

Order of Worship

10:50 am – 12:10 pm

(Please turn off all cell phones & pagers for the worship service)

Prelude Canonic Variations on “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” *Haan*

Entering of the Light

Opening Hymn “Angels from the Realms of Glory” No. 119

Call to Worship Rudy Torres

Hear the good news! When the time had fully come,
God sent forth his own Son, born of a virgin, born under law
to redeem those who are guilty of breaking that law.

This Son of God is Jesus Christ, who died for our sins.

He forgives us of all our sins.

We are no longer slaves of sin.

**Let us rejoice, in the name of the Father, of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit! Amen**

Gifts of the Congregation Meredith Jobe, Judson Ravi

Anthem “Angels We Have Heard on High” *arr. C. Courtney*

Worship in Giving

Morning Offering Dawn Rabello
Offertory “People Look East” *Traditional*
Susan Mills, *soloist*

Children’s Sermon Geri Sophias

Greetings and Prayers of the Congregation Leif Lind
(Please remain standing for prayer)

Prayer Response

Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown

When Thou camest to earth for me;

But in Bethlehem’s home was there found no room

For Thy holy nativity.

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,

There is room in my heart for thee.

Anthem *Gloria in excelsis* from “Gloria” *A. Vivaldi*

Scripture **Luke 2:8-20** Meredith Jobe

Sermon “Giving a Voice to the Voiceless” Rudy Torres

Closing Hymn “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks” No. 139

Benediction Rudy Torres

Musical Response

Postlude “Symphony I–Finale” *Vierne*

Sabbath School Options

Class	Age	Location	Symbols/Leaders
Beginners	0-3 yrs	Room 3	Elephant
Kindergarten	3-5 yrs	Room 4	Giraffe
Primary	6-9	Room 2	Eagle
Junior	10-13 yrs	Room 1	Lion
Teen	14-18 yrs	Room 10b	Fish
Armenian	General	Room 11	
Romanian	General	Room 13	
Pastor	General	Fellowship Hall	Leif Lind
SS Quarterly	General	Chapel	Marquita Kibble

Worship Options

Option	Location	Sequence
Sanctuary Service	Main Sanctuary	Every Sabbath
Romanian Service	Chapel	1st and 3rd Sabbaths
Armenian Service	Chapel	2nd and 4th Sabbaths

Activities

Event	Location	Sequence
Bell Choir	Youth Center	Friday at 8:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room	Sabbath at 9:15 am
Pathfinders	GAMC Gymnasium	Tuesday at 6:45 pm
Sunshine/Jubilate Singers	Room 10b	Sabbath at Noon
Bible Study		Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Marathon Clinic	Verdugo Park	Sunday at 7:00 a.m.

Church Directory

Pastors

Rudy Torres, Interim Senior Pastor
Cherise Gardner, Family & Children’s Ministries
Hovik Sarrafian, Armenian Senior Pastor
Vartkes Azadian, Armenian Associate Pastor
Dorin Lataeanu, Romanian Senior Pastor
Leif Lind, Church Administrator

Officers

Head Elder	Don Greathouse
Head Deacon	Harold Fanselau
Head Deaconess	Eleanor Posner
Church Board Chair	Vincent Haynes
Choir Director	Brenda Mohr
Organist	Kemp Smeal
Children’s Choir Director	Lissie Quishenberry
Bell Choir Director	Ariel Quintana
Secretary	Victoria Lucero
Treasurer	Dean Vendouris
Church Clerk	Mindi Rüb
A+ School Board Chair	Andrew Cervik
A+ School Principal	Jeanie Drake
Pathfinder Director	Preston Carman

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

610 E. California • Glendale, CA 91206 • (818) 244-7241 • Fax: (818) 240-9485
E-Mail: secretary@glendalecitysda.com • Website: www.glendalecitysda.com

Glendale City Seventh-day Adventist Church

"The Season of Advent"



December 13, 2008

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:8-20

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

**"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to men
on whom his favor rests."**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

"Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Sermon Resources

Today Rudy Torres continues the sermon series entitled "Values of the Gospel of Jesus." Based on the book *The Politics of Jesus* by Obery M. Hendricks, Jr., it explores some of the radical teachings of Jesus that made him a threat to the religious and political establishments of his time and all subsequent political and religious establishments. The series grapples with the question of what it means to be a practicing Christian at a time when our material, cultural, and spiritual securities are being threatened.

This morning's sermon looks at how the shepherds and other "less important" members of society were largely ignored or, worse, intimidated by the authorities of their day. Jesus came to give a "voice to the voiceless." He came to minister to the outcast. He came to dispel the use of fear tactics and the need for power struggles. Jesus' Kingdom valued people differently than His (and our) culture.

As you anticipate the sermon, please meditate on the following:

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a prominent pastor and theologian in his native Germany. In 1943 he was arrested for his part in a plot to end Germany's bid to rule the world by bringing about Adolph Hitler's demise. In a letter from the prison where he would meet his death in 1945, Bonhoeffer articulated what he understood as the responsibility of all Christians to treat the people and their needs as holy:

We are not Christ, but if we want to be Christians, we must have some share in Christ's large-heartedness...by showing a real sympathy that springs...from the liberating and redeeming love of Christ for all who suffer. Mere waiting and looking on is not Christian behavior. The Christian is called to sympathy and action, not in the first place by his own sufferings, but by the sufferings of his brethren, for whose sake Christ suffered.

The Politics of Jesus, p. 109, Obery M. Hendricks, Jr.

City Church Announcements

We welcome today's **Guest Choir Conductor**, John St. Marie!

Pastoral Search Committee will meet today immediately after the worship service for a working luncheon.

Water for Life: Glendale City Church has frequently chosen special projects to help those in need. As individuals, we might afford a pump or a well. But as a church family, think what we could do if we pooled our resources. Imagine how many people we could bring water to! A lack of clean water and sanitation causes 1.8 million preventable child deaths each year. Yet this challenge is very solvable — the cost of making clean water available to everyone in the world has been estimated to be \$10 billion. If you'd like to donate to this project, please make a donation to City Church by next Sabbath, December 20, and mark "ADRA water project" on your check or envelope.

Petting Zoo. Plan on visiting our petting zoo on next Sabbath, December 22. It is a great opportunity to bring your neighbors and friends to church!

Need a place for your child to be during winter break? We have a place for you! **Winter Camp for A+ Adventist Children's Center** will be December 22-24 & December 29-31, 2008. Registration is on-going and parents are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible. Please call 818/241-9353.

If you are interested in joining the Choir or watching a rehearsal, you are welcome to come and visit! Rehearsals are each Sabbath morning at 9:15 a.m. downstairs in the Choir Room. If you would like to talk to Brenda, please call her at 818-209-6795 or email brendamohr@hotmail.com.

Have you checked out the **bold new look of our Church's website (www.glendalecitysda.com)**? The site has been entirely restructured to be more user-friendly. Included on the page is congregation news as well as world Adventist news. You may also subscribe on the site for our email *GCC News* bulletin.

Upcoming Sermons & Events

Elder of the Day	Anoosh Keshishzade
December 20	Christmas Program
December 27	Rudy Torres

Sunset tonight – 4:44 p.m. Sunset next Friday – 4:46 p.m.