

November 30, 2025

Sunday at PCC

In a world that feels increasingly shaped by fear, this first Sunday of Advent we return to the story of Zechariah to explore how God breaks into fearful places with presence and hope. Saint Luke tells us that Jesus was born “In the time of Herod,” and that was not a peaceful age, yet God heard long-buried prayers and spoke a word of courage. Join us as we name our fears honestly and discover how Advent invites us to trust that God is already drawing near.

During Tea Time, we’ll have our Advent Devotions, but will also hear a quick update on the state of the relationship between the Mandarin and English Commissions.

*Notes about the Lantern Logo from
Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman and A Sanctified Art:*



What do you fear?

As we discussed on our Advent theme and how hope and fear are interwoven in our lives, a vision emerged: hands gently cupped around candles at a vigil. When we gather at a vigil, fear is often present, weighing on us like a heavy fog. The candle in our hands can feel fragile, insignificant, the flame easily extinguished. But when we turn to our neighbors to spread the light, it multiplies, wrapping the whole community in warmth. The darkness is not eradicated; if anything, it further illuminates the flicker of the candles. In these vigil spaces, grief and fear dance with gratitude and hope. In these spaces, we find courage and unity. We are reminded that God is near. This vision captures our prayer for this Advent series: that it will illuminate both our hopes and our fears and remind us that God is near. As we developed the branding, we thought that the image of a lantern could similarly hold these ideas together. Lanterns are often used to light the way as we gently step forward into unseen or unknown territory. The lantern, like hope, steadies our hands and eyes as we walk forward through the night. In the logo, a lantern contains the swirl of a flame—it’s active and powerful, like the Holy Spirit, and like the hope that burns inside us. The candlelight cannot be contained, and so, like hope, it grows, emanating into our guiding question for the season, “What do you fear?” The branding photography captures the beauty of both dark and light by focusing on the patterned shadows cast from a lantern. From this ethereal space where our greatest fears greet our most palpable hopes, possibility emerges.

Today's Hymns and Scripture Passages

Opening

**Come, Thou Long
Expected Jesus**
82 in Glory to God

Meditation

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
88 in Glory to God

Closing

**Lift Up Your Heads,
Ye Mighty Gates**
93 in Glory to God

.....
Lamentations 3: 55-57
Luke 1: 5-13
.....



Advent Devotional link. Tied in carefully with the theme for each Sunday's worship, the devotional is offered as tool to help you prepare for or reflect afterward to remember that even in these days where it seems the world is moving backwards, we are called forward.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Al Sing Yuen

Dear friends - it has been two months since the passing of Al Sing Yuen, and we appreciate the thoughts and love that you've been sending us. You are invited to a celebration of Al's life. We'll have light refreshments, tell stories, and remember the many ways that Al touched our lives. – *from Al's family*

Celebration of Life for Al Sing Yuen
Sunday, December 28 2025, 2:00 to 4:30pm
Program from 3:00 to 4:00pm
Cameron House
920 Sacramento Street, San Francisco CA
Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP with number of people attending by 12/7/25
by email to both:
Chris Yuen at christina.yuen810@gmail.com
Noelle Yuen at noelleyuen@yahoo.com

Kids welcome. In lieu of flowers or gifts, you can make a donation to the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown, Chinatown YMCA, or Cameron House, or reach out to a friend or neighbor and give them a hand in memory of Al.

Feel free to look at **Al's obituary** and add your memories and photos.

Prayer List

Please continue to surround **Angie Snead** and her family with prayers, as her beloved husband Michael Serra passed away this week. Angie is grateful to everyone for your prayers and concern.

Continued prayers for **Lesley Kraechen's mother, Linda**, who returned home from the hospital. Linda is scheduled for open heart surgery next month.

Prayers for the **English Worshiping Community**, as we enter the Advent season. May each of us be open to the changes we need to make in our lives, to more fully welcome Christ and be led by the Holy Spirit.

Women's Fellowship Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13th / 2:00-4:00pm
PCC Fellowship Hall

This year, we are collecting items for the Asian Prisoner Support Committee. See page 4 for more information.

Holiday Toy Drive for Chinatown SRO Families

Mission & Evangelism thanks all of you who chose gift tags for children of SRO families!

Please wrap your toys and tape the gift tags to the outside. Bring to PCC by Sunday, December 7th or sooner.

Contact Jeanette Huie if you have any questions.

Teatime hosts are needed! Click on the link below to sign up. See Mary Wong Leong if you have questions.

TEATIME SIGN UP



CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s and one of the three annual PCUSA church-wide special

offerings we participate in. Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the church. God has blessed the church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and supports leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges.

The Christmas Joy Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Please click onto this [link](#) and click Christmas Joy to view stories of impact and engagement through the support of your donation to PCUSA Christmas Joy Offering. Please donate on-line or write a check to PCC-English with an annotation in remarks showing Christmas Joy Offering. Donation envelopes and bulletins are available at church if you attend in person. Please give generously. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot. May our gifts, and the leaders who receive them, point us always to the truth of the one whose birth we celebrate, Jesus Christ — the truly perfect gift.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP



CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER

13

2 - 4 P.M.

PCC FELLOWSHIP HALL



PLEASE BRING SNACKS, APPETIZERS, OR
COOKIES TO SHARE. DRINKS PROVIDED.

THIS YEAR WE ARE COLLECTING NON-PERISHABLE
FOOD FOR ASIAN PRISONER SUPPORT COMMITTEE:
WWW.ASIANPRISONERSUPPORT.COM.

ITEMS REQUESTED: INSTANT NOODLES, CUP-A-NOODLES,
TEA BAGS, CRACKERS, GRANOLA OR PROTEIN BARS,
INSTANT OATMEAL PACKETS, SHELF-STABLE SNACK PACKS



Let's celebrate together!

Contact Pat Chan or Linda Lee
if you have any questions.

