



December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent • 11:00 am
4112 W Slauson Ave • Los Angeles, CA 90043
www.graceumcla.org

ACOLYTE LIGHTING OF CANDLES

PRELUDE	<i>"Emmanuel"</i>	Chancel Choir
WELCOME		Valjean Boyd
ANNOUNCEMENTS		Eric Warren <i>Worship Leader</i>
THEME SCRIPTURE	<i>Philippians 4:6-7, 19</i>	Hasani Ellis
CANDLE LIGHTING		
PRAYER OF CANDLELIGHT		Sylvia Lindo & Ellis Family
<i>Reader 1:</i> We continue this season of waiting by lighting the third candle, anticipating the light of the star that shone over Bethlehem for all to see.		
<i>Reader 2:</i> Uplifting God, we open ourselves to hear your call today to recognize your love all around us, and also see the potential to add to the love all around us—making our lives, our families, our communities, and our world a brighter place.		
<i>Spoken Response of the People:</i> Fill us with your peace and light, make the world so calm and bright.		
OPENING HYMN		Chancel Choir
PASSING OF THE PEACE		
CHILDREN'S SERMON & BLESSING OF TOYS		LaVivian Taylor & Dr. Larry Hygh Eric Warren
SCRIPTURE READING	<i>John 1:6-9, 14-16 NRSV</i>	
6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. 8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. 9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.		
14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son,[a] full of grace and truth. 15 (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.") 16 From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.		
INTRODUCTION TO GUEST SPEAKER		Valjean Boyd
SONG OF PREPARATION		Chancel Choir
PROCLAMATION	<i>"Anticipation"</i>	Dr. Larry Hygh
SONG OF RESPONSE	<i>"Christ Be Our Light"</i>	Chancel Choir

PRAYER & OFFERING OF THE PEOPLE

Valjean Boyd

Spoken Prayer: Wrap them in your love so tight, guide them with your holy light.

CLOSING SONG

“Christ Be Our Light”

Chancel Choir

BENEDICTION

Dr. Larry Hygh

People: Go with God into this day. May the Spirit guide your way.
Offer *love* to all you greet. Like Christ, EXPECT to see God in all you meet.

POSTLUDE

“Great Things”

Voices of Grace



TODAY IN WORSHIP: Valjean Boyd, *Worship Chairperson*; Diana Andrews, *Director of Music*; Antoinette Brown, *Audio/Video Tech*; Erroll McMillan, *Assistant Audio/Video Tech*; Kwame Gibson, *Sound Tech*; Eric Warren, *Worship Leader*; Dr. Larry Hygh, *Guest Speaker*

There Are 6 Ways to Give:

- **Mail to:** Grace UMC, 4112 W Slauson Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90043
 - **Online:** www.GRACEUMCLA.org
 - **In Person:** Drop your givings in the mail slot @ church or give to an Usher at the end of Service
 - **Text-to-Give:** Text GRACELA to 73256
 - **Mobile App:** Download REALM CONNECT from App store or Google play
 - **Bank Draft:** Have your bank send your gift from your checking or savings account
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UPCOMING @ GRACE UMC

- **Sunday School** | 9:45 am
 - **Wednesday Morning Prayer** | 6:15am-6:30am
Prayer Line: (434)300-4178 Code:976658
 - **Wednesday Zoom Bible Study** | 12pm-1pm
 - **Food Pantry** | Fridays @ 10am - 12pm
 - **AG 50+ Club: Chair Exercise** | Wed @ 10am
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CONGREGATIONAL CARE

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK | Tammy Tatum 12/19 & Diana Simmons 12/21

PRAYER LIST | Amanda and Paul Yoder (Marital harmony) • Michelle Stewart (recovering from open-heart surgery) • The Burts Family (Loss of Marion’s brother Thomas Holley in San Jose, CA, and her Uncle Walter Holley in Little Rock, Arkansas) • Ronald O’Neal (Son of Mildred Bowen; for healing from spine cancer) • Abeni & Derek Bias & Family (Loss of Abeni’s Father - Wendell LeRoy in San Jose; Funeral Dec. 15th - In lieu of flowers, donate to his favorite Jazz Station 91.1 at www.kcsm.org) • Pastor Kimberly Scott & Family (Loss of her brother Darrel Scott; Funeral is Dec. 19th; *For condolence info please contact the Church Office*) • Yolanda McMillan, Barbara Collier & Family • Wynter Eddins (*continued healing*) • Douglas Leung & Family • Tammy Salmon -Johnson & Family • Carolyn Cobb • Eddie Rowe & Marilyn Silver Families • Gina Thornton - Braxton • Lorraine Ike • Berthann Heath • Norris Jackie McReynolds • Myrna-Joy & Gayle Pugh • Jimmie Lindsey • Greg Parker (brother of Marilyn Parker - Brooks) • Larry Brooks (brother of Leonard Brooks)

Visit the church website at graceumcla.org for more information!