

San Jose Christian Reformed Church

“God’s love to us, God’s love through us...”

May the Lord bless us all as we worship Him here this morning.

Pastor Al Helder will be preaching for us today,

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors!

First Sunday of Advent: December 3, 2006

Advent Worship and Communion

Anticipating God Coming to Us

Prelude: Our preparation for worship.

Welcome / Call to Worship (Isaiah 40:3-5) / Greetings

Songs of Praise: *Joy to the World*

Emmanuel

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (HFG #168)

Advent Candle Reading and Candle Lighting: The B. Family

Hymn of Response: *In Christ Alone*

Advent Reconciliation With God

Call to Confession: Psalm 85:1-7

Pastor: You showed favor to your land, O Lord;

you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your people
and covered all their sins.

You set aside all your wrath
and turned from your fierce anger.

**PEOPLE: Restore us again, O God our Savior,
and put away your displeasure toward us.
Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger through all generations?
Will you not revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?
Show us your unfailing love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.**

Silent Prayer of Personal Time with God

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 85:8-13

Song: *Jesus, Name Above All Names*

Congregational Prayer

Children ages 3 through grade 6 leave us for “Kid’s Life”

Offering of Love and Gratitude: Church Ministry Fund

Special Offering: Faith Promise

God’s Word and Sacrament for Advent

Scripture Reading: Genesis 28:10-22

Message: ***Bridge From God to Us***

First Sunday of Advent

Choir: *Heaven’s Come to Earth Today*

Words of Institution

Invitation

Memorial (in unison)

Song: *We Remember You*

Communion: The elders will first distribute the cups, please put them in the pew holders. Then they will distribute the bread. This enables us to take bread and cup close together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessing

Closing Song: *Come, Lord Jesus*

If you are a first time visitor today, please complete a “Communication Card” and stop by the welcome table in the back of the sanctuary for a gift and information packet. Please join us for “Coffee Time” at 10:40, to be followed by our Congregational Town Hall Meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Classes for children and youth at 11:00 am.

Next Sunday at SJCRC...

December 10, 9:30 am: Worship Service: Pastor Al Helder will be preaching. Special Offering: Ministry Shares. Please join us for “Coffee Time” after the morning service. Classes for adults, children and youth: 11:00 am.

Church News and Events

Today, December 3, at 11:00 am: Our elders ask everyone to join us for a “Town Hall Meeting” to hear a report from the Pastoral Search Team and to discuss future plans. Please join us after the morning worship service in the Fellowship Hall.

Today we begin our celebration of Advent: the Comings of Christ. The theme of our messages will be “Dreams and Visions that Announce God Coming to Us”. We will talk about Jacob’s dream at Bethel, Solomon’s dream when he became king, and Daniel’s dream about how God would use world history to prepare the way for his Son. On December 24 we will have a Christmas Service in the morning, and we are invited to join with Communities of Hope for a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:00 in the evening. Bring your friends for a special season of worship and Christmas music.

Church News and Events (continued)

Next Sunday, December 10 at 5:30 pm: All-Church Potluck and Caroling Night. Please join us for this fun annual event. After a good meal together we will bring Christmas joy to our neighbors. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!

Palo Alto CRC invites you to join them at the annual Palo Alto CRC Ice Skating Night on Saturday, December 30 from 5:30-7:30 pm. It is held at the Winter Lodge at 3009 Middlefield Road in Palo Alto (www.winterlodge.com). The cost is \$12 / skater and includes skate rental. People who come to watch the fun do not have to pay. Bring a snack to share: drinks will be provided. You are allowed to push little children in strollers on the ice. Call PACRC if you have questions: 650-493-1152.

Our Church Family

Please pray for these personal needs:

- * **Jeff B.:** We are thankful with Jeff, Estella and Brendan that they could worship with us last Sunday. Jeff continues with his radiation and chemo treatments daily during the week and also regular visits with the therapist. He is having mild side effects from the chemotherapy. Jeff welcomes calls on the weekends and early evenings. Continue to pray for the B. Family.
- * **Charlie B., Irvin D., Bill G., Rein G. and Cobe R.:** Please pray for these members of our church family who have continuing health problems. Remember these friends with your cards and visits: they appreciate your thoughtfulness.
- * **Linda H.** (mother of Jennifer C.): Jennifer tells us that our prayers on behalf of her mother have been heard: Linda has regained a lot of strength and has been able to put on a little weight. Chemo treatments will begin next week. Thank you, congregation, for your prayers and support!
- * **Pastor Don Hammond's wife, Norma,** is battling cancer and has been experiencing severe pain. Pastor Don and Norma are thankful that the prognosis is better than first thought. Please pray for them and their family as they go through this difficult time.

