

CLARION



**Bridging the Centuries through Faith
1913 – 2020**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ALTADENA

Altadena, California 91001
Wednesday, November 24, 2021
Volume LXXIII, Number XLVII

OUR CALENDAR

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Clarion Mailing 8:00a

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

First Sunday of Advent

In Person Worship Service

Sunday Family Worship 10:30

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Clarion Mailing 8:00a

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

Communion Sunday

Sunday Family Worship 10:30

LEADERS IN WORSHIP

We are grateful to those persons who led us in worship on Sunday, November 21, 2021, with social distancing. Call to Worship, Gary Lee; Scripture, Mark Tajima (Revelations 1: 4b-8 and John 18: 33-37); music, Kenny Elliott, Ann Kiriyama, Ron Ota, Greg Middleton, and Gus Zdanovich; Sound and Visuals, Sam Gin, Bob Hayashi, Ron Ota, and Nick Tomoyasu; and the Rev. Anne Oglesby Edwards for her sermon “**The King’s Kindom**”.

A reminder for those who cannot join us in person, we are live streaming our 10:30 worship service via YouTube. The link is sent out by email the day before service, or search “First Presbyterian Church Altadena” on YouTube. Service is simultaneously recorded, and can be viewed at a later time.

WHO’S MAILING

November 29	Volunteers
December 6	Volunteers
December 13	Volunteers
December 20	Volunteers

STAFF NOVEMBER 15

Editor	Donna Kiriyama
Printer and Mailing Crew:	
	Gini Ishida, Dorothy Kirkland, Bob & Mae Uchida, and Wade Utsunomiya
Mailer	Bob Uchida
Email	Bobby Hayashi

Minute for Missions

Giving Thanks in Plenty and in Want

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One ...

The children practiced their song repeatedly in the fellowship hall. The adults, gathered in the kitchen assembling Thanksgiving food baskets, didn’t mind listening to them. It had been a while since the struggling church heard children’s voices within its walls. The sound not only brought smiles to wrinkled faces, but a few tears as well to cataract eyes.

Give thanks with a grateful heart ...

Today as families and friends gather around the holiday table filled with food wafting with the scent of nostalgia, they will pause to give thanks. Perhaps some will be thankful that they are able to gather safely enjoy a boisterous Thanksgiving meal that didn’t happen in 2020, due to COVID-19. Perhaps some will be grateful that they were able to find the ingredients needed for Grandma’s special stuffing, considering a breakdown in supply chains that have led to bare shelves. Perhaps some will be praising God that a loved one is with them after facing a life-threatening illness.

But perhaps, too, there are those whose Thanksgiving will not be reminiscent of a Norman Rockwell painting. There are those this day who are sitting down to a meager meal, those watching the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade alone, and those whose eyes gaze longingly at the now-empty chair.

In our lives there are seasons of plenty and seasons of want. There are Thanksgivings when children’s voices fill the air of an aging church. There are Thanksgivings where their voices are nowhere to be heard. There are holidays where laughter and food abound. Then there are holidays where both seem scarce. I have had Thanksgivings of both plenty and want and I know personally how hard it is to be thankful when everything seems to be falling apart. Yet, even in our darkest times, we are to remember to whisper our broken “thank you,” for God is not done with us nor has God ever forgotten us.

The apostle Paul once said, “I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need.” And that secret was that no matter what life brought, Paul knew he could count on God to give him strength.

In plenty and in want, no matter what this day is like for you and your family, remember that God is with you, providing the strength you need — always.

Donna Frischknecht Jackson lives in rural Vermont where she is a part-time rural pastor and editor of Presbyterians Today

Let us Pray....

God of bounteous grace, we thank you for your steadfast love that sustains and strengthens us. May we remember to sing your praises always: on days where our tears are filled with joy and when they are filled with grief; when our tables are full and when they are scarce; and when loved ones and friends are near and when they are far. We lift this prayer, in the name of your Son Jesus. Amen.

November 24, 2021

OUR THANKS

Our church expresses our sincere appreciation to the following members and friends for their gifts from November 17, 2021 thru November 23, 2021

Building and Maintenance

Bob and Yoshiko Hayashi

Clarion

Mark and Donna Gonzales

In Memory of Mary Hatate

Franklin and Judy Kam
David and Lorraine Woody
Rick and Jean Osaka

Thanksgiving

Anonymous
Steve and Ann Kiriyaama Allin
Patrice Gin
Sam and Virginia Gin
Mark and Donna Gonzales
Geri Hamane
Bob and Yoshiko Hayashi
Elsie Hayashi
Irene Hirashiki
Katharine Inouye
Barbara Ito
LuAnn Lane
Brent and Peggy Lew
Wing and Evelyn Lew
Don and Kathy Matsumoto
Mary Matsumoto
Tom and Tsuru Miyasaki
Nadine McManus
Mieko Nishi (Draper, Utah)
Hiroko Nishiyama
Bob and Deena Ota
Clyde and Mieko Payne
Frank and Marian Sata
Carol Uchida Tomoyasu
Mitsie Toshima

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Communion on Sunday, December 5

Please join us for Communion on Sunday, December 5 at 10:30 am at our IN-PERSON worship service in the church sanctuary. Alternatively, you may join us via livestream on Sunday, December 5 at 10:30 am. The livestream link will be sent to everyone closer to December 5. (If you miss the livestream at 10:30 am, a recording will be available for viewing later that day.)



MISCELLANY

Don't forget, we're still collecting holiday food items for our November and December Flavor of the Month. Our Deacons have delivered several boxes/bags of food items in time for Thanksgiving, and we thank everyone who has been able to contribute! Christmas is on the way.... what will you have on your holiday table? **Canned fruits and vegetables, soups, boxed side dishes, jello/pudding/bake boxes, pasta, canned meats....** Drop them off in the marked boxes in the sanctuary foyer.

And remember December 12 is the deadline for our toy and gift drive for the Christmas holiday. Bring a toy or small gift for a child (toddler thru High School aged), and drop it in the same box as the Flavor of the Month. Our ever-busy Deacons will be delivering food and toys to the appropriate entities.

Keiro Forums continue to keep us informed on-line.
November 30 – 10:30am

10 Japan Travel Tips

December 1 – 2:00pm

Downsizing with KonMari Method Part 2 – Clothing

December 2 – 10:30am

Goals to Reach for a Healthier You

December 7 – 2:00pm

Christmas Card Craft with Sharon Akioka (craft supplies sent out to the first 20 registrants).

Go to Keiro.org, click on classes to register.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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