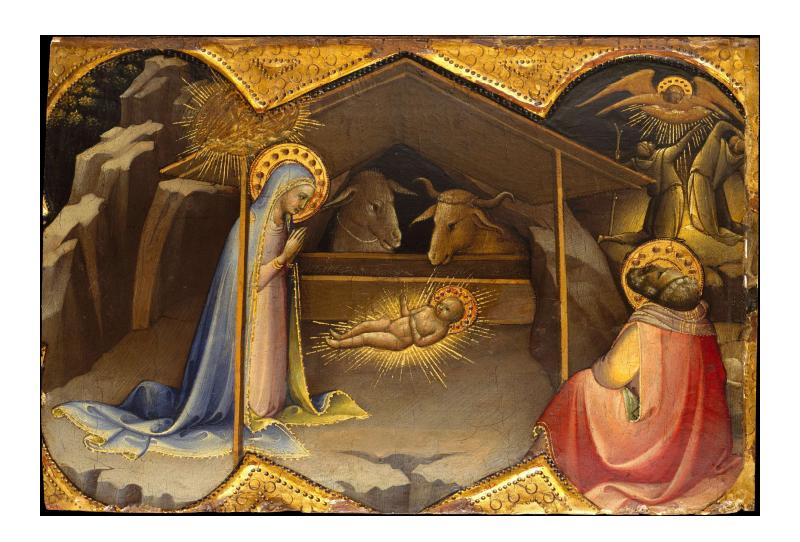
St. Columba's Episcopal Church

1251 Las Posas Road, Camarillo, California 93010 (805) 482-8831 www.stcolumbaca.com The Rev. Dr. Michael P. Anderson, Rector Brett Hanley, music director



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2024, 4:00 p.m.

THE WORD OF GOD



Prelude – "For Unto Us a Child Is Born" (from Messiah, G.F. Handel)

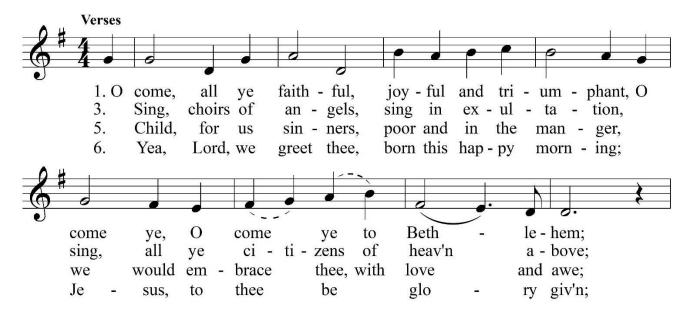
Michele Mulidor, soprano; Brett Hanley, organ

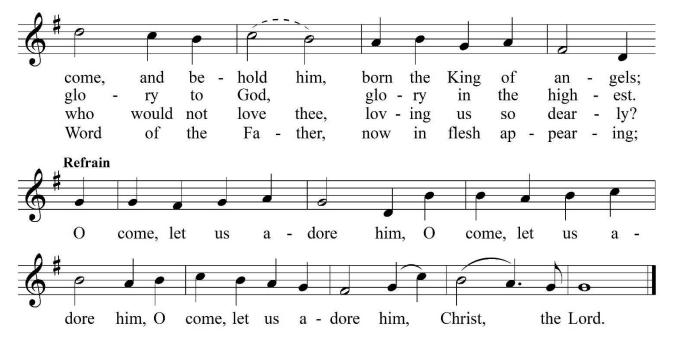
Welcome - The Rev. Dr. Michael P. Anderson

Children's Processional

During the Opening Hymn, we invite our children to process in with us and help place the Holy Family and those who visited them in the Nativity.

Opening Hymn - #83 - "O Come, All Ye Faithful" - Verses 1, 3, 5 & 6





Words: John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, and others. Music: ADESTE FIDELES (Irr.), present form of melody att. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

P: The Light of Christ.

C: The Light of Christ has come into the world. The Light of Christ has come into the world.

Opening Acclamation

P: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

C: And we have seen God's glory.

Collect for Purity

P: Almighty God,

C: 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.



The Gloria – # 96 – "Angels We Have Heard on High"



Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick, 1813-1882, alt.

Music: GLORIA (77. 77 with Refrain), French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barners, 1887-1958.

