, now hear our prayer.

Bethlehem, the star shines bright,  
Lead us, saint, today,  
To the Holy City where  
Christ, the child, is laid.  
As we see you kneeling there  
We adore and say,  
May the joys of Christmas night  
Cheer our world today.

**Candle Lighting Prayers**

*Everyone is invited to light their home advent wreathes.*

*All stand, and the Officiant greets the people with these words.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord. |
| *People* | Thanks be to God. |

*Officiant*

O Lord God Almighty, as you have taught us to call the evening, the morning, and the noonday one day; and have made the sun to know its going down: Dispel the darkness of  
our hearts, that by your brightness we may know you to be the true God and eternal light, living and reigning for ever and ever. Amen.

*The candles of the Advent wreath are lit, one for each week of Advent in the order—purple (or blue), purple, pink, purple.*

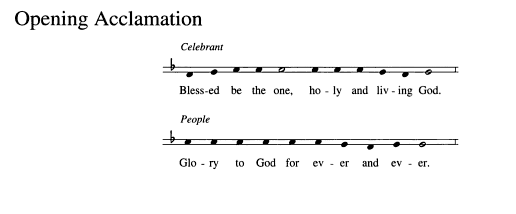
*Officiant*

Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God’s loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

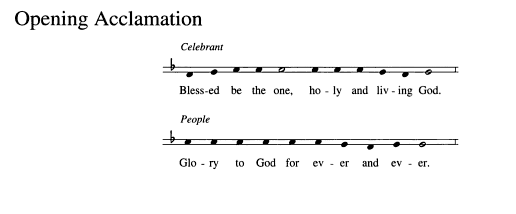
**Opening Acclamation**

*Presider*

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Bles-sed are you, hol - y and liv - ing One.

*People*

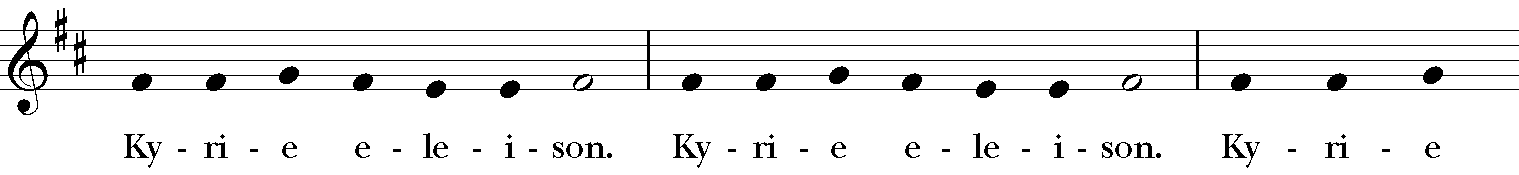


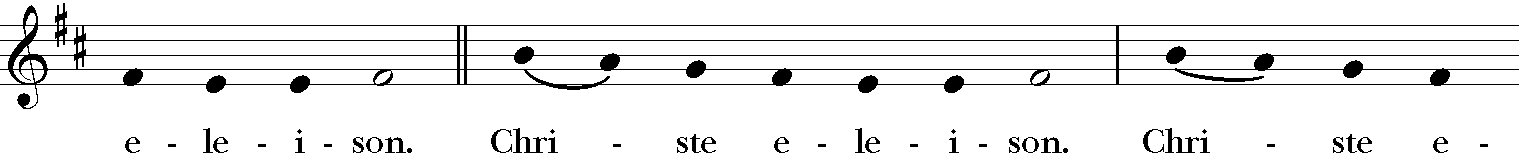
You come to your people and set them free.

