

Why Why

we worship

We gather to worship God because of who He is and what He has done on our behalf. Through Jesus' suffering, death, and His resurrection from the dead we who believe in Him are assured of abundant life now and forever.

We gather to worship God because He loves us and has a good plan for our lives. We demonstrate our love for Him through worship.

We gather to worship God because it strengthens, comforts, and encourages us, helping us to live better lives. Through worship, we are inspired to proclaim His goodness, His mercy, and His grace to all.

We gather to worship God because it equips us to live life to the fullest. By sharing God's love and His truth with the people around us, we become Ambassadors for Christ.

How How

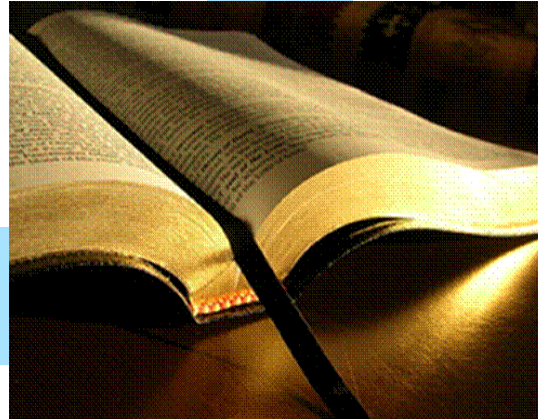
we worship

Welcome:

We open our service with a warm welcome, because we're genuinely glad you are here to worship with us.

Call to Worship:

We come to church to worship, and the Call to Worship reminds us of that. It focuses our thoughts on why we are here in the first place. One of the leaders of our congregation brings us a brief word of encouragement to help us lay aside distractions and direct our attention toward God.



Worshipping through Song and the Spoken Word:

We love to celebrate the fact that we have a God who loves us and wants us to have a relationship with Him. One of the best ways of celebrating God found in the Bible is through music and singing. Our time of singing has something for everyone and incorporates different styles of music. Some of our songs have lyrics taken directly from the Bible. Other songs we sing follow the biblical charge to "sing to the Lord a new song," with words written by Christian song writers. The Bible also instructs us to worship through the public reading of the Scriptures. It is good for us to recall words of worship that have been preserved for thousands of years; these words move us to a deeper, more heartfelt experience.

Pastoral Prayer:

Prayer is an important part of our worship experience. The prayer by the pastor is a special time of bringing the needs and joys of our local congregation, our community, and our world before the Lord.

Cheerful Giving:

As followers of Jesus Christ, we believe the Bible teaches us that God is the true owner of everything that exists, and that we are His stewards of all we possess. Our cheerful giving is an expression of worshipful thanksgiving to God for providing what we have. We also see the biblical mandate for intentional, proportional giving back to Him out of what He provides for us, not as a heavenly income tax, but as a guideline to help us remember that God is our source.

A Word about the Word:

As a means of preparing ourselves to hear the sermon, passages from the Bible are read that speak about the value and importance of the Scriptures. As we hear or read these words, it is a reminder to us to listen for God to speak to our hearts in the message heard during that service.

The Sermon:

At each worship service, we hear a message derived from a passage in the Bible. The message is presented as a special Spirit-inspired word specifically for the congregation that day designed to strengthen, encourage, and build up the people.

Closing Worship:

As we look at the model of the way God's people worshiped in the Bible, they often closed their time of worship with a song. So we follow that example of closing in song that reminds us to continue to worship God throughout the week.

Blessing:

God's special blessing is spoken by the pastor to close the time of worship using words taken from the Bible. It sends us out with a renewed sense of God's great love and compassion for His people.





Personal Prayer and Ministry:

If you have a special need and you would like someone to pray with you, people are available to pray for you after the service in the overflow area on the north side of the sanctuary.

Fellowship Hour:

Right after the Blessing is given, all are invited to come to the fellowship hall to enjoy a cup of coffee, tea, or something cold, and to have some of the wonderful treats that have been provided. It's a great opportunity for you to get to meet someone new, and to connect with someone you enjoy.



In the earliest days of the Church, the Bible tells us that the people *“devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers”* (Acts 2:42 ESV).

It is our desire as a congregation to continue in that heritage. This inspires us, and we want you to be inspired to worship as well. We hope you find this brochure helpful. If you have any questions about our worship service or anything else, please feel free to contact us.

Heritage Evangelical Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 2788
4799 S. Bradley Road
Santa Maria, California 93457-2788
Phone: 805-934-2635
E-mail: heritage_church@verizon.net
www.HeritageEPC.org



Heritage Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church