



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 9:30 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.

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

TWENTY-FOURTH 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

Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier  
Dearest Jesus, We Are Here

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

## + INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Come!  
Come and worship,  
you who woke early and you who slept late;  
you who come often, and you who have never been in a place of worship.  
Whether we pride ourselves on being first, or know ourselves to be lacking, or we simply waiver at all times,  
there is room for all of us in God's kingdom,  
and more than enough grace to go around.  
**Let's worship God together!**

## + OPENING HYMN

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

UMH 89

## + 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.

## GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

### CENTERING SONG

*Be Thou My Vision*

UMH 451

Be Thou my vision O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

*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:** Erika Carillo, Beverly DeVoy, Helen Kinel

**For Healing:** Joyce Breslin, Lisa Brown, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Patricia Bruce, Albert Davis, Mary Davis, Juliette De Guzman, Joyce Dorn, John Evans, Zina Figilis, Brett Hain, Sofia Hain, Muriel Henderson, Sallie Higginbotham, Amy Jaffe, Norman Jensen, Stephen Kastner, Greg Klimuck, Veronica Kung, David Madrid, Charif Masri, Jocelyn Medina, Aidan Millsap, Gail Nance, Carol Nunemaker, Katherine Olivas, Leslie Parham, Tommy Parham, Paula Anderson Peacock, Gerry Poulin, Crystal Powers, Jim Prior, Donna Shook, Frances Smith, Jeffrey Stephens, Tim Sun, Deb and Gary Webster, Jan Wentz, Nadine Wittry and family, Sonia Wittry, Richard Zeiss.

Prayer requests may be shared via [connect@fumcpasadena.org](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org) and we will gladly add them.

## LET'S CONNECT!

Connect cards are located at the back of the chapel. 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 chapel. If you are part of the Connected (Online) Campus, send an email to [connect@fumcpasadena.org](mailto: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 20: 1-16

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Word of God, for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

### ANTHEM

Grace

Mark Hayes

### SERMON

*Faith Working Through Love:  
It is All Grace*

Pastor Amy Aitken

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

### +PRESENTATION MUSIC

*Many Gifts, One Spirit*

UMH 114

Many gifts, one Spirit,  
one love known in many ways.  
In our difference is blessing,  
from diversity we praise  
one Giver, one Lord, one Word  
known in many ways, hallowing our days.  
For the Giver and the Gifts,  
praise, praise, praise!

### +PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Holy God, we bless your name as we offer these tithes, offerings and gifts. Thank you for the abundance with which you bless us, day by day. Thank you for this opportunity for us to share. Accept our gratitude for all we've been given. Receive these signs of our love, and help us use them wisely. Strengthen us to be more and more generous even as we recognize your generosity and grace in our lives. AMEN.

## GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

### +CLOSING HYMN

*Amazing Grace*

UMH 378  
vs. 1, 2, 4, and 6

### +BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*Festival Toccata*

Percy Fletcher (1879-1932)

## FOR FURTHER REFLECTION...

United Methodists define grace as "the undeserved, unmerited, and loving action of God in human existence through the ever-present Holy Spirit." Grace pervades all of creation and is universally present. Grace is God's presence to create, heal, forgive, reconcile and transform human hearts, communities and the entire creation. Wherever God is present, there is grace! Grace brought creation into existence. Grace birthed human beings, bestowed on us the divine image, redeemed us in Jesus Christ and is ever transforming the whole creation into the realm of God's reign of compassion, justice, generosity and peace.

- Where have you experienced God's love and grace in your life?
- When we know ourselves to be fully, wholly and unconditionally loved by God, our hearts are opened to love others more fully. Where is God's grace nudging you to seek to offer more compassion, justice, generosity and peace in your relationships, in your community and in the world?

## 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.



## SUPPORT UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF

In light of many recent natural disasters, we want to remind you of the work of our United Methodist Committee on Relief. If you would like to make a donation toward UMCOR, please scan the QR code below.



## ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Flowers are donated this morning to the Glory of God and in celebration of JP and Diane Harris' 27th wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

For more information, email us at [connect@fumcpasadena.org](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org)

### TODAY

**Turn-A-Page meets today at 11:30 a.m. Church Lounge.** We will be discussing *The Pastures of Heaven* by John Steinbeck. This short story cycle, first published in 1932, consists of twelve interconnected stories about the Corral de Tierra, in Monterey, California. All are welcome, even if you have not read the book.

### COMING UP

**Welcome Luncheon - Sept 24, 11:30 a.m.:** New to FUMC? We are so glad you are here! Join Pastor Amy for a casual lunch next Sunday in the Church Library. To RSVP email [connect@fumcpasadena.org](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org)

**LAST CALL - New Disciple Bible Study Course** - This Fall, Pastor Amy will be leading Disciple Bible Study: *Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study*.

This small group Bible study is a completely virtual, app-based version of the internationally-known, transformative DISCIPLE Bible Study. There are 24 sessions covering Genesis to Revelation (12 covering the Old Testament and 12 covering the New Testament).

Our 90 minute weekly meeting will take place on Wednesday evenings starting a 7:00 pm and ending at 8:30 pm.

Pastor Amy can have up to 15 people join her study group. Priority will be given to those who have never taken Disciple Bible Study before.

To learn more about the study and the app, visit [BeADiscipleApp.com](http://BeADiscipleApp.com) and be sure to watch both videos.

**September's Movie Night - Sept. 24, 5:00 p.m.:** We will be screening the newest version of *West Side Story* in the Church Lounge. For fun, we recommend watching the original film to see the differences.

Those wishing to enjoy supper should contact Priscilla Baca ([priscillabaca1@gmail.com](mailto:priscillabaca1@gmail.com)) to make a reservation.

**UWF Morning Group - Sept. 18, 1:00 p.m.:** All are invited to come to the first United Women in Faith (UWF) fall meeting on September 18, at 1:00 p.m., in the church lounge. We are delighted to have Dori Fotsch, our new Minister Coordinator, who will share her faith journey with us, including her experience as a GBGM volunteer in missions. Want to know more about Dori's life and what GBGM stands for? Join us! Dessert will be served.

**Camp Sky Meadows Appreciation Luncheon - Sunday, Oct. 1** - Mark your calendars for a special Friends and Family luncheon hosted by the Pasadena Methodist Foundation and the PMF Camp Committee to thank all those who have worked through the years to sustain Camp Sky Meadows (CSM). If you know someone who has been involved through the years, please email Pam Marx ([pamelamarx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pamelamarx@sbcglobal.net)) so we can invite them.

**Early Response Training - Oct. 14 - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** - Early Response Teams (ERT) are part of the first phase of disaster relief, establishing the caring presence of the church and providing hope for survivors. Your church and community could also be faced with a disaster. Train to be ready to respond and know the first steps to help.

Training will be held at First UMC Pasadena on Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration is limited to 25. Check the [News@First](mailto:News@First) email to find the registration link

## TODAY AT FIRST UMC

- 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00: Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:30: Turn-A-Page (Church Lounge)
- 5:30: Youth Group (Youth Lounge and Fellowship Hall)

## SERVING IN MINISTRY

**Pastor**  
Rev. Dr. Amy Aitken

**Associate Pastor:**  
Rev. Mina Nau-Mahe

**Director of Music Ministries:**  
Scott Lehmkuhl

**Organist:**  
Aaron Shows

**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:**  
Andrea Lussier

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