



Miller Avenue Baptist Church

Mill Valley, California

An Evangelical and Reformed Congregation*

Acts 2:42

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Welcome!

December 15, 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*

← *Shepherd watching the sheep*

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

Third Sunday of Advent

Lighting of the Shepherds' Candle

The first Noel the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Reading of Luke 2:17-18

Christmas Hymn: # 265 The First Noel

Call to Worship:

All: Jesus was born for us. Jesus lived among us.
Jesus died for us. Jesus rose for us.
Jesus reigns for us.
Let us worship our Lord Jesus Christ.

Morning Prayer — Prayers of the Church — Silent Prayer

Collect of the Day

ALMIGHTY GOD, YOU ONCE CALLED JOHN THE BAPTIST TO GIVE WITNESS TO THE COMING OF YOUR SON AND PREPARE HIS WAY. GRANT US, YOUR PEOPLE, THE WISDOM TO SEE YOUR PURPOSE TODAY AND GRACE TO DO YOUR WILL, THAT WE MAY WITNESS TO CHRIST'S COMING AND SO PREPARE HIS WAY; THROUGH 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: Mark 3:31–35; John 2:1–11, 19:16–27; Acts 1:12–14.

Memory Verse: (The Creator God speaking to the serpent) "I will put enmity between you and the *woman*, and between your offspring and her offspring, he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise your head." (Genesis 3:15)

Reflection: That *woman* is Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Choruses: “God Is So Good” & “You’re the Lifter of My Head” & “Mary, Did You Know” with John and Merrily and choir.

Offertory Theme: We give, whether “blessed” or not.

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 →5:00← pm with reception afterwards

Bible Exposition: Luke 2:8–14 (Rebeka)

Hymn: #272 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

The Sermon:
The Death of Jesus
Mark 15:33–41
(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 **More about Mary**

1. Her name appears 51 times in the New Testament. It is thought the name means “bitterness” or “sorrow,” and indeed she had much sorrow as well as joy.
2. Why was Mary chosen to give birth to the Messiah? She was of no account, was poor, and lived in a small village with no reputation. Indeed, Nathaniel asked, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” (John 1:46)
3. What a wonderful mother she was! Besides giving birth to Jesus, she gave birth to four boys, two of whom became authors of New Testament books—James and Jude. And she bore at least two girls as well, maybe more, but who are unnamed in Scripture.
4. At one point her family questioned Jesus’ activities and thought He might be mad, yet she supported her son despite the opposition He faced. She was present at the crucifixion, and at one-point Jesus her son, while dying, commended her to the care of the Apostle John, the only disciple present at the cross. Legend has it that he cared for her until her death. At some point, they lived in Ephesus.
5. Mary became a widow, as Joseph disappears fairly early on in the life of Jesus. He is not mentioned after Jesus was a boy. Mary then raised a rather large family and with good result.
6. It is probable that you have at least one family member in your remembrance who has the name Mary or a derivative thereof (Miriam if you are Jewish).
7. She will always be honored as the woman who gave birth to our Lord Jesus Christ.

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. 22:** Christmas Sermon (Kent)
Christmas Exposition (Katie)
- Dec. 29:** Sermon= Mark 15:42–16:8 (Kent)
Expo= Luke 2:15–21 (Vern)
- Jan. 5:** Sermon= 1st Paradox (Kent)
Expo= John 8:21–30 (Richard)

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	\$2,510
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*Does NOT include digital giving