Collect of the Day

- P: The glory of the Lord has been revealed.
- C: And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.
- P: Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where, with you and the Holy Spirit, He lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

First Lesson – Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

- L: Word of God, word of life.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96:9-13

⁹ Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *

let the whole earth tremble before him.

¹⁰ Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *

he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;

he will judge the peoples with equity."

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *

let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹² Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy

before the Lord when he comes, *

when he comes to judge the earth.

¹³ He will judge the world with righteousness * and the peoples with his truth.

Second Lesson – Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

- L: Word of God, word of life.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn – # 87 – "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"



Words: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN (77. 77. D with Refrain), Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847;

adapt. William H. Cummings, 1851-1915.

Gospel – Luke 2:1-20

- P: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.
- C: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily - The Rev. Dr. Michael P. Anderson



Pages for Children





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ANGEL ANIMALS BABY BETHLEHEM DONKEY FRANKINCENSE GIFTS GOLD JESUS JOSEPH MANGER MARY

MYRRH PEACE SAVIOR SHEPHERD STAR WISE MEN



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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.



Prayers of the People

- P: Sisters and brothers, on this holy occasion when we celebrate the Incarnation of our Lord, let us pray for the peace, joy, hope and strength offered by God's Word made flesh.
- LEM: For the Church, that it may faithfully and boldly proclaim to every human heart the Good News made known this Christmas that salvation has come to God's holy people.
- C: Lord, empower your Church.
- LEM: For peace in our troubled world, that every darkness of war, injustice, persecution and oppression may be cast out by the light shed into the world by the Prince of Peace.
- C: Lord, grant peace to all.
- LEM: For our families and all those, far and near, to whom we are bound by the love of Christ, that the bonds which unite us may be strengthened.
- C: Lord, build our love.
- LEM: For all those in need, those whom we might otherwise forget at this joyous time: the homeless, the unemployed, the hungry, the sick, the grieving, those in prison, those caught by addictions, and all who know any great trial or sadness this Christmas.
- C: Lord, comfort them.
- LEM: For all who labor during this season on behalf of others: physicians, nurses, medical technicians, police officers, firefighters, the military and all whose duty prevents them from sharing this holy time with those they love.
- C: Lord, sustain them.
- LEM: For all who have known the wonder of God's presence in their earthly pilgrimages and who now live in larger life, remembering especially those in whose loving memory the church and chapels are adorned, that following their example we may remain faithful to the end of this earthly life and live forever in the light of Christ's eternal glory.
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.
- P: Almighty Father, we rejoice in the coming of Christ our Lord. We pray that, as he has taken on our humanity, through your grace and goodness we may share in your divinity, and so partake in the radiance of your glory; through him who came down for us and is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

The Peace

- P: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- C: And also with you.

Offertory Anthem - "Ding, Dong! Merrily on High" (text: G.R. Woodward; trad.)

Presentation Hymn – # 79 – "O Little Town of Bethlehem"



Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893). Music: St. Louis (CMD), Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer B from Book of Common Prayer, p. 367)

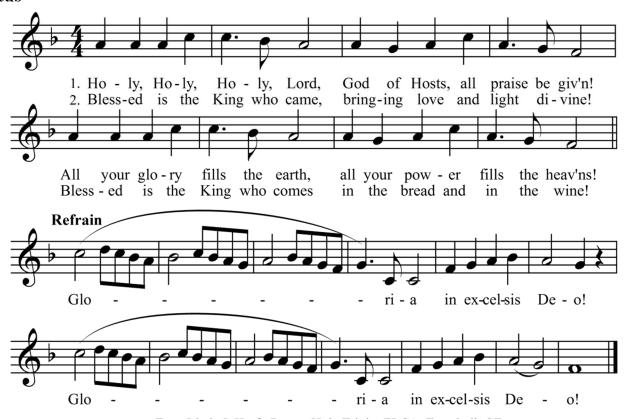
- P: The Lord be with you.
- **C**: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

Sanctus



Text: Linda J. Kraft, Pastor, Holy Trinity ELCA, Trumbull, CT. Music: *Gloria* (77.77 with Refrain), French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Brnes (1887-1958)

The people stand or kneel.

P: 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.

- P: 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,
- C: We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;
- P: 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 [______ 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.

