
December 18, 2011

5:00 p.m.

Westside Morning Services – John Adams Middle School

9:00 a.m.

- Worship Service and Lord's Supper
- Children's Ministries

11:00 a.m.

- Worship Service
- Children's Ministries

Downtown Evening Service – 5:00 p.m. – St. John's Cathedral

- Worship Service – Main Sanctuary
- Children's Ministries
 - Infant/Toddler Childcare – Nursery behind sanctuary
 - Sunday School (Pre-K and up) – Nursery behind sanctuary

Parking

Parking is available in designated lots around the church, each marked by a Pacific Crossroads parking sign. Entrances to these lots are on Adams Blvd between Figueroa and Flower Streets; and on Adams Blvd just east of Flower Street. We also use the Bank of America parking lot on the corner of 27th Street and Figueroa. Street parking is available on Adams Blvd, Figueroa Blvd, 27th and 28th Streets.

Please silence all cell phones and pagers during the service. Thank you.

Reflections

I could not endure existence if Jesus were not glorified.

Henry Martyn, Diary of Henry Martyn

The action of Jesus is more than an example of prophetic protest against corrupt religion: it is a sign of the end of all religion.

Leslie Newbigin, The Light Has Come

“Christmas again. Damn!” His words are barely audible but his wife knows his feelings well. She sees the hurt come into his eyes when the kids come home from school talking about what they want for Christmas. It is the same expression she sees on the faces of the other unemployed fathers around the housing project.

She knows this year will be no different from the last. All her husband’s hustle, his day-labor jobs, his pickup work will not be enough to put presents under a tree. They will do well to keep the heat on. His confident, promising deceptions allow the children the luxury of their dreams a while longer. She will cover for him again because she knows he is a good man. His lies are his wishes, his flawed attempts to let his children know what the older ones know but never admit: the gifts are not from Daddy.

He will not go with her to stand in the “free toy” lines with all the others. He cannot bring himself to do it. It is too stark a reminder of his own impotence. And if their home is blessed again this year with a visit from a Christian family bearing food and beautifully wrapped presents for the kids, he will stay in the bedroom until they are gone. He will leave the smiling and the graciousness to his wife. His joy for the children will be genuine. But so is the heavy ache in his stomach as his image of himself as a provider is dealt another blow.

Christmas. That wonderful, awful time when giving hearts glow warm and bright while fading embers of a poor man’s pride are doused black.

Robert D. Lupton, “Christmas Again”

Advent is a season in which Christians remember that the world, for all of its beauty, is still dark with sorrow and we need God to come and “be our light.” It is a beautiful season, but a mournful one too—a season of darkness. In time it gives way to Christmas, the season in which Christians celebrate that God has come and will come again—a season of light.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 18, 2011

Prelude

Song of Preparation

Agnus Dei

Words and Music: Michael W. Smith

Alleluia, alleluia
For our Lord God Almighty reigns
Alleluia, alleluia
For our Lord God Almighty reigns
Alleluia

Holy, holy are You Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb
You are holy
Holy are You Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb
You are holy

CCLI Song # 626713; ©1990 Sony/ATV Milene Music

God Calls Us to Worship – from Isaiah 35

Leader: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

All: “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come;
He will come and save you.”

Songs of Praise

My Hope is You

Words and Music: Third Day

¹To You, O Lord, I lift my soul
In You, O God, I place my trust
Do not let me be put to shame
Nor let my enemies
Triumph over me

Chorus My hope is You
Show me Your ways
Guide me in truth
In all my days
My hope is You

²I am, O Lord, filled with Your love
You are, O God, my salvation
Guard my life and rescue me
My broken spirit shouts
My mended heart cries out

Chorus

CCLI Song #2373672; ©1997 New Spring/Vandura 2500 Songs/Gray Dot Songs

More Love to Thee

Words: Elizabeth Prentiss; Music: Chris Weldon

¹More love to Thee, O Christ,
More love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make
On bended knee.
Let sorrow do its work,
Come grief or pain;
Sweet are Thy messengers,
Sweet their refrain,

Chorus 1 When they can sing with me:
More love, O Christ to Thee;
More love, O Christ to Thee!

²Once earthly joy I craved,
Sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I trust,
To give what's best.
Then shall my dying breath
Be to Thy praise
This be the parting cry
My heart shall raise

Chorus 2 My final prayer shall be:
More love, O Christ to Thee;
More love, O Christ to Thee!

