

Church in the Forest

at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School • 3152 Forest Lake Road,
Pebble Beach • P. O. Box 1027, Pebble Beach, CA 93953
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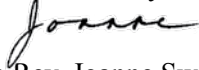
Monday morning, November 27, 2017

Dear Friends,

One evening last week the scene at the Manse was truly ugly—dusty, plastic crates stacked everywhere, old, torn newspapers strewn on the floor, empty wine glasses on tables and Christmas carols blaring over the Rollands' spectacular speaker system. Yes, we were decorating for Christmas.

Is Advent a season over-full? Too full of decor, music, gifts, events, mail? For many, however, Advent is a season of emptiness, especially if one has suffered loss or is uncertain about the future. This Sunday's scripture lessons speak to that profound emptiness—and how God can use emptiness to move us forward.

See you this Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent!



The Rev. Joanne Swenson, Th.D.

The year's Advent music program will feature: **Dec. 3** ARIA Womens Choir; **Dec. 10** I Cantori di Carmel; **Dec. 17** Laura Anderson, soprano; **Dec. 24** morning: Lisa Parente, soprano; **Dec. 24**, Christmas Eve: Katherine Edison, soprano; Jos Milton, tenor; Bob Armstead, bass-baritone; Wildcoast Brass Quartet; **Dec. 25** MCA, keyboards; **Dec. 31** MCA, keyboards.

In this season of gratitude, please support the **Salvation Army** by ringing the bell at the Pebble Beach Post Office **from now until December 23**. Shifts are from **10 AM–noon or noon–2 PM**. **Judy Stayduhar** will be taking sign-ups on Sundays during the coffee hour or you may call her at **905-2902** to schedule a time.

As cold approaches, The **Victory Mission** in Salinas needs adult clothing—SOCKS! sweatshirts, hoodies, windbreakers, jeans, shirts, caps, hats, t-shirts, shoes, tennis shoes, jackets and BLANKETS. Please bring your clean and serviceable items to church December 3, and December 10. Church member and Mission supporter **Marge Moore** will receive your goods. For more information, or for home pick-up of your items, you may call **Marge at 831-633-5393**.

Small Groups are gatherings where CitF members and new friends can explore questions of faith and deepen fellowship. These groups are open to visitors who wish to find out more and experience a meeting.

- The *Small Group Bible Study* meets every **Sunday at 8:30 am** in the Multipurpose Room. This Sunday's study: Richard Rohr's "Preparing for Christmas" meditation on Luke 1: 5–25. Purchase the book (now restocked after selling out on Sunday) at the church or at your favorite bookseller. The entire congregation is encouraged to use this book for daily devotions during Advent. The Advent Sermon Series, "Light in the Forest," will be in dialogue with Father Rohr's meditations.
- *The Small Group Study* led by the **Rev. Ken Feske** meets on the **third Tuesday of the month, 10:15-11:30 AM**. The next location and topic to be announced.
- The new women's *Small Group*, to be known as *Sisters in the Forest*, will meet **Thursday, December 14, 12 noon–1: 15 PM**, in Monterey. (specific location being worked out.)
- The *Men's Small Group*, led by **Bob Axley** and **John Thorbeck**, will meet **Thursday, November 30, 10–11:30 AM**, in the Multipurpose Room.
- A *Small Group* for those who are grieving, led by the **Rev. Dr. Bill Rolland**, our minister emeritus and an expert in grief counseling, will meet **Thursday, November 30, 2–3:30 PM**, in the Multipurpose Room. Please call the office and let **Sherry** know of your attendance.

Calendar

Sunday	December 3, 2017 — First Sunday of Advent		
8:30 AM	Bible Study in the Multipurpose Room led by the Rev. Ken Feske Topic: Luke 1: 5–25		
9:15 AM	Chapel Concertino		
9:30 AM	Holy Communion		
Passages	1 Kings 19: 3–13a; Psalm 90; Luke 1: 5–25		
	Lector	Lloyd Nattkemper	Crucifer Skip Lord
	Ushers	Sandy and Bob Rice	
	Cookies	Steve & Gus Bellavance-Diaz	
	Flowers	Lloyd Nattkemper	
	Prayers of the People	Kathy Ivie	
	Oblation Bearer	Liz Lord	
	Altar Care	Martha Jordan and Sandy Rice	
Sermon	The Rev. Joanne M. Swenson, Th.D.		
Title	Sermon Series: "Light in the Forest" This Sunday: "When We Feel Empty"		

Music Box

DECEMBER 3, 2017

Aria Women's Choir

Dr. Sean Boulware, Conductor Dr. Todd Samra, Guest Conductor
Michele Galindo, Accompanist

Melinda Coffey Armstead, organ

CHAPEL CONCERTINO

Selections from *Missa Femina*..... Terre Johnson
Kyrie *Gloria*, soloist: Julie Posey *Sanctus*
Agnus Dei, soloist: Jenna DeDominici

Fugue in C BWV 952 S. Bach (1685-1750)

Missa Femina is a traditional setting of the Latin Mass composed for women's chorus, orchestra and soprano soloist. Composer Terre Johnson, Director of Choral Activities and Chair of the Department of Music at Houston Baptist University, conducted the premiere performance of *Missa Femina* at Carnegie Hall in 2014.

The English texts sung by the soloists during the *Gloria* and the *Agnus Dei* add a feminine touch:

Gloria

Doth not wisdom cry and understanding put forth her voice?
She standeth in the top of high places
Hear; for I will speak of excellent things
I love those who love me, and those who seek me early shall find me.
I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of justice.

—Proverbs 8:1-2, 6a, 17, 20

Agnus Dei

I will comfort as one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you.
As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young,
Spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings.

—Isaiah 66:13; Deuteronomy 32:11

Be sure to save the dates for **Aria's** next concerts: "She Sings," March 24 and 25 and "Diva Again!" June 9 and 10. Details will be available at www.ariamonterey.org.

Melinda Coffey Armstead



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