

# Welcome to Worship

Sunday, December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 AM

*A Joy-filled Promise of Love for All People*



**Rev. Mary Dotson, Lead Pastor**

Website: [www.vistaumc.org](http://www.vistaumc.org)

Church Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am– 4:00 pm

(Closed for lunch between 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm)

Email: [admin@vistaumc.org](mailto:admin@vistaumc.org)

Vista de la Montaña United Methodist Church

3001 E. Miravista Lane

Tucson, Arizona 85739

520-825-1985

December 22, 2024

*Third Sunday of Advent*

10:00 am

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

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**Gathering Music**

**Welcome/Announcements**

Pastor Mary

**Prelude**

*O Magnum Mysterium*

Mary Bellah

Morton Lauridsen ©1995 Southern Music Publishing Company, Inc.

**Lighting of the Advent Candles**

Dottie Lou Colby & Kathy Isaac

**Hymn**

*Kindle This Flame of Love*

On Screen

Words: Gary L. Lake Dillensnyder,

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Music: Robert Jackson, 1888 Used by permission.

**\*Call to Worship**

**Liturgist:** Children of God, the arrival of the Promised One is almost here!

**People:** **We wait as people of God's promise.**

**Liturgist:** The message of the prophets and the expectation residing in Mary's womb call to us today.

**People:** **We listen as people of God's promise.**

**Liturgist:** Mary's "yes" and Elizabeth's faithfulness guide our path, showing us that we too have a role to play in bearing God's good news into the world.

**People:** **We follow as people of God's promise.**

**Liturgist:** This is the promise Mary, Elizabeth, and the prophets bore that we continue to carry even today—God is with us!

**People:** **God is with us! We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel, verses 1, 6, & 7*

UMH #211

**Old Testament Lesson**

Micah 5:2-5a

Liturgist

**Response Hymn**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem, verse 1*

UMH #230

**Time at the Steps**

Pastor Mary

**Anthem**

*Ave Maria: Meditation on the 1st Prelude of J. S. Bach*

Carolyn Dwyer,

Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

Flute

**Gospel Lesson** Luke 1:39-55 Liturgist  
Liturgist: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
People: Thanks be to God!

**The Message** *A Joy-filled Promise of Love for All People* Pastor Mary

**Invitation to Prayer** *Kindle This Flame of Love* On Screen

**Intercessory Prayer** Liturgist

**The Lord's Prayer** On Screen

### Offering

**Invitation to the Offering** Pastor Mary

**Offertory Music** *Pastoral Symphony from "Messiah"* Mary Bellah

Arr. Lani Smith ©1989 Lorenz Publishing Company

**\*Doxology** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #94

**\*Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Mary

**\*Closing Hymn** *Joy to the World* UMH #246

**\*Benediction** Pastor Mary

**Postlude** *The First Noel* Mary Bellah

Arr. James Mansfield ©1988 Lorenz Publishing Company

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**Liturgist** Carolyn Dwyer

**Stephen Minister** Louise O'Donald

**Flowers given by** Linda Zello in loving memory of Stephen McCotter

Flowers arranged by Pam Kravitz.

All church services are live-streamed and recorded.

CCLI No. 1030786, CCS No. 8841 CVLI No. 504149878-OneLicense.net No. A741246

## **Our Mission at Vista de la Montaña United Methodist Church**

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, and to reach out to others, help them, welcome them into our family of faith as we gather for worship, fellowship, education, and service.

### **How to contribute to the offering if online:**

1. Open the camera app on your cell phone.
2. Focus the camera on the QR code by gently tapping the code as it
3. Appears on your camera.
4. Tap on the yellow button—myvanco.com
5. Fill in the card, amount, etc.



**Thank you for your donation!**

### **Compassion Connection**

#### **In Need of Continued Prayers for Healing**

Marlin Bolar, Eileen Carender, Loni Degen, Edith (Edey) Gallaher, Kay Gragg, Bob & Jane Hendrickson, Bob & Eileen Herd, Ken & Sharon Hunt, Betty Little, Allen & Barbara Phillips, Art Schweitzer, and Carol Wilson.

