

A Word About Participating in the Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is a special covenant meal that Christ gave to His Bride, the Church. **Baptized followers of Jesus** come to this Table to meet with their Lord and Savior by faith, to be renewed and strengthened by Him in their callings and mission as they eat the bread and drink the wine.

If you are not yet a Christian, or if for whatever reason you are not prepared to share in this meal, feel free to simply observe. Consider spending this time in prayer, perhaps using one of the prayers listed below. Reflect on the invitation of Jesus, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst...for my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:35, 40).

Please note, MHC serves wine in the Lord's Supper. We offer wine since it is often a symbol of joy and celebration in Scripture. **Juice is also provided** if you you would prefer that option.

Prayers for Those Not Communing

A Prayer Searching for the Truth: Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth, and the life, and that no one comes to the Father except by You. If what you claim is true, please guide me and teach me. Amen.

A Prayer of Trust in the Lord Jesus: Jesus, I confess that I am more broken, flawed, and sinful than I had ever before dared to admit. Yet You tell me that I am more loved than I ever dared to hope, and that You accept all who turn to You in simple faith. I trust You for the forgiveness for my sins, and I receive from You now the eternal life that You promise to all who come to You. Amen.

A Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin: Jesus, You know the battle that rages within my heart. Grant that in my battles with sin, I may see in You the fulfillment of all my needs. Give me strength to turn from every false satisfaction to find my ultimate joy in You. Amen.

A Prayer for Children (who have yet to profess faith): Jesus, the Bible tells me that You blessed kids like me. Help me to know who You are and to understand what You have done for me. Amen.

Announcements

Advent 2020: A Weary World Rejoices

It's a year unlike any we've experienced in our lives.

And it's in this context that we need to hear the message of Christmas afresh through weary hearts and tear-filled eyes.

Join us this Christmas season as we reflect on the "rejoice" worthy news of the birth of Christ and everything that means for our weary world.

Nov 29 - The Promise of Christmas
Dec 06 - God is With Us & For Us
Dec 13 - When God Comes Home for Christmas
Dec 20 - A Revolutionary Kind of Christmas

Christmas Toy Drive

Christmas is fast approaching, and we are excited to share with you an opportunity we have to provide Christmas presents for those in need.

Mercy Hill is participating in a toy drive to collect gifts for children at Scotty's House, which is a non-profit Child Advocacy Center here in the Brazos Valley. Their mission is to provide safety, healing and justice for children victimized by abuse (<https://www.scottyshouse.org>).

If you are interested in donating, we will be collecting toys at church on December 6 and December 13. If

you are not attending church in person right now, you can drop them off at Brenda Kent's house throughout the week of December 6-13. Please contact her at 510-734-8757 for the address

*Our mission is to see lives transformed
by the Good News of Jesus Christ!*

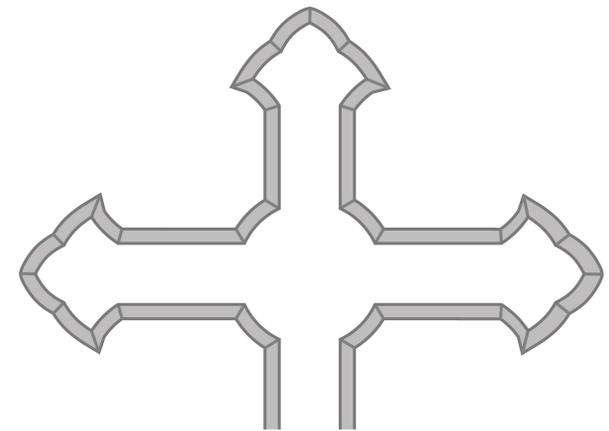


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November 29, 2020

The First Sunday of Advent



MERCY HILL
CHURCH



Welcome!

We're really glad you're here with us today.

Whether you are a Christian seeking to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ, or a skeptic looking for answers, or someone who is struggling to make sense of life and simply looking for a caring community, you are warmly welcome here. We are delighted you came this morning!

God Invites Us Into His Presence To Worship Together

“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!”
~ Psalm 150:6 ~

The Invitation

Isiah 40:28-31; Ps. 33:20-22

Songs of Praise & Worship

“Behold Our God”

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

God Graciously Renews Us In Christ Jesus

“Have mercy on me, O God....”
~ Psalm 51:1 ~

The Invitation

Matthew 11:28-30

A Moment for Silent
Confession & Reflection

The Words of the Gospel

John 6:37-40

Song of Response

“Joy to the World!”

God Gives Us His Words of Eternal Life

*“Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life!”*
~ The Gospel of John 6:68 ~

“Rejoicing in the Promise of Christmas” Genesis 12:1-4

Current Series:

“A Weary World Rejoices:
Advent 2020 at Mercy Hill”

God Receives Our Offerings

*“I appeal to you..., by the mercies of God, to present
your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable
to God, which is your spiritual worship.”*
~ Romans 12:1 ~

The Giving of our Offerings

A Moment of Reflection as We Prepare
to Join Together at the Lord’s Table

God Invites Us To The Lord’s Table

*“People will come from the east and west and
north and south, and will take their places
at the feast in the Kingdom of God.”*
~ The Gospel of Luke 13:29 ~

The Words of Institution

For more on Communion,
please see the back panel.

Songs of Response & Celebration

“King of Kings”

Our Song of the Month
for the Season of Advent

God Sends Us Out Into The World With His Blessing

*“God has shown you, what is good. And what does
the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love
mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”*
~ Micah 6:8 ~

The Blessing

Romans 15:13

Notes: