



500 East Colorado Boulevard
Pasadena, California 91101
(626) 796-0157
www.fumcpasadena.org

STATEMENT OF INCLUSION



All people are welcome at First United Methodist Church. We are proudly part of the Reconciling Ministries Network and welcome all persons, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, physical or mental capacity, and education, socio-economic or marital status.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE!

Nursery Care

(Infant–4 years old)

Nursery care is available every Sunday from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Children's Sunday School and Music

(PreK–6th Grade)

Children age 3 yrs. through 6th grade are invited to Sunday School after the Children's Sermon in Worship, followed by Children's Music for children 4 and up. (3 year olds will go to the nursery following Sunday School.) Child Pick Up (for ages 4+) is in Room 202 at 12:00 p.m.

Questions? Early Pick Up? See the Children's Ministry Superintendent in the Children's Ministry Office.

INDIGENOUS LAND

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We, acknowledge that the land upon which we worship was the ancestral homeland of the Tongva People for thousands of years. Approximately two thousand Tongva people still live in the Los Angeles area. We honor their connection to this region and give thanks for the opportunity to live, work, worship and learn on this sacred land.

OCTOBER 29, 2023

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING TOGETHER

Welcome to Worship. We are so glad that you are joining us today. We invite you to open your spirit to this time of worship, song, prayer, inspiration and challenge.

In consideration of others, please silence electronic devices.

“+” indicates to stand in body or spirit as you choose.

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Jacob Weber (b.1988)

+ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

We gather in the name of the living Christ to worship God.

**Surely, God is in this place
and calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.**

God's love is for you
and for all people everywhere.

**That we may share God's love and life,
may we be renewed**

in the refreshing Spirit of the living Christ.

The living Christ is with us.

Praise the Lord!

+ OPENING HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory

UMH 577

+ WELCOME AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you, **and also with you.**

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

This Little Light of Mine

UMH 585

Children are invited to come forward or remain seated.

THIS IS OUR STORY: STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

CENTERING SONG

Lead Me, Lord

UMH 473

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness;
make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only,
that makest me dwell in safety.

Moment for Silent Meditation

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

IN OUR PRAYERS...

As a community of faith, let us hold these persons in our prayers:

Newly Added: Leilani Williams

For Healing: Christy Bootjer and Family, Joyce Breslin, Lisa Brown, Patricia Bruce, Erika Carillo, Albert Davis, Mary Davis, Juliette De Guzman, Joyce Dorn, John Evans, Zina Figilis, Brett Hain, Sofia Hain, Colin Harwood, Friends and family of Muriel Henderson, Sallie Higginbotham, Amy Jaffe, Norman Jensen, Stephen Kastner, Family of Helen Kinel, Greg Klimuck, Family of Randy Leach, Julie and Henry Lee and their family, David Madrid, Charif Masri, Jocelyn Medina, Ken Morrow, Gail Nance, Jonathan Nieto, Carol Nunemaker, Katherine Olivas, Leslie Parham, Tommy Parham, Crystal Powers, Josh Riaille, Donna Shook, Frances Smith, Jeffrey Stephens, Family of Doris Stiver, Tim Sun, Deb and Gary Webster, Jan Wentz, Nadine Wittry and family, Sonia Wittry, Mona Woodard, Richard Zeiss.

Prayer requests may be shared via connect@fumcpasadena.org and we will gladly add them.

LET'S CONNECT!

Connect cards are located at the back of the sanctuary. Please use a Connect Card to provide or update your contact information, for information on church programs, make a prayer request or communicate a message to our pastors. Place completed cards in the offering plate near the back of the sanctuary. If you are part of the Connected (Online) Campus, send an email to connect@fumcpasadena.org.

THE 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.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:34-46

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet" '?

"If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

ANTHEM

Giver of Every Perfect Gift

K. Lee Scott

Julian Hallmark, violin

Giver of every perfect gift,
You shape my life from womb to grave.
Reveal you good and gracious will
That plants me in this time and place.
Display the gifts assigned to me.
Make them a witness to your name.

Revealing word, sent Son of God,
Proclaimer of the Kingdom's dawn,
It is for you, because of you,
That every talent is bestowed.
You have a part for me to fill,
A purpose for this life of mine.

You planned and know the gifts I have;
Creator God, from you they come,
Unique and special from your heart,
Intended for a chosen role.
Thrill me to find and recognize
The talents only you can give.

Enabling spirit, gift of gifts,
Empower me, stir up my faith,
Make me an instrument of grace,
Of mercy, blessing, peace, and joy.
Let me not miss another day
In seeing what your gifts can do.

SERMON

Faith Working Through Love:
Covenantal Community.

Pastor Amy Aitken

WESLEYAN COVENANT PRAYER

Loving God, I accept that I am yours, created by you, claimed by you, led by you throughout my life.

The call to follow you is one of grace.

Your love and mercy surround me everyday.

Today, I choose to respond to your invitation with my "yes."

While not every day will be easy, you promise to always be with me.

Put me to what you want, place me where you will.

Put me to doing, put me to waiting.

Call me to step-up in service for you, or to step aside.

Let me be exalted for you or brought low for you.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

With all that I am, and all that I have, I offer myself to you.

And now, O glorious and blessed God,

you are mine, and I am yours.

So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth,

let it be ratified in heaven.

Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

BAPTISM AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

UMH 33

Pierce and Maura Cook (Pierce Jr., Archer, Rosie)

Chris and Dori Fotsch

Marvine Stamatakis

Jacques (Woody) Woodward

+PRESENTATION MUSIC *Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow* UMH 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

+PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Creator God, you call us to join in your work of love in the world, and you equip us with all we need to follow that call. Make us generous of hand, heart, and mind. As we offer to you a portion of your gifts, we pray you would receive them as a sign of our gratitude for your faithful love, and guide us as we offer our whole selves, and the ministries of this church, to your service. Amen.

OFFERING TO GOD OUR HEARTS, OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

Giving supports all of the ministries of the church, making it possible for us to offer ministries of hope, hospitality, service and compassion in Pasadena, and around the world.

If you'd like to partner with us and make a financial gift today, you may use your phone to scan the QR code below.



GIVING TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

Over the next few weeks, we are asking each person who shares in the ministry of First UMC to thoughtfully and prayerfully consider how you will support the church in 2024. Each year, we engage in a season of reflection on our commitment to our shared ministries and our financial stewardship. On November 19, as we celebrate a Service of Thanksgiving, you will be invited to offer your "Estimate of Giving" cards (or pledges) for the coming year.

Be on the lookout for pledge cards arriving in your mailbox. If you have never pledged or given before, we want to invite you to consider taking the next step in your faith journey and partner with the church by becoming a regular financial contributor.

You can also make your pledge online:



fumcpasadena.org/stewardship

GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

+CLOSING HYMN

The Servant Song

TFWS 2222

+BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Scherzo from Sonata No.1

Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

For more information, email us at connect@fumcpasadena.org

TODAY

October's Movie Night- tonight at 5 p.m. in the Church Lounge: This month's movie is "Till" (rated PG), which recounts a brave mother's struggle for justice.

COMING UP

All Saints Sunday - Nov. 5: Next Sunday we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday by remembering and giving thanks for the lives of those no longer with us. If you have friends or family members who passed in 2023 and you'd like to honor them, please send their name to ashleys@fumcpasadena.org so we can include them in the Remembering the Saints portion of our service.

Red Cross Blood Drive - Nov. 5 in the Church Parking Lot: The Red Cross will be holding a blood drive for the Pasadena community from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. To schedule an appointment, please visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter code FUMCPASADENA.

Turn-a-Page Book Group - Nov. 12 in the Church Lounge at 11:30 a.m.: We will meet to choose books for 2024. We'd love to have your input! All are welcome.

Christmas Greens Youth Fundraiser: Get ready for the season by purchasing wreaths, table settings, and more through our Christmas Greens Youth Fundraiser! Visit <https://sherwoodfundraiser.com/FUMCPasadena> to order. The order deadline is November 5th. Greens are available for pick-up or direct delivery!

TODAY AT FIRST UMC

- 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:15: Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
- 4:30 p.m.: Youth Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 5:00: Movie Night (Church Lounge)
- 5:30: Youth Group (Youth Lounge)

SERVING IN MINISTRY

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Amy Aitken

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Mina Nau-Mahe

Director of Music Ministries:

Scott Lehmkuhl

Organist:

Aaron Shows

Guest Musician:

Julian Hallmark, violin

Ministry Coordinator:

Dori Fotsch

Facilities & Office Manager:

Aisha Williams

Finance Manager:

Tim Sun

Communications Director:

Ashley Slade

Leadership Council Chairperson:

Kevin Lussier

Lay Leader for Faith Development

Mikala Rahn

Lay Leader for Finance & Generosity:

J.P. Harris

Lay Leader for Outreach:

Rosalie Niemann

Lay Leader for Worship:

Paul Audley

Director of Media Ministries:

Dave Lohr

Today's Worship Leader:

Grace Danziger

TO SIGN UP FOR NEWS@FIRST VISIT
FUMCPASADENA.ORG/NEWS