Come, Oh Redeemer, Come

Words and Music: Fernando Ortega

¹ Father enthroned on high
Holy, holy
Ancient eternal light
Hear our prayer

² Lord save us from the dark
Of our striving
Faithless and troubled hearts
Weighed down

Chorus

Chorus Come, oh Redeemer, come
Grant us mercy
Come, oh Redeemer, come
Grant us peace

³ Look now upon our need
Lord be with us
Heal us and make us free
From our sin

Chorus

CCLI Song #2069663; ©1996 Metro One

Scripture Readings

This is what the LORD says, “Call to Me and I will answer you. I will bring health and healing; I will heal My people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security. I will cleanse them from all the sin they have committed against Me and will forgive all their sins of rebellion against Me.”

from Jeremiah 33

And Jesus came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as was His custom, He went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and He stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to Him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,
because He has anointed Me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent Me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And He rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Luke 4:16-21

Song of Response

Freedom Reigns

Words and Music: Michael Larson

¹ Where the Spirit of the Lord is
There is freedom (2x)

² Lift your eyes to heaven
There is freedom (2x)

Chorus 1 Freedom reigns in this place
 Showers of mercy and grace
 Falling on every face
 There is freedom

³ If you're tired and thirsty
There is freedom (2x)

⁴ Give your all to Jesus
There is freedom (2x)

Chorus 2 Jesus reigns in this place
 Showers of mercy and grace
 Falling on every face
 There is freedom

Bridge Great is Thy faithfulness (3x)
 O God

CCLI Song #2609353; ©1998 ION Publishing

Scripture Reading

I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And they fell on their faces, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

from Revelation 7

Behold the Lamb of God

Words and Music: William Gramling

Behold the Lamb of God
Who takes away the sin of the world
Jesus the Lamb of God
He has taken all of our sin

©William Gramling

Offerings of the People

The offering is a way for Christians to support the mission and ministry of the church. Christians offer a sacrificial portion of their resources—time, talents, possessions—as an act of faith and gratitude in response to God’s grace. If you are a guest we are glad you are here today. Please feel no obligation to give.

Emmanuel

Words and Music: Reuben Morgan

Holy, holy
I will bow before my Lord and King
Hallelujah, You have come to us
You make all things new

Chorus Emmanuel, Jesus Christ
 You’ll never let me go
 My Shepherd King
 You’re watching over me, Emmanuel

So amazing
You have named the stars of the deepest night
Still You love me, You have called my name
I will follow You

Bridge Holy, holy God Almighty
 There is none like You

CCLI Song #4433417; ©2005 Hillsong Music Publishing

Scripture Reading – John 2:12-25

¹²After this He went down to Capernaum, with His mother and His brothers and His disciples, and they stayed there for a few days.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

¹⁴In the temple He found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there.

¹⁵And making a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And He poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables.

¹⁶And He told those who sold the pigeons,

“Take these things away; do not make My Father’s house a house of trade.”

¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for Your house will consume Me.”

¹⁸So the Jews said to Him, “What sign do You show us for doing these things?”

¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

²⁰The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?”

²¹But He was speaking about the temple of His body.

²²When therefore He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

²³Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs that He was doing.

²⁴But Jesus on His part did not entrust Himself to them, because He knew all people

²⁵and needed no one to bear witness about man, for He himself knew what was in man.

Sermon

Lord of the Whips
Rankin Wilbourne

Songs of Celebration

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Words: Latin, 19th century; Music: Thomas Helmore

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Chorus Rejoice! Rejoice!
 Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
And drive away the shades of night,
And pierce the clouds and bring us light.

Chorus

O come Thou root of Jesse's tree,
An ensign of Thy people be.
Before Thee rulers silent fall;
All peoples on Thy mercy call.

Chorus

O come, desire of nations, bind
All people in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;
Fill all the world with heaven's peace.

Chorus

Public Domain

I Exalt Thee

Words and Music: Pete Sanchez, Jr.

For Thou, O Lord, art high
Above all the earth
Thou art exalted far above all gods
For Thou, O Lord, art high
Above all the earth
Thou art exalted far above all gods

Chorus 1 I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee
 I exalt Thee, O Lord (*repeat*)

Chorus 2 We exalt Thee, we exalt Thee
 We exalt Thee, O Lord (*repeat*)

CCLI Song #17803; ©1977 Pete Sanchez, Jr.

