

Worship for the Lord's Day

December 24, 2017 – 4th Sunday of Advent
10:00 AM

*An asterisk * indicates standing, as you are able.
The congregation's responses are in bold italics.*

The Church is Gathered

Welcome The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Announcements *Please see the bulletin insert for all announcements.*

Prelude *He is Born, The Holy Child* French Carol

In order to prepare for worship, you are invited to pray silently during the prelude.

To Praise God's Name

Lighting of the Advent Candles The Janiak Family

Call to Worship

Let us sing of the steadfast love of the Lord!

*Steadfast love will be built up forever,
God will establish faithfulness!*

Let the heavens praise the wonders of the Lord!

*The heavens and the earth are God's,
All the world is founded by God!*

Let us proclaim of the mighty arm of God!

*Righteousness and justice are the foundation,
Steadfast love and faithfulness go before God.*

* **Hymn** *Down to Earth, as a Dove* Hymnal #300

Unison Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, we know that you are always there to guide us, yet we often make plans without listening to you and discover that our human agendas can drown out our ability to hear your will for us. We repent of these faults and turn to you in love. Forgive our offenses and pardon our sins, that our lives may magnify your holy name forever. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Choral Kyrie *Lord, Have Mercy, Christ, Have Mercy*

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response Forgiveness is ours in Jesus Christ. *Thanks be to God!*

* **Song of Praise** *Gloria Patri* Hymnal #579

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

* **Passing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ is with you. *And also with you.*

To Hear God's Word

Choral Cantata *"Invitation to a Miracle"*

To Thank God

* **Profession of Faith** *Westminster Confession*

God guarantees the adoption of all those who are justified in and for the sake of his only son, Jesus Christ. Those adopted enjoy the liberties and privileges of God's children, have his name put on them, receive the Spirit of adoption, have access to the throne of grace with boldness, and are enabled to cry, Abba, Father. They are pitied, protected, provided for, and disciplined by him as a father. They are never cast off, however, and are sealed until the day of redemption and inherit the promises as heirs of everlasting salvation.

Offering *In the Bleak Midwinter* Gustav Holst

During the offertory, you are invited to offer silent prayers of gratitude.

* **Song of Thanksgiving** *Doxology* Hymnal #592

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers by and for the People • The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

To Depart to Serve God

* **Hymn** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?* **Hymnal #11**

* **Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *Wondrous Tidings* Carole Simone

Schedules

Ushers, December	Carolyn Lees, Darlene Robertson Ron Coleman, Jack Ritzer
Lay Reader, December 31	Cynthia Erb
Lay Reader, January 7	Barbie Andrews
Nursery, December 31	Charlotte Mabry
Nursery, January	Gary Andrews

December 25-30, Daily Lectionary Reading

MONDAY	Morning: Pss. 2; 145 Evening: Pss. 98; 96 Micah 4:1-5; 5:2-4 1 John 4:7-16 John 3:31-36	THURSDAY	Morning: Pss. 2; 147:12-20 Evening: Pss. 110; 111 Isa. 49:13-23 Isa. 54:1-13 Matt. 18:1-14
TUESDAY	Morning: Pss. 116; 146 Evening: Pss. 119:1-24; 27 2 Chron. 24:17-22 Acts 6:1-7 Acts 7:59-8:8	Friday	Morning: Pss. 96; 148 Evening: Pss. 132; 97 2 Sam. 23:13-17b 2 John 1-13 John 2:1-11
WEDNESDAY	Morning: Pss. 34; 147:1-11 Evening: Pss. 19; 121 Prov. 8:22-30 1 John 5:1-12 John 13:20-35	SATURDAY	Morning: Pss. 93; 149 Evening: Ps. 89 1 Kings 17:17-24 3 John 1-15 John 4:46-54

People to Contact at APC

Session (Active Elders)

Gary Andrews ('18)
Ministry Beyond the Congregation

Ron Coleman ('19)
Christian Education

Kelly deBernard ('19)
Ministry Within the Congregation

Anne Mabry ('18)
Worship

Stephanie Moehlenkamp ('19)
Worship

Chip Roark ('18)
Ministry Support

Dana Taylor ('18)
Christian Education

Mark Younkin ('19)
Property

Rev. Ed Soto
Moderator of Session

Staff

Rev. Ed Soto
Pastor

Carolyn Doss
Church Secretary

John Erb
Clerk of Session

Dot Hogan
Organist

Dennis Janiak
Treasurer

Stephanie Moehlenkamp
Choir Director

Other Contacts

Dolores Drumheller
Prayer Fellowship Request

Jack Ritzer
The Men of the Church

Our Mission

As members of the Body of Christ is to be
His voice and hands helping all people.



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Facebook: www.facebook.com/altavistapc

Website: www.altapres.org

Altavista Presbyterian Church strives to show compassion to all people within our Congregation and beyond our doors just as Jesus showed compassion to all those in need.

Joys and Concerns for Prayer

Please contact the church office if you have prayer concerns.

Prayers For....

- God's church here at APC and for His guidance.
- Our Session & Church Leaders.
- Dean Smith's health.
- Dianne Emmett's, health.
- Ted Phillips' health.
- David Lyons, cancer.
- Hospice patients and their caregivers.
- Elaine Button, health concerns.
- Ryan Hedgepeth, recovering from a severe accident.
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- The Fauver Family, in the death of Joseph "Tim" Fauver.
- Jeremy Larkin, as he serves in the military as a helicopter pilot.
- Grant Martin (Dennis & Linda Janiak's son-in-law) deployed to Korea.
- Our homebound members, Tim Coleman, Janet Soddors, Dean Smith, Essie Moore.
- Our nation and all our elected leaders.

Today's Prayers and Sermon Notes

Announcements

Welcome to Altavista Presbyterian Church! I Thessalonians 2:8 says, "We are delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well..." If you are a guest with us this morning, we are grateful for your presence among us. Please speak to the pastor or one of our ushers if you have any questions about our church or our community.

The **Lay Reader** today is **Ron Coleman**.

Our **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** will be this evening at 7:00 PM. As always, your visiting friends and family are invited and encouraged to attend.

The **Church office** will be closed December 25th-26th for the Christmas Holiday.

Wednesday, December 27, is the deadline for articles for the **January "Link" newsletter**. Items for the Link may be e-mailed to the church office.

Our Church will be serving the **Second Helping Lunch**, Wednesday, January 10. Volunteers are needed to serve and provide menu items. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the hall.

The **2018 Flower Calendar** has been posted in the hallway. Please take a moment to sign up to place flowers in the sanctuary for the Sunday morning of your choosing.

The Session would like to thank everyone who submitted a **pledge for 2018**. Thank you again for all you do to support the ministry of APC.

January DAWN Donation: Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce