



INTROIT

Inglewood First Music

GREETING AND WELCOME

Melisa Arnold
Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: How shall we prepare for the coming of the Lord?

People: *With hearts filled with love and peace.*

Liturgist: How shall we prepare for the coming of Christ?

People: *With prayers filled with adoration and devotion.*

Liturgist: How shall we prepare for the coming of our savior?

People: *With songs filled with joy and hope.*

Liturgist: How shall we prepare for the coming of God's Son?

People: *With worship filled with passion and spirit.*

OPENING HYMN

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Hymnal #384

OPENING PRAYER

Elethea Cunningham, *Reader*

God of our deliverance, you meet us in our need. You fill the valleys of our insecurities with hope and bring low the mountains of our pride and conceit. As we await your Son and the glory of your salvation, guide our feet in the ways of peace. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: PEACE

Inglewood First Choir

Reader: *Because of war, because of violence in our communities, because there is still so much unrest in our hearts, we light a candle of peace.*

Reader: *Because hatred is still so strong, because so many swords have not yet been remade into ploughshares, we light a candle of peace.*

Reader: *May the light from this candle overwhelm the world.*

Reader: *May the light from this candle say to all that **God's peace** is coming, on earth as it is in heaven.*

Congregation: *Beloved. Let us not be afraid, God's peace is at hand!*

****Light the second candle of the Advent wreath.***

ADVENT CANDLE SONG

Inglewood First Music

*Light the Advent candle two
Think of humble shepherds who
Filled with wonder at the sight
Of the child on Christmas night.*

*Candle candle burning bright
Shining in the cold winter night
Candle candle burning bright
Fill our hearts with Christmas light*

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3: 1-6

New Revised Standard Version UE

Inglewood First Music

The Proclamation of John the Baptist

3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler

of Abilene, 2 during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3 He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, 4 as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight. 5 Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, 6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

MESSAGE

"Now Is the Time"

Pastor Monalisa Siofele Lolohea

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

INVITATIONAL SONG

"Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

Hymnal #382

BENEDICTION

Pastor Monalisa Lolohea

POSTLUDE

Inglewood First Musc



TODAY IN WORSHIP: Risa Wheat, *Worship Chairperson*; Melisa Arnold, Manu Tuuholoaki-Murrin, Charlene Bright, Woody Dozier, *Liturgists*; Sam Reid, *Director of Music*; Tre' Cyrus-Franklin, *Percussions*; Max Weiner, *Bass*; Tony Greene, *Sound Tech*; Tuutanga Tuihalamaka, *Video Tech*; Pastor Monalisa Siofele-Lolohea, *Site Pastor*; Bravo Maintenance

4 WAYS TO GIVE:

(1) **Mail:** Send to *Inglewood First UMC*,
304 E Spruce Ave, Inglewood, CA 90301

(2) **Online:** www.inglewoodfirst.org/give

(3) **Text-to-Give:** Text an amount to **84321!**

(4) **Download the Church App** at
www.inglewoodfirst.org/app

COMING UP @ INGLEWOOD FIRST UMC / inglewoodfirst.org/calendar

- **Worship Team Planning Meeting** | Tuesdays @ 10:00 am
 - **Zoom Bible Study** | Tuesdays @ 12 pm & 7 pm | Sign up at inglewoodfirst.org/biblestudy
 - **Virginia Beckett Food Pantry** | Thursday, December 19, 2024 @ 9:45 am - 12:00 pm
 - **Holiday Housing & Mental Wellness Pilot Program** | Thursday, December 19 @ 11 am - 2 pm
 - **Celebration of Life Service for "Blanche Smith"** | **Friday, December 20 @ 10:30 am-2 pm**
 - **Selah Sunday** | Sunday, December 29, 2024
 - **Choir Rehearsal** | 3rd & 4th Sundays after worship service
 - We're on our journey to Build Affordable Housing! Updates @ inglewoodfirst.org/housing
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CONGREGATIONAL CARE | *Submit prayer requests at inglewoodfirst.org/prayer.*

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS | Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin 12/5, Tre Cyrus-Franklin 12/5, Manu Tu'uholoaki-Murrin 12/7, Frank Baker 12/8, Marjorie Porchia 12/14, Gina Williams 12/15, Melisa Arnold 12/20, Halaevalu Tu'uholoaki 12/20, Patricia Thomas 12/23, Delmas Arnold II 12/25, Rokyia Ferguson 12/26, Charlene Bright 12/28

PRAYER LIST | Jimmie Woods-Gray • Quinn Jones • Pastor Rey Guevara's family • Mary Collins & Family • John Cohill & Family • Rokyia Ferguson • Toni Ravens & Candice Callins • Ceasefire in Gaza • Soto-Mack Family • Houseless Neighbors • Wendy Reynolds & Family • Elizabeth Payne • Elva Herrera • Affordable Housing Project • Della Greene & Anthony Greene • Blanche Smith • Stephannie Starr