God Sends Us Out – *Rankin Wilbourne*

IMPORTANT: Only one service will be held on Christmas, December 25th, at 10:00 a.m. Next Sunday join us for a special Christmas service at John Adams Middle School, where we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus through story and song. **There will NOT be a service Downtown.**

Want prayer? Our prayer team is available to pray with you after the service at the front of the sanctuary. All requests are kept confidential.

Welcome Center: If you would like more information about our church, please visit the Welcome Center in the hospitality area.

Ministry Contacts

If you have a question or a need, we are here to serve you.

[financial or mercy needs]	mercy@pacificcrossroads.org
[contact a pastor]	pastors@pacificcrossroads.org
[community groups]	community@pacificcrossroads.org
[children's ministry]	children@pacificcrossroads.org
[counseling need or question]	counseling@pacificcrossroads.org
[global missions opportunities]	missions@pacificcrossroads.org
[local service opportunities]	hopeforla@pacificcrossroads.org
[worship team]	worship@pacificcrossroads.org
[meals ministry]	meals@pacificcrossroads.org
[general inquiries]	info@pacificcrossroads.org

To learn about our ministries, please visit www.PacificCrossroads.org/Ministries.

Musicians

Adam Alesi – drums

James Blake – acoustic guitar

Alex Rhodes Fleeman – vocals

John Krovoza – cello

Nate Miller – vocals

Chris Weldon – vocals/keyboard

Announcements

There will be only one service on Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th, held at 10:00 a.m. at John Adams Middle School. There will not be a service at the Downtown location.

Interested in leading a Community Group? Our community needs more groups to encourage and bring people together. See p. 16 for info on the upcoming Community Group Leader training.

Pray for Our Community, City & World. Join us for a bi-weekly time of prayer. We will be meeting this Wednesday, December 21st, 6:50-8:00 a.m., at the church office (10351 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 430, Los Angeles, 90025). For more info, email Kimberly@pacificcrossroads.org.

Women@Crossroads Brunch, Saturday, January 14th, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Join us for a casual potluck brunch to meet other women and celebrate what God is doing in our lives. Email jenniferannwallace@gmail.com to RSVP and for the location.

Meet new people by joining the Connection Team and helping those newer to Crossroads connect with others. For more info, contact Alex@pacificcrossroads.org.

Check out the Pacific Crossroads blog, “Wednesday at 4 pm.” Our weekly blog features posts from Rankin Wilbourne and other leaders. We hope to provide you with posts that are provocative, challenging and encouraging. Find the blog here: www.PacificCrossroads.org/Blog.

Celebrate Recovery is a place to experience God’s healing power from addictive and dysfunctional behaviors by sharing experiences, strengths and hopes with one another. Join us on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. at the church office (10351 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 430, Los Angeles, 90025). Snacks provided. For more information, email Scott: RecoveryMen@pacificcrossroads.org; or Robbye: RecoveryWomen@pacificcrossroads.org.

Global Missions Partner Update: Central Asia. *Sam* and *Olivia* (pseudonyms) work with girls from state orphanages, sharing the gospel with them and helping them escape working on the streets in prostitution. Sam also trains church planters throughout Central Asia. Please pray that the gospel will continue to have an impact in this Central Asian nation, particularly among the orphaned girls.

The 2011-12 *Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Book* is available at the Welcome Center. This week’s prayer focus is: **Evangelism**. Please pray that Christians in Los Angeles will have the courage to share their faith with those who do not know Jesus. Pray also that God will prepare the hearts of those with whom Christians share their faith.

Christmas Eve Services, December 24th

Because a majority of our congregation is out of town over the Christmas holiday, we do not offer a Christmas Eve service. However, if you will be in Los Angeles and would like to attend a worship service on Christmas Eve, the following churches have services:

Bel Air Presbyterian Church, 16221 Mulholland Drive, Los Angeles, 818.788.4200

5:00 p.m. Family Service

10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

Hollywood Presbyterian Church, 1760 N. Gower St., Hollywood, 323.463.7161

5:00 p.m. Family Service

8:00 p.m. Celebration of Christmas Today

11:00 p.m. Festival of Lessons and Carols

Mosaic, Locations across the Greater Los Angeles Area, 323.391.2930

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Gathering – Pasadena (1539 E. Howard St., Pasadena)

9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Gathering – Hollywood (7107 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood)

11:00 p.m. Midnight Mass – Downtown Arts District (826 E. 3rd St., Los Angeles)

St. John's Cathedral, 514 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, 213.747.6285