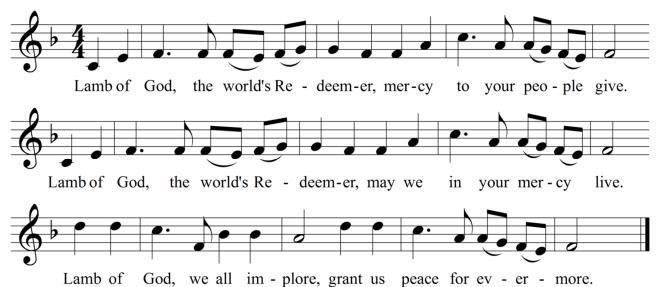
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

- P: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
- C: 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



Text: Linda J. Kraft, Pastor, Holy Trinity ELCA, Trumbull, CT. Music: IRBY (8 7 8 7 77).

The Invitation

P: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to come forward to the two stations for Communion at the direction of the ushers. Receive the wine by drinking from the chalice as it is offered to you, or by retaining the wafer, and a Lay Eucharistic Minister will dip it in the wine and place it back in your hand. If you are not receiving, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing. If you are unable to physically come to the rail, please indicate to an usher that you would like to receive Communion at your seat.



When everyone has made their communion, please kneel and sing the Communion Hymn.

Communion Hymn – # 111



Post-Communion Prayer

C: Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.



Christmas Blessing

- P: May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.
- C: Amen.
- P: May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.
- C: Amen.
- P: May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.
- C: Amen.
- P: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.
- C: Amen.

Closing Hymn – # 100 – "Joy to the World"



Words: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Music: ANTIOCH (CM with Repeat), George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759;

adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace to serve the Word made flesh. Alleluia. Alleluia.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude – "Hallelujah Chorus" (from Messiah, G.F. Handel)

Please join in singing:

HALLELUJAH! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ: and He shall reign for ever and ever.
King of Kings, And Lord of Lords, Hallelujah!

Weekly Offerings*

Mondays/Wednesdays, **Morning Prayer**, 9:00 a.m.

Thursday Mass, 10:00 a.m.

*All are occurring in the Mary Chapel (side chapel in the sanctuary)

Thank You!

We're glad you joined us today! We pray that you will experience God's Love and Presence in this place. You are most welcome to join us in our coffee hour after the service.

Christmas isn't over. In the Episcopal tradition, the Christian season lasts 12 days, from December 25 to Epiphany, January 6. You are warmly invited to join us as we continue our Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 29, and as we celebrate the revelation of Jesus to the world in our Epiphany Celebration on Sunday, January 5, both services at 9:30 a.m.

Stewardship Update

From Fr. Michael: Thank you to those who have turned in their completed pledge cards. If you haven't done so already, pray about what God would have you give this next year and let us know through completing a pledge card. We rely on those to create our budget.

St. Columba's 2025 Pledge Campaign Walk in Love

Number of Pledges Received	Total Amount Pledged
39	\$186,039.00

Featured Announcements:

Holiday Closure—The parish office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25-Wednesday, January 1, for the Christmas holiday. Have a blessed Christmas!

We will also be taking that week off for Morning Prayer and Thursday Mass. For any urgent needs, please contact Fr Michael directly at Michael.anderson@stcolumbaca.com or (626) 228-8917.

Health Ministries Corner:

Dear St. Columba's Family!

Good wishes for a healthful 2025. We want to remind you that we're here for YOU! Centering on achieving wellness and unity in Mind, Body and spirit, we aim to be available to listen to you. We can offer encouragement, prayer, resources, education and referrals. We hope you are reading the Health Ministry updates in the Celtic Courier and enjoying the displays on the bulletin board in the parish hall, as well as attending the learning events at the Sunday morning forums. We look forward to seeing you at the wellness celebration events being planned for the upcoming year!

Food Ministry Needs:

For our feeding ministry, we need the following items: cereal, oatmeal, pasta sauce, pasta, canned soup, mac & cheese, canned tuna, canned chicken, fresh bread, toilet paper, paper towels, and Kleenex. If you would like to donate any of these items, you can bring them on Sunday or drop them off at the parish hall during the week.

Alternatively, you can donate to our Food ministry fund, by indicating "Food Ministry" in the memo of your check. Your support is so appreciated by our food clients who truly need our help!

Children and Youth Ministry 2025

Beginning Sunday, January 5, students will start in the nave with the parish and then walk together to our new class space in the Children's Learning Center. They will join back at the peace to share in communion with their church family.

