

Christmas Eve Worship 2021
5:30 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.
Elim Lutheran Church, Petaluma, CA



Welcome to Elim Lutheran Church

1) Accessible restrooms and an AED are located by the exit near the parking lot.
An all-gender restroom is in the Sanctuary Balcony.

2) Elim belongs to the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). To learn more, visit <https://www.spselca.net/>



RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able

HYMN: O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL ELW 283



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

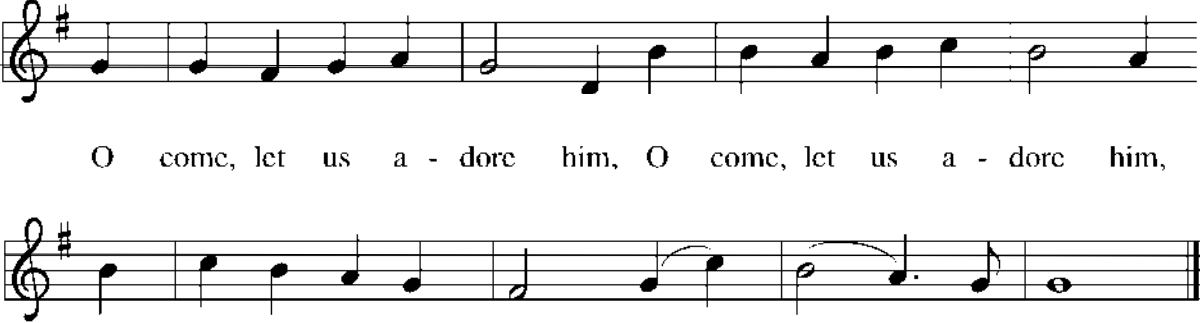


come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2
 Music: ADESTE FIDELIS, attr. John Francis Wade

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Reader: Almighty God,

All: **you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Please be seated

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 9:2-7 (5:30 pm -Aidan Fusco; 10:00 pm -Tom Harris)

Reader: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM ELW 279

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a repeat sign. The second and third staves end with a repeat sign. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!

A - hove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

THE CHRISTMAS STORY: LUKE 2:1-7 (5:30pm -Stella Prime; 10:00pm -Richard Maxon)

Reader: The holy gospel according to Luke

All: **Glory to you, O Lord**

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

SONG: WHAT CHILD IS THIS ELW 296

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?

Whom an-gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?

This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar-y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES. English ballad. 16th cent.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY: LUKE 2:8-14 (5:30pm - Éire Hohenner; 10:00pm -Richard Maxon)

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

SONG: THE FIRST NOEL ELW 300

1 The first Noel the angel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -

Refrain

night that was so deep. No - el. No - el. No -
tin-ued both day and night.



Text: English traditional

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

THE CHRISTMAS STORY: LUKE 2:15-20 (5:30pm –Daphne Widger; 10:00pm –Pastor Kathryn)

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (5:30 pm Service only)

SONG: AWAY IN A MANGER ELW 277

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord

Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION: Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson

SONG: ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH ELW 289



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain



Glo

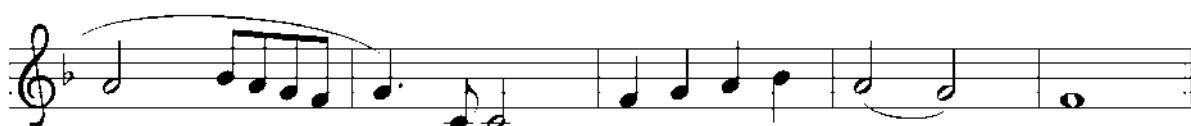
ri - a



in ex - cel - sis

De - o;

glo



ri - a

in ex - cel - sis

De

o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy. *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864

Music: GLORIA, French carol

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reader: Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Reader: Love proclaims that a Savior has been born to us! Inspire your church throughout the world to proclaim the good news of Jesus' birth to all who seek salvation, hope, and new life. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Reader: Love whispers to a weary world. We pray especially for the people in the midwest who are struggling to recover from the devastating tornadoes, and for the ministry of our ELCA Disaster Relief. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Reader: Love cries to a warring world that the time for peace is at hand. We pray especially for the people of Haiti, Afghanistan, and Syria. Direct those in power who make decisions on behalf of others, that they nurture and sustain all that is healthy, good, and holy. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Reader: Love sings through the wails of a newborn baby. Respond to all who cry out in pain, despair, or need this night especially Marcus, Ben, Carole, Jim, Audrey, Robin, Sue, Renate, Don, Bob, Carolyn, Richard, Nancy, Dave, Gene, Christina, Ruth, Sigrun, Shirley, Irene, Diane, those battling the coronavirus and those we name silently and aloud (*brief silence*). Bring comfort to those for whom separation, grief, or loss makes the Christmas season especially difficult. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Reader: Love murmurs words of comfort to a newborn child and exhausted parents. Bless new and expectant parents or caregivers, especially those who are alone or afraid this night. Pour out your love upon families of every kind. Merciful God, .

