



The gift of Joy

SIERRA VISTA Community Church

DECEMBER 17, 2023

OUR CORE VALUES:

(Matthew 22:36-40 & Matthew 28:19-20)

WORSHIP:

“Love God with all your heart...”

MINISTRY:

“Love your neighbor as yourself.”

EVANGELISM:

“Go...make disciples/followers...”

DISCIPLESHIP:

“...teach them...all things...”

COMMUNITY/FELLOWSHIP:

“Baptize them...”

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“Loving God, loving others and reaching the world for Christ!”

OUR VISION STATEMENT:

Sierra Vista Community Church exists to help people know, love, and serve God; bonding them into Christian community, equipping them to grow and to minister to those in need; all for the purpose of glorifying Him!

DONATIONS:

GIVING

In-person: Offering envelopes are in the seatbacks & collection baskets are as you exit

Online: give.svccfamily.org

Mail: 514 North Telshor Blvd.
Las Cruces, NM 88011

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Phone number - (575) 526-9535

Email: office@svccfamily.org

Deacon/Staff on Call

Henry Young – (575) 496-1637

STREAMING:

www.svccfamily.org or
youtube.com/@svccfamily

FIRST TIME GUESTS:

CONNECT & RESPONSE CARD - First time guest? Make a decision today? Need prayer or just want to connect with us? The CONNECT & RESPONSE Card (located in the seatback in front of you) is an effective and immediate way to communicate with us! Please take a moment to legibly complete one and then give it to an Usher or place it in the Offering Basket at the end of the service today or if watching online, please email theoffice@svccfamily.org with your information or decision.

CHILDCARE is provided and encouraged for all young children (birth - 3yrs). Because our Worship Services are recorded, it is requested you check-in and drop off your child in the Nursery or Toddler's classroom BEFORE the service begins. Please wait to pick up your child until AFTER the service has been dismissed to help minimize any distractions and avoid upsetting the other children thinking it's time to go.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP AND CLASSES - All children (5 yrs.- 5th grade) are to attend the worship / singing portion of our service with their parent(s), then be dismissed to their class with their teachers waiting in the hallway to walk with them to class. Parents are still required to pre-register their child(s) **before** the Worship Service begins whether or not they will be attending class or remaining in the service.

FAMILY ROOM - Located in the children's hall, just inside the Northwest entrance, this room is provided for parents of young children who may be ill, nursing, or new to SVCC who'd like to remain with their child and still be able to enjoy the service via live streaming in the room.

RESTROOMS are located just outside the Worship Center next to the drinking fountains. We also have a **Family Restroom** next to the bulletin board in the Children's Hall that has a changing table and is designated specifically for adults assisting their child or disabled family.

ESPAÑOL - Tenemos disponible interpretación en español durante el servicio. Favor de notificar a un ujier para asistirle con un audifono. *(Spanish Translation is available during our Worship Service. Please ask an Usher for a Spanish Bulletin and a compact receiver to use.)*

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES:

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER TIME (9:00 am - 9:30 am) - The Worship Center is open and available at 9:00-9:30 am for anyone wanting to have prayer before the service or join others in praying for today's service.

FELLOWSHIP CONNECTION (9:15 am) - Stop by the kitchen counter and have a complimentary cup of coffee and donut to enjoy in the gathering area or out on the patio.

EQUIPPING TIME (9:00 am) - We **will not** be having our Equipping Time on Sundays, December 24, and 31. Class will resume on Sunday, January 7.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS SERVICE 🕯️ While we will NOT be having a Christmas Eve Service, we'll still have our regular 10 am Sunday morning service on December 24 to include Christmas carols, candlelight, and communion. Plan to participate!

OFFICE CLOSURES - Due to the Christmas holiday, the church office will be CLOSED on December 22th and December 25th (Friday & Monday).

PERSONAL INFORMATION UPDATES NEEDED FOR 2023 GIVING STATEMENTS

- If ANY of your personal information (including marital status, phone, address, email, etc.) has changed within this past year, please LEGIBLY record your new information on a CONNECT CARD (located in seat pocket in front of you) or email it to office@svccfamily.org with the new information. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us keep accurate records for mailing your upcoming Giving/Tithing Statements.

"THE GIFT OF JOY"
(The Wonder of Christmas - Advent, Part 3)
December 17, 2023

Notes

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us ... ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation." (Romans 5:1-5 & 11)

Reasons for Christians to rejoice:

- Rejoice in your _____ glory.

"We rejoice in hope of the glory of God." (Romans 5:2b)

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you ..."
(1 Peter. 1:3-4)

- Rejoice in your _____.

³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."
(Romans 5:3-5)

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." (Romans 8:18)

² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." (James 1:2-4)

Paul reminds us what "suffering" produces in our lives.

Suffering produces _____.

Endurance produces _____.

Character produces _____.

- Rejoice in God _____.

"More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation." (Romans 5:11)