

Get Ready for Advent

Celebrate Advent and Christmas with us through worship, music, fellowship, and festivities. We welcome everyone—young, old, singles, couples, families, children—to participate.

Our December worship series focuses on the theme “A Voice in the Darkness: Do Not Be Afraid.” The angels that appear in the story of Jesus’ birth would have been very comfortable with tweets and hashtags. Their messages were short, to the point. What do the angels’ messages say to us? Our worship services and concerts are also streamed live online at www.laumc.org/live.

Sunday Services

8:00, 9:30, and 11:15am, Sanctuary **5:00pm, Creekside**

December 3: #morehope (Zechariah)

December 10: #morepeace (Joseph)

December 17: #morejoy (Mary)

December 24*: #morelove (Shepherds)

December 31*: #morelife (Magi, Joseph & Mary to Egypt)

*Note: There will be one morning service on December 24 at 10:00am. On December 31, morning services will be at 8:30am and 10:00am and a Watch Night Service at 5:00pm.

Advent Daily Devotional

LAUMC folks of all ages have written daily reflections on Advent scriptures. You can pick up a print booklet in the church entry, or to receive the devotions as a daily email, text the word ADVENT and your email address to 650-229-5200.

Advent Small Groups

Tuesdays (Dec. 5, 12, 19), 10:00–11:30am, Resource Center

Thursdays (Dec. 7, 14, 21), 7:00–8:30pm, Resource Center

All are welcome to participate in a short-term Advent group to reflect together on the daily devotional or weekly sermons. Jan McDaniel will facilitate the Tuesday morning group and Bob Olah the Thursday evening group.

Surviving the Holidays Workshop

Sunday, December 3, or Sunday, December 10

12:30–2:30pm, Resource Center

If you are grieving a loved one’s death, you may be dreading the holidays, knowing that everything has changed. This seminar will provide tips for navigating the holidays. Contact Patricia Parfett (650-383-9322 or patriciaparfett@laumc.org) to register.

For a calendar of events, please visit our website: www.laumc.org

A Festival of Carols & Lights

Saturday, December 9, 5:00 & 7:30pm, Sanctuary

Christmas comes to life with words and music. Our adult and youth choirs, worship band, and orchestra will fill the Sanctuary with the music of familiar carols and new Christmas anthems.

The Longest Night, a Service of Solace

Monday, December 18, 7:30pm, Sanctuary

This service is designed to provide solace, safety, warmth, and welcome to those who are suffering in their hearts during this season or in need of quiet reflection. God comes to us wherever we are—even in our grief, even in our pain—and we invite you to come and know there is a place for you in this season, too.

Jubilate Deo

Sunday, December 24, 10:00am, Sanctuary

Celebrate the fourth Sunday in Advent with worship, including a special musical presentation of Dan Forrest’s “Jubilate Deo” by choir, orchestra, and soloists.

Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 24, Sanctuary

Prepare your heart for the miracle of the Christ child at the service that best fits your schedule.

3:00* & 5:00pm* Traditional Family Services

7:00pm* Contemporary Family Service

9:00 & 11:00pm Candlelight Services

*Infant care provided

Senior Pastor: Kathi McShane

Minister of Music and Worship Arts: Dirk Damonte

Associate Pastor: Sam Lewis

Associate Pastor: Jon Visitacion

Director of Congregational Care: Patricia Parfett

Director of Ministry and Music for Youth: Carol Damonte

Director of Children’s Ministries: Michelle Caudle

Children’s Center Codirectors: Heidi Bliss and Dee Gray

Pastor Emeritus: John L. Dodson

655 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94024-5297

650-948-1083 FAX: 650-949-5372

After-Hours Urgent Care Line: 650-823-4562

www.laumc.org



Welcome to Los Altos

United Methodist Church!

We believe all persons are children of God, and we welcome ALL, regardless of age, cultural background, disabilities, ethnicity, financial circumstances, gender identity, marital status, religious tradition, or sexual orientation.

Los Altos United Methodist Church

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 22, 2017

PASSIONATE *Worship*



Please turn off all cell phones and pager alarms.
Hearing assist devices are available: see an usher.
† Those able are invited to stand.
FWS: Faith We Sing | UMH: United Methodist Hymnal

Gathering Music - Thanksgiving

Pastor Dirk Damonte, piano

As we gather for worship this evening, please place any nonperishable food you brought in the red barrels in the church entry for our donation to Community Services Agency.

Introit *Come Together in Thanksgiving* Damonte
Lightshine Choir & Starfire Singers
Carol Damonte, Director

Welcome

Opening Song *Welcome*

Greeting Prayer Pastor Dirk

Response Song *Welcome (sing 2x)*

My Words Can't Carry All the Praise Ted Loder

Hymn *Give Thanks* FWS 2036

Silent Prayer

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Hymn *Give Thanks* FWS 2036

Reading *A Prayer of Thanksgiving* Vienna Cobb Anderson

Song *My Heart, Your Home* Nockles

Bible Reading Psalm 121

Message: Over the River and Through the Woods
Pastor Dirk

Offertory *We Gather Together* arr. Damonte

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Blessing *Given* Tara Ward, Ryan Marsh

† Sending Forth

† **Song of Blessing** *Simple Things* Svenson

Closing Music *Blessing* D. Damonte

You may give online at <https://laumc.onlinegiving.org> or text your donation to (650) 229-5200 with the keyword THANKS and the amount of your donation. See the pew card for additional details.

Give Thanks

As you gather tomorrow over the Thanksgiving meal, you are invited to use the following as a prayer of thanks:

We give thanks for this good earth, your gift to us and our home, and we pray for wisdom and gentleness to care for your creation, O God.

We gather with grateful hearts, remembering your mercy and strength, your justice and your compassion, your goodness and your grace.

May we live what we know of you and strive for what you seek, O God.

In humility we pray for the entire human family, remembering those in need, and all who are alone, dishonored or excluded.

Move us through thanksgiving and praise to action.

Use us to gentle and heal wherever there is violence and harm.

May we embrace your just purpose, O God, and offer ourselves in prophetic witness.

We pray for your goodness to flow outward, flooding this world with love.

We pray for your loving purpose in every life this day and into the days to come.

Amen.

Written by Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, the resident bishop of North Carolina Annual Conference.