

Advent 2023



Worship Celebration
December 10, 2023

Twin Towers United Methodist Church
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WORSHIP GUIDE

Before you begin your time of worship, find a comfortable place to be and gather whatever you might need: your Bible, something to write on and with, your computer/connected device (if you intend to listen to music online), etc. Feel free to adapt this worship guide in any way that makes best sense to you and those you might be gathered with. (Consider inviting someone – a friend, a family member – to worship with you.) Commit to spending the next hour with God.

PRELUDE – Listen and sing along to a song or hymn that blesses and centers your spirit.

Advent Candle Lighting: Peace

Donna Fong and John Yee

Advent Candle Lighting Hymn: “Light the Advent Candle” TFWS 2090 v. 2

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Lift up your hearts, people of God, for the Lord has looked favorably upon us and is sending us his beloved son.

All: He is raising up for us a mighty savior in the house of his servant David.

Leader: God is showing the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath he swore to our ancestors Abraham and Sarah, that we might serve him without fear.

All: We go before the Lord, following John the Baptist, to prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: Come, let us worship God and listen to the voice crying out in the wilderness.

All: Guide our feet towards true Peace.

OPENING HYMN – “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” UMH 196

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 1:68-79 NRSV

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

SERMON – You can watch Pastor Akesa’s message [here](#).

ANTHEM OF RESPONSE – “Lead Me, Guide Me” TFWS 2214

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE – *Spend time in prayer. What did you hear for yourself through today’s scripture and reflection? Talk to God about it. Then lift up the joys and concerns that are in your heart. You might write them down, speak them aloud, or pray for them in silence.*

We would be honored to pray with you and for you. Please send a note via text, mail, or email or give a call to our Healing Prayer Team.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



SHARING OUR GIFTS

How might you offer yourself and all that you have to God this week? How are you being invited to practice generosity? Spend a moment listening for God’s direction.

You are invited to contribute financially towards the purpose and ministry of TTUMC. We are a congregation committed to being conduits of God’s healing in our neighborhood and beyond, and in so doing, impact the last and the least. You can contribute by mailing in a check, dropping off cash, or giving online (visit <https://twintowersumc.org/give>).

CLOSING HYMN – “Blessed Be the God of Israel” UMH 209

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

NOW GO AND PASS CHRIST’S PEACE!

Announcements and Invitations

10:30 AM Worship Services on 12/24 and 12/31

We will have 2 opportunities to be in fellowship with Embrace Church in combined worship services this month:

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24: 10:30 AM

New Years Eve, Sunday, December 31: 10:30 AM

Join Twin Towers United Methodist Church for

Blue Christmas

A Blue Christmas service is offered especially for those feeling “blue” this Christmas. Join us on the longest night of the year to acknowledge the difficulties of life and to be reminded that you are not alone.

We will gather in hope for healing as we journey together.

6:00 pm on December 21 | In-Person and Virtual

f  @ttumcalameda



TWIN TOWERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Christmas Eve

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

DECEMBER 24 AT 6:00 PM
IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

Lake Merritt United Methodist Church
presents

SOUND BATH

Join us every second Friday, beginning November 10th
7:00 – 8:30 pm

Lake Merritt United Methodist Church (Sanctuary)
1330 Lakeshore Ave, Oakland, CA 94606
Park on Lakeshore Ave at metered parking

Choose how you would like to experience the Sound Bath
(Bring your own mat or blanket/pillow)

Sitting — \$20
In chairs facing the sides of the center stage, from the periphery of the church

Lying Down — \$35
Surrounding the center stage, on carpeted and hardwood floors



Scan the QR code to purchase tickets.