#### **Home Bound**

John & Jan Crown, Florence Duckett, Bill Gureck, Fran Hampton, Margaret Overman, Ken & Diane Podlasek, Sharon Poole, Walt & Mary Louise Roberson, and Howard & Mary Lou Young.

### **Prayers for our Churches**

Each month churches in the South District pray with and for each other. This month we pray for the pastors, congregation, and community of the following:  
Chaplains & Counselors in the South District,  
The Inn Project, Tucson  
TMM Family Services-Peoples served and staff, Tucson  
Our sister church, Fuente de Vida in Agua Prieta, Mexico.

## **Holiday Church Hours**

**Christmas Eve Day December 24** - The office will be open from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon.

**December 25 and December 26** - The office will be closed.

**New Years Eve Day December 31** – The office will be open from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon.

**New Years Day January 1** – The office will be closed.

## Vista UMC Weekly Calendar

Sunday 12.22.24	10:00 am - Worship 10:15 am - Child/Youth Sunday School. 11:30 am - Adult Bible Study – St. Matthew Room
Monday 12.23.24	
Tuesday 12.24.24	Christmas Eve <b>9:00 am 12:00 pm Church office open</b> 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Services
Wednesday 12.25.24	Christmas Day <b>Church office Closed</b>
Thursday 12.26.24	<b>Church office Closed</b>
Friday 12.27.24	
Saturday 12.28.24	

### Upcoming Events

**December 24**, 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols. Communion will be served.

**December 29**, Christmas Carol sing-along service.

**January 11**, New and transferring members class starts at 9:00 am.

## Opportunities to Connect, Serve & Support

**Christmas offering:** Sunday's bulletin contains a Christmas offering envelope with proceeds going to Impact of Catalina.

### **Impact Food Urgent Request**

Impact Foods has asked for our assistance. Each month they distribute 800 bags of shelf stable items to families in Catalina. Included in each bag is one 14.5 oz can of diced tomatoes. They are completely out! This December, please consider donating 5 cans. Just imagine if 70 Vista members did this, we would collect **350 cans of tomatoes**.

# Thank you

The potluck committee would like to thank everyone who helped with the potluck. Vista Volunteers at their best! Stay tuned for details about the next potluck.....

**Christmas Sale** Agua Prieta Christmas Cards are available on the Patio or in the Library today. 4 cards for a dollar.

**FLOWER SIGN UP CHART FOR 2025.** Please consider sponsoring one or more flower arrangements in 2025 to enhance the Sunday worship experience at Vista. The donation is \$50 per arrangement, and the money is not required when you sign up. The flowers are yours to take home after the church service, or you can ask that they be shared with members of the congregation who are homebound. We ask only that you return the flower vase/basket when you are finished enjoying your flowers so that it can be reused.

**“Share the Warmth” Clothing and Bedding Drive – Get Ready!** Vista's annual Warm Clothing and Bedding Drive will run from Sunday, December 15, 2024, through January 26, 2025. Please consider supporting this cause with donations of gently used (or new) clothing and/or bedding. All donated items are regularly taken to IMPACT in Catalina, where they are distributed to neighbors in need in our community. **Socks, sweaters, jackets, gloves and head coverings are especially appreciated, as are blankets and quilts.** A clearly identified box in the narthex is available for your donations. Thank you in advance for your support during this season of giving (cash donations also gratefully accepted). Contact Benith MacPherson (benithmac@aol.com) with questions.

**Agua Prieta greeting cards** are available for 50¢ each in the Patio Room and in the Library.

**Complimentary Prayer Beads** are available in the Narthex and in the Library.

**Upper Room booklets** are available in the Narthex and the church office for \$2.00 each or online at upperroom.org. It is free to sign up for a daily devotional email.

The church has purchased a **wheelchair** to be used during worship if needed. The wheelchair will be kept in the Narthex.