6:00 p.m. Carols and Candles

10:30 p.m. Choral Eucharist

St. John's Presbyterian Church, 11000 National Blvd., Los Angeles, 310.477.2513

5:00 p.m. Family Service

Trinity Church, 1015 California Ave., Santa Monica, 310.395.9961

6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Vineyard Christian Fellowship – Westside, 3838 S. Centinela Ave., Los Angeles, 310.391.7366

5:30 p.m. Candlelight Service

7:30 p.m. Candlelight Service

Westside Christian Fellowship, 2948 Colorado Ave., Santa Monica, 310.829.9344

6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Hope for LA

Hope for Los Angeles mobilizes volunteers to serve the poor and marginalized in Los Angeles through partnerships with community organizations. Stop by the Welcome Center after the service if you would like a recent newsletter and a complete list of our ministry partners. Visit www.HopeForLA.org, or email us at info@hopeforla.org.

Monday - Friday, 12/19-12/23 – Assist at Christmas Shop (10:00 am - 5:00 pm)

Volunteer to help parents choose gifts for their children at Faith in Christ's Christmas Shop. The shop is open Monday through Friday, 10:00 am-5:00 pm. New toys are also needed for children ages 12 and up. Contact Gwynn or Susan at 323.291.9636.

Tuesday, 12/20 – Throw a Party for Shelter Families (7:00 - 9:00 pm)

Sing carols, do crafts, and serve snacks to families at Zahn, a downtown Salvation Army transitional shelter. To volunteer, contact Natalie at nataliethenut@gmail.com.

Saturday, 12/24 – Serve Food on Christmas Eve (12:00 - 2:00 pm)

Serve a Christmas meal to homeless men and women on Skid Row. Meet at 628 S. San Julian St., Los Angeles, 90014. Food donations are also needed for the meal, including meat, sides, and desserts. Contact Manish at amin.manish@gmail.com.

Saturday, 12/31 – Clean South LA Pregnancy Clinic (11:30 am - 1:00 pm)

Join a team of volunteers and help the Westside Pregnancy Clinic (WPC) in South LA stay clean and bright. The WPC is a network of counseling and support centers that offer life-affirming pregnancy support. Contact Harold at hjacosal@gmail.com.

Sunday, 1/1/2012 – Loving the Wise (3:00 - 4:00 pm)

Love and encourage the elderly residents of Santa Monica Convalescent Center, at 2250 29th Street in Santa Monica, by participating in a worship service. Contact Kathy at Lovinkat427@yahoo.com.

Interested in tutoring at-risk youth this spring?

The SAY Yes Center at Faith In Christ Ministries is looking for tutors in the afternoons on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays this spring starting in January. Contact Dan if you are interested at DLjeung@gmail.com.

We are so thankful for these leaders who facilitate our monthly service opportunities:

Allen Wolf
Amy Hoe
Bettina Lau
Betty Lam
Chris Mohr
Cody Gibbs
Craig Thompson
Dan Jeung
David Piccio
Elizabeth Kines

Francis Tran
Hannah Franklin
Harold Jacosalem
Irene Lee
Joan Mao
John Chen
Kathy Lovin
Katie Gibbs
Kyle Salyer
Lauren Krogh

Lisa Bajoras
Lisa Keaveny
Margaux Helvey
Mark Ackerman
Mark Howard
Natalie Wong
Nate Miller
Nina Kim
Tom Bajoras
Tyson Strutzenburg

Community Groups

God created us to live in relationship with one another and to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. We hope our community is a place where Jesus is experienced so that both our own lives and our city are changed.

Community Groups are weekly gatherings in homes and offices around Los Angeles where people meet to know one another, pray, read the Bible and serve our neighbors by promoting justice in our city. These groups are not only one of the best ways to meet people at Crossroads—they are one of the best ways to experience everything we talk, pray and sing about on Sundays.

To get a list of all our Community Groups, visit our Welcome Center after the service. You can also utilize the interactive map on our website: www.PacificCrossroads.org/Community.

If you have questions, please email community@pacificcrossroads.org or call 310.551.0081.

Upcoming Events

Community Group Leader Training Session, January 14th. Our growing community is in need of new Community Groups to encourage and bring people together. Learn more about leading a group at our next training session Saturday, January 14th, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the church office (10351 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 430, Los Angeles, 90025). Marshall Brown and other staff will cover everything from expectations for Community Group leaders to how to lead discussions. Lunch will be provided. Attending the session does not commit you to leading, but it is required for all new leaders. To RSVP or for more info, email Taylor@pacificcrossroads.org.