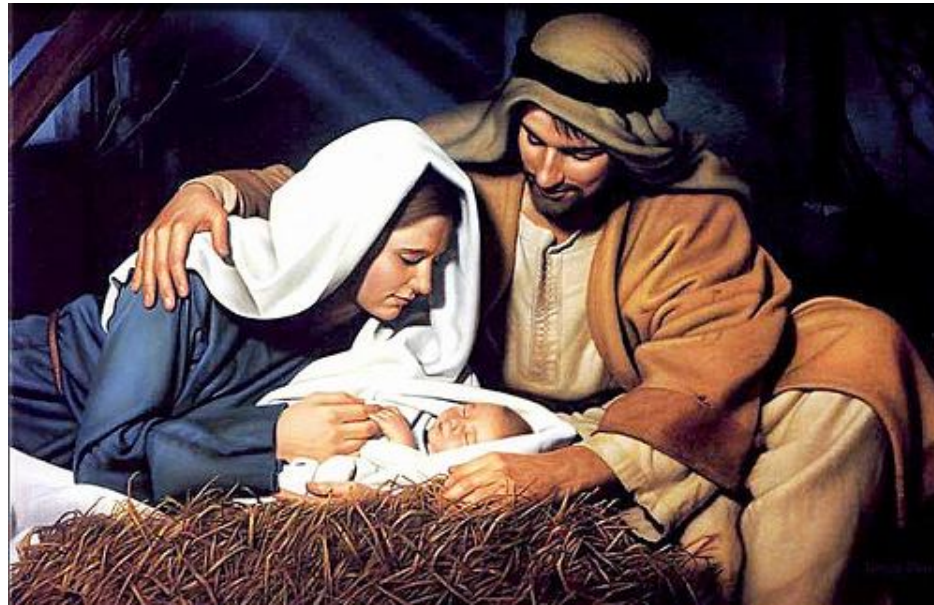


Welcome to

The Foothills



CHRISTMAS DAY!

December 25, 2011

Our Mission

Foothills Fellowship exists to be a worshipping community of God's people whose lives are shaped by the life, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus and who participate in the mission of God's kingdom by proclaiming the good news locally, nationally and globally.

ORDER OF WORSHIP / DECEMBER 25, 2011

Call to Worship (Video)

We desire to live lives that are wholly devoted to the Lord, impacting and shaping every area of our lives. This call to worship is a call for God's people to reorient their lives in submission and worship of the King of kings.

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.
—Matthew 1:23

Worship in Song *

We joyfully sing together because the Apostle Paul exhorts us in Colossians 3:16 to "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly (by) singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon (If you are able, feel free to kneel.)

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23), but - because of the death and resurrection of Jesus - "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Confession of our sin and then reveling in the assurance God gives us of His forgiveness through Jesus is something that God's people ought to engage in daily, and this is why we do it each week when we gather.

Prayer of Confession

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that too often we have preferred the darkness because our deeds are evil. We have acted out of selfishness and deceit instead of embracing your grace and truth. Forgive us, Lord, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon (From Matthew 1:21)

MINISTER: Hear the promises of God to all those who truly repent of their sins and trust in Christ: Mary will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of the People

Jesus Christ is the King over all things and the Head of our church. Therefore, thanking Him, bringing our requests to Him, seeking guidance from Him, and listening to Him through prayer is at the core of all we do.

When prompted, please join together in praying for the following:

Those we know who celebrate Christmas this morning without the hope of Jesus.

Those we know who have lost a loved one this year and celebrate Christmas without them.

Those around the world and in our communities who are without food and shelter this Christmas.

Those around the world who suffer for the name of Jesus this Christmas.

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Everything we have comes from the Lord, and all throughout the Scriptures, we see that He expects His people to be extremely generous with the resources He has given them. By taking an offering each week, we have the opportunity to worship the Lord and exhibit our trust in Him by giving back to Him a portion of what He has given to us for the furthering of His kingdom both here and around the world.

Doxology *

Since this chorus was written in 1709, the church universal has been singing it as a response to the Lord for His countless blessings. We will sing this each week after we take the offering as an act of corporate worship and as a reminder that "every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights." (James 1:7)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Scripture Reading *

We believe the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and the divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life. Therefore, we give the reading of Scripture a high place in our worship services.

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸ The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. ⁹ Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Psalms 98:1-9

LEADER: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

ALL: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to us. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

LEADER: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!

ALL: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to us. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

LEADER: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it! Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

ALL: Praise the Lord! He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to us. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Titus 3:4-7

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

John 1:1-5, 10-14 (Video / Please be seated.)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness...

¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God - ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

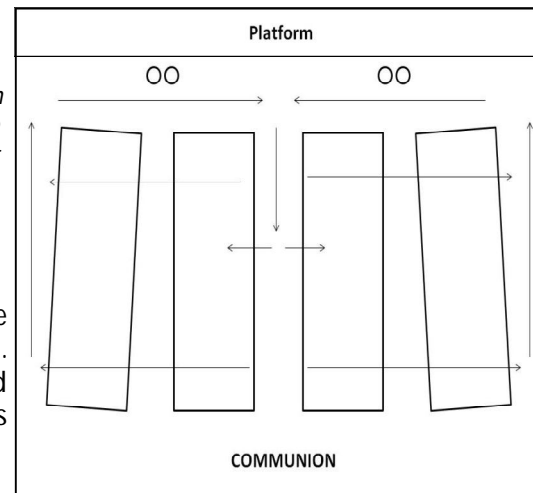
Sermon

God Has Come! / Pastor Mike Potter

Celebrating Communion

God's people are to be people whose lives are shaped by the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Therefore, we meet together at the table each week in order to remember His sacrifice for us and to anticipate the day when we will join Him at the banquet table at the culmination of His kingdom (Rev. 19:6-10).

Please come forward to receive the elements using this diagram. When all have been served and seated, we will take the elements together.



What's happening at the foothills . . .

Next Sunday's New Year's Day Service...

Worship at 10 AM. *Note time change!* No Sunday School.

The Church office will be closed this week.

Coming in January (8,15,22,29): New Adult Sunday School Classes...

Men's Forum in the Worship Center

Women's Forum in Room 102/3

Special Year-end Offerings...

Checks must be dated and postmarked on or before THIS SATURDAY, December 31, 2011, in order to qualify as a 2011 tax deduction.

Element 26 Youth...

Resumes Wednesday, Jan 4.

Teen Nursery Volunteers...

Dec 25 Jane Dumas, Hayley Luce

Jan 1 Alyssa Conway, Lindsay Nelson

The Storehouse...

Place your non-perishable food donations in the white cupboard in the hallway next to the Nursery.

Foothills Weekly Financial Progress

<u>Offering Needed</u>	<u>Offering Received</u>	<u>Delta</u>
Weekly: \$8,380	\$8885	\$505



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Office Hours:
Monday—10 am to 2 pm
Tuesday thru Friday—9 am to 4 pm

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