

Music Box

— ADVENT IV — DECEMBER 22, 2013 —

Wildcoast Brass Quintet

Kevin Jordan, trumpet Charles Old, trumpet
Ruth Jordan, horn Steve Mortensen, trombone
Jim Paoletti, tuba

Melinda Coffey Armstead, organ

Christmas Day.....Gustav Holst (1874-1934)
In Dulci Jubilo.....J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
For Unto Us from "Messiah"..... G. F. Handel (1685-1759)
All' offertorioDomenico Zipoli (1688-1726)
And the Glory of the Lord from "Messiah"..... G. F. Handel

Canzon Duodecimi toniGiovanni Gabrieli (1557-1612)

Hallelujah Chorus from "Messiah"..... G. F. Handel

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace,
good will toward men.

—Luke II: 14

Melinda Coffey Armstead



**Painless and
Economical**

If you use the internet, why don't you have the weekly newsletter sent to you via email? It is fast, easy and saves the church money — here's what to do, Send an email to the office at: cif@mbay.net and ask Sherry to put you on the list. You will receive it early every week!

Church in the Forest
at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School
3152 Forest Lake Road, Pebble Beach
P. O. Box 1027, Pebble Beach, CA 93953
Address service requested

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P. O. Box 1027, Pebble Beach, CA 93953 • 831-624-1374
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Monday morning, December 16, 2013

Dear Members and Friends,

Do you ever listen to country music? It was the music *de riguer* in the cow barns where I relief-milked cows during summer vacation from college. Milking started at 1:00 AM in the morning. It was cold, the cows and cement floors were wet after washing and the radio bleated forth the nasal sounds of heartbreak and lost loves in the western style.

Since then I have been surprised occasionally to hear some very clever or affecting Country Western songs. The old joke is “What do you get when you play a C/W song backwards? You get your pickup back, your dog back and your girl back.” But once in awhile it has some interesting theology in it.

A while back I left San Francisco late and on the radio was a C/W station. Thinking it would help keep me awake I left it on. One of the songs played was one titled “Unanswered Prayers.” The male singer takes his wife to a reunion football game where he runs into his old flame. He thinks of what might have been. He remembers how passionate he was about this flame and how he prayed every night that God would make her his. As he looks at her he realizes how infinitely better his life is that God never answered that prayer. The chorus of the piece has him singing “I thank God for unanswered prayers.”

The song has it right in many ways. The statement being that we seldom know what is truly good for us. We set our minds on things of this earth and God has plans for us that we can't even imagine. The things we want so desperately could in the end truncate our growth or keep us locked in a mindset that needs to be shattered so greater dreams can be ours. If we live long enough and surrender our wills to God, we, too, might be able to sing someday in a nasal tone, “Thank God for unanswered prayers.”

See you in church,



Charles C. Anker

ANNOUNCEMENT: We are sorry to tell you that our good friend, the **Rev. Jim Leeper**, passed away Monday morning at home. His family is still deciding on arrangements, but we expect there will be a celebration of **Jim's** life, which we will announce when we have the details.

Calendar

Sunday, December 22, 2013 — Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM NO Bible Study December 22 and 29

9:15 AM Music Prelude

9:30 AM Morning Prayer

Passages Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Matthew 1: 18-25

Lector Dick Crowell

Crucifer Cynthia Perry

Flowers Joan and Peter McKee

Cookies Bob & Cynthia Perry and Dave & Kim Caneer

Altar Care Leonora Branca and Martha Jordan

Ushers Bob Perry and John Didone

Sermon The Rev. Ken Feske

Title “The Gift of Uncertainty”

**Tuesday, December 24, 2013 — Christmas Eve Service 7 and 9:30 pm
with Music Prelude 1/2 hour earlier**

Wednesday, December 25, 2013, Christmas Day Service at 9:30 am