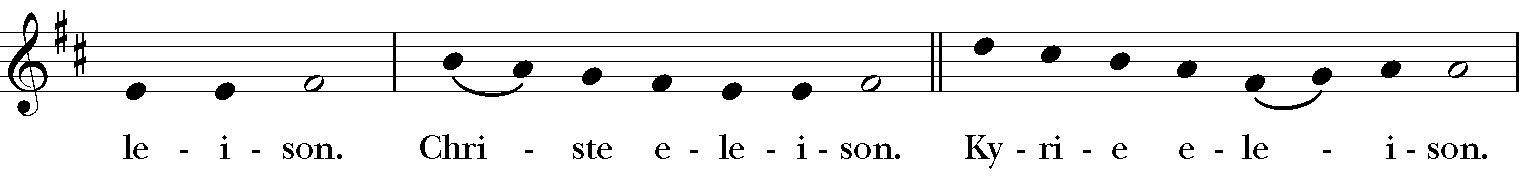
*The people say together*

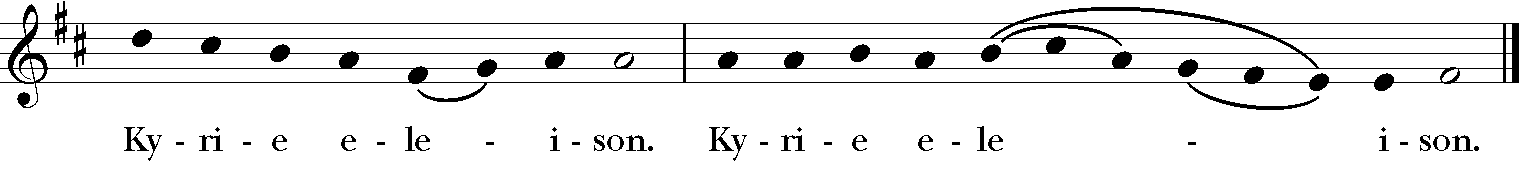
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our God. *Amen*.

***Kyrie S86***









**The Collect of the Day**

*The Presider says to the people*

God be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Presider* Let us pray.

*The Presider says the Collect*

*People* Amen.

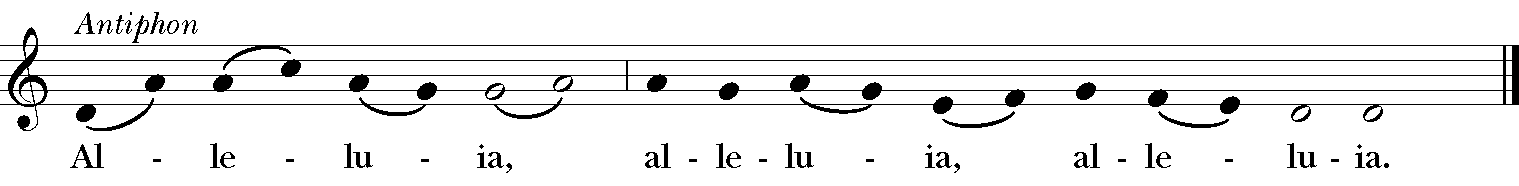
The Word of God

**The Lessons and the Psalm**

*The people sit. After each reading, the reader says* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people *and the people say* Thanks be to God.

*In between the reading from the Hebrew Scriptures and the reading from the New Testament, a minister leads the congregation in reciting a Psalm.*

**Gospel Alleluia** S208



The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

*People* Glory to you, O Christ.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, O Christ.

**The Sermon**

*A period of silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**The Nicene Creed (from Enriching our Worship)**

*All standing, the people say together*

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,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,

and became truly human.

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,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who 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**

*Prayer is offered with intercession for the universal church, its members, and its mission, the nation and all in authority, the welfare of the world, the concerns of the local community, those who suffer and those in any trouble, and all the departed.*

*We invite you to add your own prayers out loud, in the chat function of our livestream or silently, as the Spirit moves you.*

*Leader:* In peace, faith, and the love of God, let us offer our prayers, responding to: "God of hope", with "Hear our prayer."

*A period of silence is kept.*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

God of Hope*, Hear our prayer*.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

God of Hope. *Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

God of Hope. *Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, remembering especially our parish members Carissa, Marge, Juliette, Mary, Dan, Donna, Jim, Leslie, Lynn, Jean and Norma and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

God of Hope. *Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, remembering especially our friends and family Colton, Ellen, Katherine, Ed, Daniel, Marco, John, Thomas, Marg, Mary O, Mary P, Jill, Doug, Barbara, Nathaniel, Les, Polly, Linda, Sara, Kelly and Dennis and Bob; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

God of Hope*. Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, remembering especially Herschel Snodgrass that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

God of Hope. *Hear our prayer.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

Hasten, O God, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants who now live by faith, may with joy behold your son at his coming glorious majesty, even Jesus Christ our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

**Confession of Sin**

*The Deacon or Presider says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you,

opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other,

in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us,

the evil we have done,

and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us

through our Savior Jesus Christ,

that we may abide in your love

and serve only your will. Amen.

