



Miller Avenue Baptist Church

Mill Valley, California

An Evangelical and Reformed Congregation*

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel,
for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes,
to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
(Romans 1:16)*

Welcome!

December 8, 2024

*We claim the original, non-political, Biblical meaning of “Gospel Proclamation”



Ministry Associates

Kent Philpott – *Senior Pastor*
 Katie Philpott – *Associate Pastor*
 Vernon Philpott – *Associate Pastor*
 James Daley – *Preaching/Treasurer*
 Daniel Dover – *Preaching/Handyman*
 Andrea Busta – *Audio-Visual*
 Shirley Laur – *Pastoral Ministry*
 Rebeka Etuku – *Preaching/Facilities*
 Juan Carlos Garcia – *Spanish Pastor*

← *Mary and Joseph and Baby Jesus*

WEEKLY SCHEDULE	
SUNDAY	
Morning Worship (<i>in person and via Zoom</i>)	10:30–12:00
Lunch and Gathering	12:20–1:20 pm
Spanish Evening Worship (<i>in person</i>)	2:00–3:30 pm
WEDNESDAY	
Divorce Recovery Workshop (<i>via Zoom</i>)	6:50–8:30 pm
Meal and Study in the parsonage	5:30–7:00 pm
FRIDAY	
Bible Study in the parsonage	6:00–7:30 pm
Prayer Meeting in the chapel: English/Spanish	8:00–9:00 pm
SATURDAY	
Donated food distribution in the hall	10:00–11:00 am

Miller Avenue Church – 285 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

milleravenuechurch.org

Second Sunday of Advent

Lighting of the Bethlehem Candle

The Bethlehem Candle is a symbol of the preparations being made to receive and cradle the Christ Child. Joseph and Mary leave Nazareth and begin their journey to Bethlehem.

Reading of Micah 5:2 and Luke 2:1-5

Christmas Hymn: # 250 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Call to Worship: *Sh'ma Yisrael Adonai Elohenu Adonai echad*

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.”

Leader: “O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant. O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem! Come and behold Him, born the King of angels, O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.”

Morning Prayer — Prayers of the Church — Silent Prayer

Collect of the Day

STIR UP OUR HEARTS, O LORD, TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR YOUR ONLY SON. BY HIS COMING GIVE US STRENGTH IN OUR CONFLICTS AND SHED LIGHT ON OUR PATH THROUGH THE DARKNESS OF THIS WORLD. THROUGH YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD, NOW AND FOREVER. Amen.

We Confess our Faith — The Apostle's Creed

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 7:14; 11:1–2; Hosea 11:1; Matthew 1:18–25, 2:1–23, 28:16–20, Luke 2:1–7.

Memory Verse: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall all his name Immanuel.” (Matthew 1:23)

Reflection: Joseph—the right man for the job.

Choruses: “I Go to the Rock” & “Joseph’s Song” (Kent) & John and Merrily and choir.

Offertory Theme: We give that which we have received.

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Ways to give when not present at service:

- 1) Go to the “Giving” page of our website: milleravenuechurch.org/giving and click on the “Donate” button, then follow the link.
- 2) Download the GivePlus+ app on your smartphone, then input Miller Avenue Church and follow the instructions.
- 3) Text a dollar amount (e.g., \$25) to 844-918-0231, then follow the link.
- 4) Mail a check to Miller Avenue Church, 285 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

The Doxology

Announcements:

Birthdays, Fellowship dinner and study at the parsonage Wednesdays, 5:30–7:00, Friday night prayer, lunch after service, and food in the silver refrigerator.

Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm with reception afterwards

Bible Exposition: Luke 2:1–7 (Vern)

Hymn: #249 O Come, All Ye Faithful

The Sermon:

Jesus is Mocked & The Crucifixion

Mark 15:16–32

(Kent Preaching)

Benediction song:

“We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored,
And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes they’ll know we are Christians by our love.”

Aaronic Benediction (Numbers 6:24–26):

May the LORD bless you and keep you; may the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Shalom. Amen.

Visit our church website: www.milleravenuechurch.org:

TV Shows, Worship Service Videos, Audio Sermons, Essays, Pastor’s Blog, Community Blog, Newsletters, Bulletins, Photo Gallery, Giving Portal, and more!

