



Madera United Methodist Church



**December 28, 2025
Christmas Sunday**

Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.

“Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”

Prelude as Congregation Gathers

The Prelude this morning will be a Congregational Christmas Carol Sing-Along. You are invited to open the hymnal if you so desire and join in singing the carols listed. The organ will give a short introduction to each of the carols, and we will sing the listed verses. Enjoy as we keep the spirit of Christmas going on in our hearts. Merry Christmas to all!

Carols for the Sing-Along

217 Away In A Manger vs 1,2,3

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

229 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly vs 1,2

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you.

236 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks vs 1,2,3

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around, and glory shone around.

"Fear not!" said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind.
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring to all of humankind, to all of humankind.

"To you, in David's town, this day is born of David's line a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, and
this shall be the sign, and this shall be the sign:

245 The First Noel vs 1,2,3,4,5

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star three Wise Men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those Wise Men three, full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in his presence, their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

218 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear vs 1,2,3,4

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Announcements

Bringing in the Light

Hymn "Rock-a-Bye, My Dear Little Boy" UMH#235

Rock-a-bye, my dear little boy, dear little boy, wonder of wonders, my blessing and joy;
slumber as I gently hold you, let my tender love enfold you; gift of God to me and the world,
here in my arms lies so peacefully curled.

Little Jesus, Infant Divine, Infant Divine, one with the Father, yet born to be mine;
as I rock you calmly sleeping, angel guards their watch are keeping; precious child, one day
we shall see, what love has destined for you and for me.

Call to worship

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without him nothing
was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The
light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. . .

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of
the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1: 1-5, 14)

Leader: Now all the candles on the wreath are burning brightly.

All: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Leader: Christ the savior is born!

All: O come, let us adore him.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Lord Jesus, we worship and adore you. May every knee bow and
every tongue confess that you are Lord. Let every heart prepare
you room. Come to us afresh today. Amen.**

A Time for the Child in Us All

Special Music "Christmas Song for All Year Round" Jim & Kathy Garrison

Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ
his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose
from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I**

believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Jim Garrison

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.

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Doxology UMH #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Hymn "What Child Is This" UMH#219

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Prayer for Illumination

Jesus, Light of the world, let your light shine through these scriptures so that we may see you more clearly and better reflect your glory in this world. Amen.

Scripture Reading Luke 2: 41 – 52 Geri Brown

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished.

His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon "The Son of Mary" Pastor Jim Garrison

Hymns "Joy to the World" UMH#246

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Benediction

Postlude

Celebrating Christ by Serving All

Announcements

Pastor Jim will be out of the office this week – December 29 through January 3. * * * Food Distribution will be Tuesday 12/30. If you can help, plan to be in the back parking lot at 8:30 am. Dress warm! * * * If you were responsible for 2025 reporting forms, please turn them in to the office this week.

No Meetings This Week

Birthdays This Week

12/28 Fred Mossman
Bert Roper
12/31 Phil Mayer
James Young
1/ 2 Landon Jones