All: receive our prayer.

Reader: God's ever-present love is proclaimed through the faithful who came before us. We give you thanks for Mary, John the baptizer, Elizabeth his mother, Joseph the dreamer, and all who point toward your love.
Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Pastor: Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

ALL: Amen.

OFFERTORY

We will not be collecting offerings during service. Offerings may be placed in the basket at the back of the Sanctuary when arriving or leaving. Your Attendance/Contact Tracing Form can also be put in the basket.

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Gracious God,

All: your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.

As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,

prepare us to receive the grace and truth

you offer at this table

and renew in us the song of your salvation,

in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Please stand as you are able

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

(You can hold up the peace sign and look into one another's eyes!)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

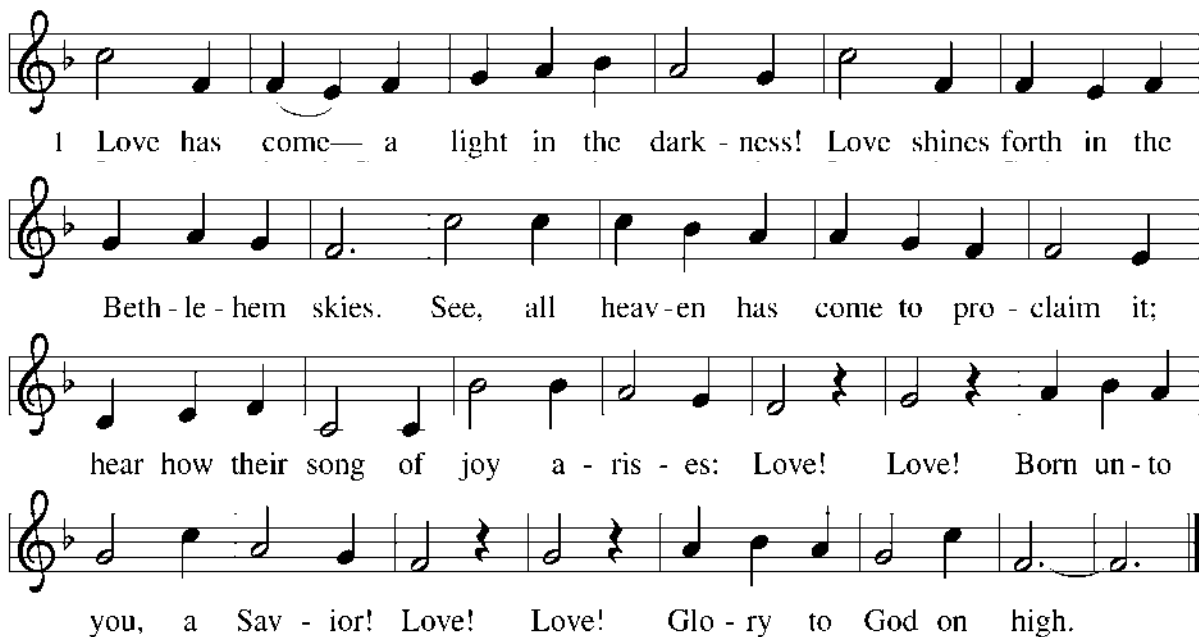
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

SONG: LOVE HAS COME ELW 292



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Pastor: For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

SONG: LOVE HAS COME ELW 292

2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de Noël's composés en langue provençale*, 1856

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LORD'S PRAYER

All: **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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

Please be seated

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Mid-Winter” Athena Labberton and Sarah Labberton

Mid-Winter #60387

Christina Rossetti—poem

Type: Words

Contributors: Bob Chilcott

Text: © 1995, Oxford University Press

COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes everyone to his table and so we offer to everyone, without exception, to share in Holy Communion. If you would like to receive communion with us today, please come forward and hold out your hands. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please let the server know. When you receive the wine/juice you may discard the cup after drinking. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please leave your hands folded in front of you. If you are a visitor and would feel more comfortable, you are welcome to remain seated.

If you would like to receive communion but cannot come forward, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.

COMMUNION SONG: IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR ELW 282



- 1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
- 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
- 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
- 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still-ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876

Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,

All: God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.

As we have shared this feast of love,

strengthen us to share your love with all the world.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC :

Athena Labberton, Sarah Labberton - "O Holy Night" (By Adolphe Adam)

WORDS: John S. Dwight (1813-1893)

MUSIC: Adolphe C. Adam (1803-1856); arr. Jack Schrader (1942-)

Music Arr. © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

CANTIQUE DE NOEL

Irregular

Please stand as you are able

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

HYMN: SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT! ELW 281



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

BLESSING

Response after blessing: Amen

SENDING

Pastor: Merry Christmas, go in peace to share the love of Jesus.