Be on watch for a family area with activities in the church for those who want to have their children with them during the service and need a little more space to stretch out.

And stay tuned for details on youth group Sundays with lunch, fellowship, and Bible study.

For any questions, see Francina Anderson.

Ministers serving today:

Presider: The Rev. Dr. Michael P. Anderson Altar Guild: Gail Hill and Marianne Hyde Ushers: Gene Doswell, Gail & Maurice Hill

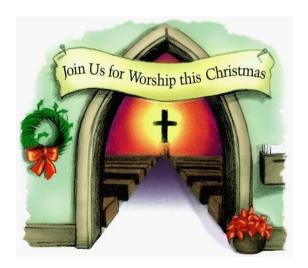
Lector: Maria Fernandez

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Bob Waite and Maria Fernandez

Livestream Technicians: Tim Helton, Nancy Miller, Vinita Bhushan, Richard Stone, Carlos Barraza, Bill Hillbrant

Sound Engineer: Tim Brown

michael.anderson@stcolumbasca.com



Our remaining Christmas Worship Schedule is: Tuesday, December 24, 11:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist Wednesday, December 25, 10:00 a.m. – Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for

those with immediate needs:

Bruce Keller, Chase Thorne, Betty Anear, Gail Amendt, Lynn Hyde-Harris, Rev. Susan Klein, Millie Shutt, Justin Sandoval, Jerry Gillespie, Ann Daniel, Bruce Anderson, Keli, Jack Shutt, Chris Russell, Gail Morrissette, Cameron Harrison, Maggie Lunsky, Eileen Ely, Declan, John Fredrick, Emily Bianco, Alison Hillbrant, Linda Lowe, Mary Vasi, Lisa, Ivan

and those who need our continuing prayers: Chance Kubinak, Richard Lappine

Chance Rubinak, Richard Lappine

We pray for all those serving at home and abroad:

• **Jesse** Meyer, **Liam** O'Brien, **Matthew** Bamberger, **Matt** Zelinskas, **Jonah** Hershman, and **Chris** Heney.

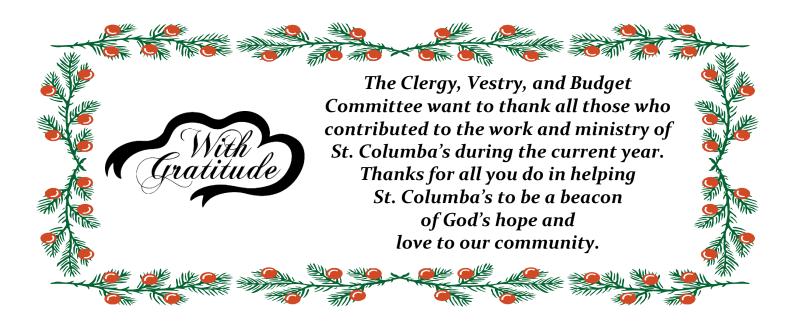
To make changes to the prayer list for St. Columba's, please contact the church office (office.manager@stcolumbaca.com) or 805-482-8831.

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Cover art: "The Nativity," altarpiece (ca. 1406–10), Lorenzo Monaco (Piero di Giovanni)

Coloring page: https://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/mother-mary-with-baby-jesus?tag=57149

Word search: https://www.funlovingfamilies.com/nativity-word-search-printable/



The Christmas flowers and greenery have been made possible through the generosity of the following parishioners:

Barbara Amick, in memory of Charles Hardison, love of my life *
Anonymous * Anonymous, for the Glory of God * Sara Cobb * Susan &
Gene Doswell * Jesse & Maria Fernandez, in memory of Magdalena &
Jesse Fernandez Sr. * Jerry Gillespie, in memory of Sally Gillespie *
Michele & Steven Hauser * Gail & Maurice Hill, in memory of our parents
* Judith Laurentowski * Thomas Ledsam, in memory of the Rev. Donald
Ledsam and Florence Ledsam * Joan MacEnery, in memory of John and
Carol Forder * Paulina and Melinda Miller, in memory of Betty Lou Miller
* Carol & Vito Rocco, in memory of John B. Rocco * Mary Steppes-Cole, in
memory of Esther Mae Washington, Jesse Washington Sr., and Margaret
Turner * Richard Stone, in memory of my mother Virginia Puette *
Jennifer & Paul Wanis, in memory of Betsy Thomas * Joe & Sarah Wigert

