



INTROIT

“The Christmas Song”

Inglewood First Music

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Melody Ngaue-Tu’uholoaki

*God of Dreams, you have done great things for your people.
From times of old, you awaken the faithful to the dawn of your glory.
Fill our mouths with laughter. Loose our tongues with shouts of joy.
Anoint us with the oil of gladness and make it known among all people that we will live as oaks of
righteousness, the plantings of the Lord. Amen.*

OPENING HYMN

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

Hymnal #64

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“We Are Not Alone”

Hymnal #883

*We are not alone, we live in God’s world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God. AMEN!*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

“We Are the Church”

Inglewood First Music

English Version:

*I am the church!
You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus
all around the world!
Yes, we’re the church together!*

Spanish Version:

*¡Yo soy la Iglesia!
¡Tú eres la Iglesia!
¡Somos la Iglesia juntos!
¡Todos los que siguen a Jesús
en todo el mundo!
¡Si, somos la Iglesia juntos!*

Tongan Version:

*Ko au koe temipale!
Ko koe koe temipale!
Tautolu koe temipale!
Tau muimui kia Sisu
Tautolu kotoa ‘i mamani
‘Io, ko tautolu koe temipale kakato!*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Halaevalu Tu’uholoaki, Manu Tu’uholoaki-Murrin
& Tapuaki Music of Zion Tu’uholoaki

Reader 1: *When God’s people were surrounded by hardship, suffering, and grief, Isaiah proclaimed, The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit (Isaiah 61:1-3a).*

Reader 2: *We come today as people who are also surrounded by suffering and grief. And yet, the Spirit hovers among us, tending and anointing, inspiring freedom where there is captivity, declaring blessing in places the world has cursed, and igniting fierce joy where mourning and heartache prevail.*

Congregation: *We wait as people who experience hardship and pain, yet we are called to witness to the persistent joy that sustains our life as God’s people.*

Reader 1: *We light these candles as signs of our hope, peace, and joy. May our lives shine with the fierce, tenacious joy of the Light who lives in our hearts as we wait and work for the coming of God’s reign on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.*

Light three candles of the Advent wreath.

ADVENT CANDLE SONG

*Light the Advent candle, three
think of heavenly harmony
angels singing peace on earth
at the blessed Savior's birth*

*Candle candle burning bright
Shining in the cold winter night
Candle candle burning bright
Fill our hearts with Christmas light*

SONG OF PREPARATION

"The First Noel"

Hymnal #245

SCRIPTURE READING

*Isaiah 6:1-4
Common English Bible*

The Lord God's spirit is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim release for captives, and liberation for prisoners, 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and a day of vindication for our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 to provide for Zion's mourners, to give them a crown in place of ashes, oil of joy in place of mourning, a mantle of praise in place of discouragement. They will be called Oaks of Righteousness, planted by the Lord to glorify himself. 4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins; they will restore formerly deserted places; they will renew ruined cities, places deserted in generations past.

MESSAGE

"A Change Gonna Come"

Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

INVITATIONAL SONG

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Hymnal #211

PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Melody Ngaue-Tu'uholoaki

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"The Christmas Song"

Inglewood First Music



TODAY IN WORSHIP: Bravo Maintenance; Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin, *Lead Pastor*; Risa Wheat, *Worship Chairperson*; Sam Reid, *Pianist*; Tre' Cyrus-Franklin, *Percussion*; Tony Greene, *Sound Tech*; Tuutanga Tuihalamaka, *Video Tech*; Melody Ngaue-Tu'uholoaki, *Liturgist*

4 WAYS TO GIVE:

- (1) **Mail:** Send to *Inglewood First UMC, 304 E Spruce Ave, Inglewood, CA 90301*
 - (2) **Online:** www.inglewoodfirst.org/give or
 - (3) **Text-to-Give:** Text an amount to **84321!**
 - (4) **Download the Church App** at www.inglewoodfirst.org/app
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COMING UP @ INGLEWOOD FIRST UMC / inglewoodfirst.org/calendar

- **Zoom Bible Study** | Tuesdays @ 12 pm & 7 pm | Sign up at inglewoodfirst.org/biblestudy
 - **Virginia Beckett Food Pantry Distribution** | Thursday, December 21st @ 9:45 am
 - **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** | Sunday, December 24th @ 3:00 pm
 - **Selah Sunday** | December 31st (No In-Person Worship Service)
 - **All Church Planning & Visioning Retreat** | Saturday, January 13, 2024 @ 9 am - 2 pm
 - **We're on our Journey to Build Affordable Housing!** Updates @ inglewoodfirst.org/housing
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CONGREGATIONAL CARE | *Submit prayer requests at inglewoodfirst.org/prayer.*

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS | Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin 12/5, Tre Cyrus-Franklin 12/5, Manu Tu'uholoaki-Murrin 12/7, Frank Baker 12/8, Marjorie Porchia 12/14, Gina Williams 12/15, Melisa Arnold 12/20, Halaevalu Tu'uholoaki 12/20, Patricia Thomas 12/23, Delmas Arnold 12/25, Rokyia Ferguson 12/26, Charlene Bright 12/28

PRAYER LIST | For Ceasefire in Israel & Palestine • Soto-Mack Family • Houseless Neighbors • Elethea Cunningham & Family • Wendy Reynolds & Family • John Cohill • Toni Ravens • Elizabeth Payne • Elva Herrera • Affordable Housing Project • Della Greene & Anthony Greene • Stephannie Starr