Also visit our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/miller.avenue.church.mill.valley>

Did you know?

Our “Miller Avenue Church” video-on-demand apps are now on:
Your iPhone (at the App Store) or Android phone (at the Play Store) plus

Roku
Apple TV
Fire TV
Google TV
YouTube
Cross.TV

Our Bible Study podcasts and Sunday morning sermons are also on:
Apple podcasts, Amazon music/audible, Gaana, YouTube Music, iHeartRadio, Radio.com mobile app,
and Spotify (look for “Miller Avenue Church”)

Questions? ask katie@milleravenuechurch.org



Gospel Meditation

Joseph

Matthew 1:18–25; 2:13–23, and Mark 6:1–6

1. Joseph, of the line of David, as is Mary, was a carpenter by trade and a thoughtful and respectful man. He probably met young Mary while on a contract deal in Nazareth of Galilee. They become legally betrothed to be married.
2. Joseph discovers that his wife to be is pregnant, so she is likely at least five months along. He is badly shaken and decides to divorce her quietly, thus protecting both Mary and himself.
3. God intervenes and fills Joseph in as to the actual events, which focus on the fact that the son to be born to Mary is the One who will bring salvation to “his” people.
4. After the birth of Jesus, Joseph is warned to take Mary and the child and flee to Egypt, because Herod is seeking to destroy the child, having been alerted by the three “Wise Men.” Egypt is 90 miles or more to the south of Bethlehem, where the family remains until Herod’s death, which was in 4 BCE. Yes, Jesus was likely born in 6 BCE, not 0 CE.
5. Herod, fearful that a powerful rival is in his domain, has children 2 years old and younger killed in the Bethlehem area. Estimates are that perhaps as many as 50 children were murdered on Herod’s orders.
6. Joseph and family return to Israel, but upon arrival find that Herod’s ruthless son Archelaus is ruling Judea. Once again Joseph is warned in a dream of this danger, so he and the small family flee north to Galilee, to a no-account city called Nazareth.
7. Jesus will later be known as a “Nazarene,” which was a derogatory title. Note: John the Baptist took a “Nazarite” vow, meaning a person who lived an austere and spiritual lifestyle, which is different from being a “Nazarene.”

Notes:

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

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Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen

Visitor Information Card

*Please tear off and fill out card.
Place in offering basket or
give to church staff member.*

Today's Date: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Prayer Request

Please pray for:

Other comments:

I would like someone to contact me to pray over more confidential matters.

I would like to learn more about: .

- Christianity .
- The Bible .
- Baptism .
- Receiving Counseling .
- Deliverance Ministry .
- Other _____ .

I am interested in helping with: .

- Lunch .
- Fix-up and Clean-up .
- Donated Food Pick-up .
- Worship music .
- Worship Audio/Visual .
- Television Crewing .
- Pastoral Care Team .
- Teaching .
- Writing and Publishing .
- Website Maintenance .
- Other _____ .

I am interested in attending: .

- Wed. Eve. Divorce Recovery .
- Men's Group (TBD) .
- Women's Bible Study (TBD) .
- Zoom Class on Christian History .

Other Comments: .

**Upcoming Preaching Schedule
Morning Service:**

- Dec. 15:** Sermon= Mark 15:33–41 (Kent)
Expo= Luke 2:8–14 (Rebeka)
- Dec. 22:** Christmas Sermon (Kent)
Christmas Exposition (Katie)
- Dec. 29:** Sermon= Mark 15:42–16:8 (Kent)
Expo= Luke 2:15–21 (Vern)

Spanish Sunday Afternoon Service:

2:00–3:30 p.m.

Filming schedule at CMCM has resumed most Thursday afternoons. Contact Kent or Katie if you are interested in learning how to crew on our productions

TV Program Viewing Schedule

(View all on Marin cable channel 26 or 99)

Why We Are Christians:

Saturdays 1:30 and Fridays 7:30 PM

Bible Study:

Fridays 8:00 PM

Spiritual Paths and the Pastor:

Sundays noon, Mondays 2:30 PM

For current daily broadcast schedule, check online at cmcm.tv/watchcommunity

Giving:

Monthly Budget	\$4,000
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*Giving for December	\$2,682
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*DOES include digital giving for November