Pray for our church. Please remember:

- our youth (JJs and Sonlife) as they spend time learning and having a great time together.
- our GEMS and Cadets: we continue our partnership with other churches and are seeing wonderful growth and enthusiasm.
- our Sunday children's groups: we experience good attendance and are thankful for a faithful staff.
- our men's and women's Bible studies
- our various teams as they seek God's direction for our church
- God's leading as the Pastoral Search Team continues the process of searching for a new Pastor for our church.

Elder-Deacon Care Groupings

Elder/Deacon phone numbers are in the church directory. *Please inform them directly* of any need you might have.

<u>Last Name Beginning:</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Deacon</u>
A-B	Doug P.	Mark L.
C-F	Jake B.	Steve S.
G-Ki	Harvey V.	Dan M.
Ko-L	Steve B.	Bruce G.
M-O	Bryan P.	Doug B.
P-S	Pastor Al H.	Steve M.
T-Z	Randy M.	Gert B.

Council Officers: Bryan P., Council President
Harvey V., Vice President
Randy M., Clerk

To contact Pastor Al Helder: Please call his cell phone: (209) 614-5761 or the church office: (408) 266-4412 Email: PastorAl@sjcrc.org

From the Deacons: City Team has provided barrels in the entry of the church for the holiday season. Please bring your donations of non-perishable food, new toys, and clothing items to fill these barrels for those in need. Tags are provided on the barrels to label your toy or clothing gifts. Let's work together to fill up these barrels!

CRC Denominational News

From World Missions - This holiday season remember your missionaries! Send them a card or e-card. This is more than a festive greeting – it's a greatly appreciated dose of Christian encouragement and care. For more remote countries, an e-card is a great way to ensure your greetings will arrive before Christmas!

Our missionaries: Gary and Pam Van Veen and Family
SGO 12332
7990 15th Street East
Sarasota, FL 34243
Email: garyvanveen@fastmail.fm

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The December "Prayer Guides" and the December/January/February "Our Daily Bread" devotionals are available in the information racks. Please pick up your copies.

Church Bulletin: Miss a service? Current and archived bulletins are online at www.sjcrc.org. Please have any bulletin announcements for this coming Sunday into the office **this week by Thursday evening** at the latest.

San Jose Christian Reformed Church
5150 Camden Avenue, San Jose, CA 95124
Phone: 408-266-4412 Online: www.sjcrc.org

Helping This Sunday, December 3

Greeters: Eugene and Cathie G.

Ushers: Case and Leigh Ann V.

Hospitality: Harvey and Carol V.

Audio/Visual: Wendell K. and Bruce G.

Coffee: Dan and Betsy M., Mike and Laura L., Jackie R.

Nursery: Tiffany B., Claudio H.

Kids' Life: Natalie L., Harriet V., Betty P.

Helping Next Sunday, December 10

Greeters: Gert B., Pat V.

Ushers: Harv and Carol V.

Hospitality: Steve and Sally B.

Audio/Visual: Mike K. and Steve M.

Coffee: Claudio and Nancy H., Wendell and Patty K., Tina V.

Nursery: Patty K., Jennifer L., Jordan D.

Kids' Life: Tiffany B., Alexis S.

Schedule of Events: December 3 - 10, 2006

This Sunday:

9:30 am – First Sunday of Advent: Worship and Communion Service

10:40 am – Coffee and Refreshments

11:00 am – Town Hall Meeting, Classes for Children and Youth

Tuesday:

6:30 pm – Executive Board Meeting

7:30 pm – Elders and Deacons Meeting

Wednesday:

10:00 am – Coffee Break Women's Bible Study

7:00 pm – Stephen's Ministry Supervision and Training Meeting

Thursday:

7:00 pm – Finance Team Meeting

7:30 pm – Praise Team

8:00 pm – Choir

Saturday:

6:30 am – Family Shelter Breakfast

Next Sunday:

9:30 am – Second Sunday of Advent: Worship Service

10:40 am – Coffee and Refreshments

11:00 am – Classes for Children and Youth

5:30 pm – All-Church Potluck and Caroling Night

*Overeaters Anonymous meets Mon., Tues. and Thurs. evenings
and Sat. mornings. Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tues. evenings.*

***All-Church Christmas Dinner and Caroling Night
Next Sunday, December 10 at 5:30***

Mark your calendars- plan to come!

WHAT? All-Church Potluck Dinner and Caroling night

WHEN? Sunday, Dec. 10, at 5:30 PM

***WHO? Everyone- families, couples, singles, young and old
and everyone in between!***

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Families, please bring a main dish and a salad or dessert

Couples, please bring a main dish

Singles, please bring a salad or dessert

Drinks, rolls, and tableware will be provided for you.

Please come... Let's enjoy our time together
and spread Christmas Joy to our neighborhood!