*Priest*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins

through the grace of 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 Presider says to the people*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Then the People may greet one another in the name of God in their families or through the chat function of our livestream.*

**Parish Announcements** are made at this time.

***An Advent Introduction to the Gospel of Mark***  
*The Rev. Scott Gambrill Sinclair will lead a four-week lecture and discussion series on Monday evenings during Advent. based on his book about the Gospel of Mark. Join Rev. Scott, via Zoom, from 7 to 8:30 pm. beginning Monday, November 23 and 30, and December 7 and 14.  If you would like a copy of Rev. Scott's book and his lecture notes, they are available on our*[*homepage*](http://www.nativityonthehill.org/)*.  The Zoomlink is*[*here*](https://iris.well.com/zimbra/%C2%A0https:/us02web.zoom.us/j/89577326611)*:.  Meeting ID:  89577326611.*

**The Street Chaplaincy Forum.** On Wednesday December 9the, the Street Chaplaincy will host a Zoom forum to hear from the Chaplain and ED about housing issues, and stories from the street. The forum begins at 6 is available on Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83869434137 Meeting ID: 838 6943 4137

**Christmas Pageant**  On our Second Sunday Family Service—December 13th.

**Offering** We will with thanksgiving receive offerings of Nativity pledges and plate today.  You can contribute by sending a check to the church or by using the “Give” button on our website, [www.nativityonthehill.org](http://www.nativityonthehill.org).

**Communion** All who participate in this Holy Eucharist virtually receive the full benefits of the sacrament by coming with the intention of being united with Christ and one another. (BCP 457).

The Holy Communion

*The Presider begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.*

**Offertory Sentence**

I appeal to you brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*

**Offertory Hymn** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel H 56*

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**The Great Thanksgiving**

*Gifts of pledge and other donations may be made by sending a check to the Church office, or by electronic payment using the “Give” button on the Nativity homepage (www.nativityonthehill.org).*

*The officiant, receiving the gifts of the people*

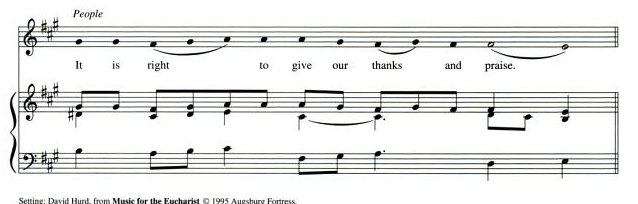
All things come of you, O God.

*People* And of your own have we given you.





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*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds*

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*Presider and People*

**Sanctus S124**

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*Then the Presider continues*

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,

your Word has never been silent;

you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,

you delivered them from bondage

and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus

to be human, to share our life,

to proclaim the coming of your holy reign

and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,

you have freed us from sin,

brought us into your life,

reconciled us to you,

and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us

Jesus took bread,

and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,

gave it to his friends and said:

“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,

said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

“Drink this, all of you:

this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,

poured out for you and for all

for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us:

the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,

longing for Christ’s coming in glory,

and presenting to you these gifts

your earth has formed and human hands have made,

we acclaim you, O Christ:

*Presider and People*

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

*The Presider continues*

Send your Holy Spirit upon us

and upon these gifts of bread and wine

that they may be to us

the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power,

may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,

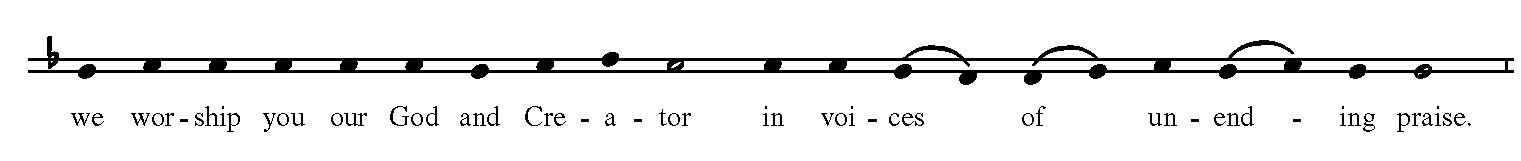
and in the fullness of time gather us

with all your people

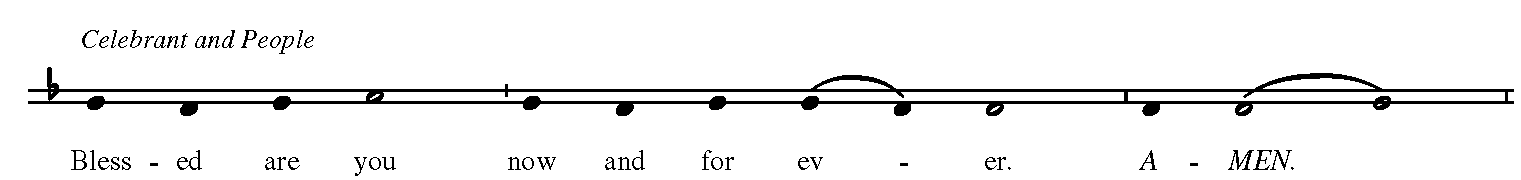
into the joy of our true eternal home.

