

## Welcome to First Pres SLO!

We are a Christian community in the heart of this city, open to all people seeking Christ's touch and blessing. A healthy church is built on a foundation of Jesus Christ, and expressed through *fellowship, worship, discipleship* and *mission*. As God's church we exist to fellowship sincerely, worship actively, grow in our knowledge and understanding of Jesus, and to offer ourselves in service to this community and the world.

Welcome—we're glad you've decided to join us today.

### In worship we...

Praise the Lord in song, blending old and new and in-between  
Profess our faith in God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
Confess our sins and receive words of pardon  
Hear the Word of God proclaimed in preaching  
Offer prayers of petition and thanks  
Share freely in the sacraments: communion and baptism  
Give gifts of time and financial resources in support of the church's work.

### An Invitation to Prayer

Prayer is a dynamic and vital part of our journey of faith in Jesus Christ. We pray, not as we shop for goods—with a list in hand and limited funds to spend—but rather as faithful people bringing our lives before God, whose love and power and resources have no end. In prayer we learn to align our vision and desires with those of God himself, and in the process become mature disciples, ready for service.

*We invite you to join us in this journey of discovery!*

### Please pray:

For the vision and ministry of this church  
For the specific needs of individuals and families in our community  
For the world—for peace, justice and the spread of the Gospel of Jesus.



## Service for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023



Rev. John A. D'Elia, Pastor

Church Office: (805) 543-5451 | Email: [churchoffice@fpcslo.org](mailto:churchoffice@fpcslo.org)

For more information visit our website,  
[www.fpcslo.org](http://www.fpcslo.org)

# WORSHIP AT FIRST PRES

Thank you for joining us!

## PRELUDE

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” arr. Cathy Moklebust  
*Please use this time for quiet reflection*

Bell Choir

## WELCOME AND INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Jen Rabenaldt

## ADVENT READING

Representing Men’s Ministries:  
Tad Miller, Art DeKleine, Bert Townsend, Mike Patrick, Tim Smith

## WORSHIP IN SONG

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (#41)  
“Holy Holy”

## THE CONFESSION AND PARDON

DD Patrick

## NEWS OF THE CHURCH

## PRAYER

Tom Cochrun

## ANTHEM

“Silent Night, Holy Night” arr. Ronald Kauffman

## WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

“Apostles’ Creed”

## SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

## MESSAGE

“Now What?”  
Luke 2:1-14

Tom Cochrun

## OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

“Christmas Lullaby” by Jason Robert Brown  
*Please stand as we sing the Doxology(#592)*

Lauren Webb

## SONG OF COMMITMENT

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (#22)

## DECLARATION OF MISSION AND BLESSING

*Friends, what is our mission?*

Our mission is to glorify Jesus Christ and to be instruments of God’s healing, reconciling, life-giving presence in the world.

## POSTLUDE

“Angels We Have Heard on High arranged by Wilbur Held

Meredith Brammeier

The Sanctuary flowers this week were donated by the members of the congregation of First Pres. in support of the Deacons and Transitions-Mental Health Association

**Participants:** Participants: Jen Rabenaldt, Tom Cochrun, Andrew Vigil, Lloyd Esola, Ian Rabenaldt, Sean Anderson, Craig Updegrave, Lauren Webb, Meredith Brammeier, DD Patrick