All: Merry Christmas

POSTLUDE: GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN ELW 290

Text: African American spiritual. refrain: John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.

Music: GO TELL IT. African American spiritual

**Thank you to everyone who donated poinsettias
to beautify our sanctuary this Christmas:**



- * Tim and Pat Alexandro in memory of Zella Nunnelly
- * Joanne Athearn in honor of George and Kathy Matt
- * Sue and Ben Barnes in memory of our parents, Marian and Dwight Barnes and Berit and Jim Carter.
- * Renate and Martin Bohn in honor of Andy Christianson, Hanne Friedrichsen, and Gunnart Kissmann
- * Shari Canavan in memory of Jacki McKeay, miss you mommy, love your daughter.
- * Shirley & Michael Cardella, thanking God and all his many blessings.
- * Nancy Clarke in memory of Tom and Karen Morgan McKenna
- * Nancy, Katherine and Marcus Clarke in memory of Mel Clarke
- * Elim Friend a huge Thank You to all who have crafted, volunteered, baked, helped, and spread Christmas Cheer.
- * John & Bettie Finkbohner in memory and honor of parents, family, and friends. In loving memory of our son and brother John F. Finkbohner III. We love and miss you.
- * Grace Friendship Circle in memory of Lorraine Johnsen
- * Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson: In memory of her brother, Kris R. Gulbranson, and all who have died from AIDS
- * Cynthia & Walt Griffith in memory of our parents: Walter & Eunice Griffith and John & Yvonne Schiller
- * Walt and Mendi Kehr in honor of our grandson Nolan Scott Silveri, born August 26, 2021, parents, Scott and Sharon Silveri and sister Reece. We are so very blessed!
- * Tim and Pat Kellgren in honor of John Kellgren and Bee Kellgren
- * George and Kathy Matt, in honor of our family

- * Richard and Lynn Maxon in honor and memory of our families
- * Robin Merrill in memory of Dad, Grandma, Grandpa, Auntie for a Merry Christmas in heaven
- * The Navarro Family in honor of our parents/grandparents: Lou and Dee Navarro, Joanne and Don Dilts
- * Joanne and Steve Nelson in memory of Gaston, Nelson Thompson and Hyatt families
- * The Nielsen Family in memory of the children of Oxford High School
- * Mike and Karen Pesutich for the blessings of all our family and friends.
- * Rich and Susan Rodkin in gratitude for the inspiring leadership and guidance of Pastor Kathryn at Elim and in memory of our parents Margaret & Terry Girvan, Maxine & David Rodkin.
- * Martha Sabourin in memory of Leonard Sabourin.
- * Mary Savage in memory of Michael Savage.
- * Ruth and Len Svinth in honor of the many blessings in the past year for our family
- * Team Svinth in honor of all Svinths past and present and the Mansen family
- * Dan & Doris Widger in honor of our grandchildren, Daphne, Declan, Travis and Jonathan.
- * Becky Wyrick and Bob Ortiz in memory Uncle John Sundet, Aunt Monica Holbrook, Grandma Vi Sundet, Sheri Mandler, Gabe Madrigal, Grandma Betty Bays and Uncle Henry Ortiz.
- * Mary Wyrick in memory of our family Sundets, Wyricks and Schwarze
- * In thankfulness of Pastor Kathryn (anonymous)

If you ordered a poinsettia, feel free to take it home with you after the **10:00 p.m.** Christmas Eve Service or on Sunday, December 26.

Christmas Worship Schedule

Saturday, December 25, Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m.

- Lessons and Carols at St. John's Episcopal Church,
40 5th St, Petaluma

Sunday, December 26 at 10:00 a.m.

- Hymn-led Worship at Elim



Thank you to the following people
for contributing to today's service:

The Rev. Kathryn Gulbranson, Interim Pastor Officiants
 Lauren Haile Music Director
 Fran Wilson Bulletin Folder
 Open at time of printing..... Sacristan
 Cynthia Griffith..... Bread Baker
 Éire Hohenner, Stella Prime, Daphne Widger, Aidan Fusco, Tom Harris,
 Richard Maxon Readers
 Athena Labberton, Sarah Labberton Special Music
 Aidan Fusco, Spencer Prime, Robin Merrill..... Acolyte
 Don Bent, Walt Griffith..... Ushers
 Catherine Winters..... Communion Servers
 Mercedes Cooke, Rosemary Endicott, Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson, Lynn
 Harenberg, Pat Kellgren, Tim Kellgren, Athena Labberton, Sarah Labberton, Vicki
 Olivas Navarro, Richard Maxon, Carol Mayo, Robin Merrill, Alex Miller, Kevin
 Prime, Stella Prime, Richard Rodkin, John Schempf, Phil Sorensen, Daphne
 Widger, Nathan Widger Musicians
 Paul Haile, Andy Hohenner, Kevin Prime Tech Audio/Video

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