*Presider*





*Presider and people*



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

*People and Presider*

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

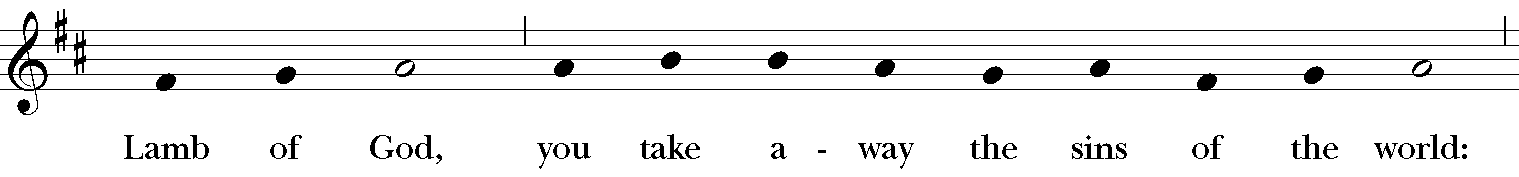
and the glory are yours,

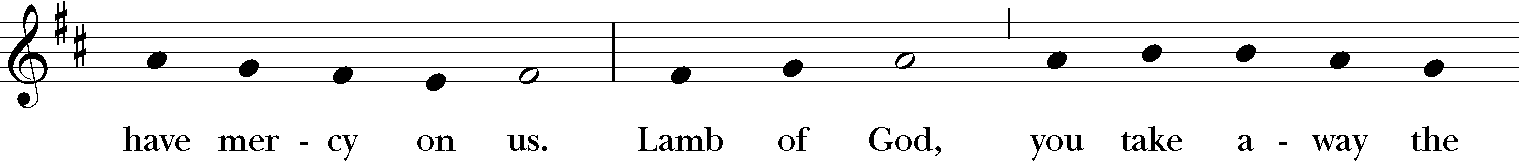
now and for ever. Amen

**The Breaking of the Bread**

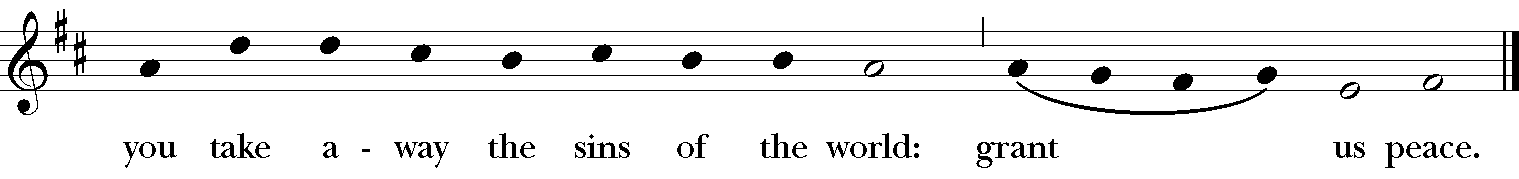
*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then we sing,*

**Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God S161**









*Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God

*Everyone who comes to virtual Communion with the intention of being united with Christ and one another receives the full benefit of Communion. The presider consumes the bread and wine with the following words:*

The Body and Blood of our Savior keep us in everlasting life.

**Post communion Prayer**

*After Communion, the People stand as they are able. The Presider says*

Let us pray.

*Presider and People*

God of abundance,

you have fed us

with the bread of life and cup of salvation;

you have united us

with Christ and one another;

and you have made us one

with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth

in the power of your Spirit,

that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world

and continue for ever

in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Advent Blessing**

*The People remain standing for the seasonal blessing and the people respond Amen! after each prayer.*

*The Priest*

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. *Amen.*

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. *Amen.*

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

**Birthday Prayer**

*Our blessing prayer is:*  O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**Closing Hymn *Prepare the Way O Zion Hymn 65***

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*The Deacon, or the Presider, dismisses them and the People respond*

Thanks be to God.

**Postlude** *Prelude in B Major Chopin*

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*Please connect with us by sending an email to* [*nativityonthehill@gmail.com*](mailto:nativityonthehill@gmail.com)*, calling the office and leaving a message at 415-479-7023, or sending a text or call to Rev. Kirsten at 510-207-6346. We look forward to hearing from you with any concerns, prayers or thanksgivings.*