



500 East Colorado Boulevard
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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 11:30 a.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.

DECEMBER 4, 2022
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GATHERING TOGETHER

Welcome to Worship. We are so glad that you are joining us today. We worship God in ways that are both ancient and modern, steeped in church tradition and open to God's ongoing call in our lives. 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.

TOLLING OF THE BELLS

As the bell tolls, we invite you to simply pause as we center our hearts, our spirits, and our bodies in God's presence.

PRELUDE

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah Wayne Wold (b. 1954)

+ GATHERING IN WORSHIP

Mardy, Mary Lou and Oriane Olivas

In the season of Advent, we begin worship gathering around this wreath of candles, symbolizing the four weeks of Advent, and the hope, peace, love and joy that Christ brings to our weary world.

Today we light the candle of peace, along with the candle of hope.

Lighting this second candle reminds us of the call to seek peace in our chaotic lives and unjust world. In the midst of anxieties, fears and injustice, lighting this candle invites us to join with God's prophets in imagining a world at peace. We are reminded that the gentle peace and presence of God is always available to us.

As we light the candle of peace, we acknowledge that too often we surrender God's peace to our fears. We acknowledge the times when our anxieties lead us to anger and defensiveness. We acknowledge our need for God's presence and peace as we walk together this journey of faith.

Holy God, we thank you for the gift of peace that is found in Christ Jesus. Remind us of the abiding presence of your peace as we gather our hearts for worship in this sacred season. Amen.

+ OPENING HYMN

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

UMH 211, vs. 1-4

+ WELCOME AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

Newly added: Thelma Calantas

For Healing: Pat Audley, Mark Audley, Christina Bittar, Nancy Brubaker and Eric Brubaker, Patricia Bruce, Anne Burke, April Charczenko, Mary Davis, Pauline Dominguez, Joyce Dorn, Ann and Neal Dougherty, Peggy Gott, Brett Hain, Sofia Hain, Sallie Higginbotham, James Jensen, Stephen Kastner, Harry Kuruma, Sharon Garrison Morrow, Carol Nunemaker, Rev. Pyong Oh, Paula Anderson Peacock, Carlos Peraza, Stephanie Peraza, Celina Romero, Shane Ross, Donna Shook, Doug Shook, Lauren Sloboda, Wendy Stiver, Phyllis and Howard Underwood, Deb and Gary Webster, Jan Wentz, Sonya Wittry, Brian Worth, Richard Zeiss, Rosy Zide.

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

LET'S CONNECT!

Connect cards are located in each pew. 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 boxes near the back and parking lot doors to the sanctuary. If you are part of the Connected (Online) Campus, send an email to connect@fumcpasadena.org.

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

He Came Down

Children are invited to come forward or remain seated.
Sunday School begins after the Time for Young Christians.
As the children gather, we sing together.

He came down that we may have hope;
He came down that we may have hope;
He came down that we may have hope;
Hallelujah forevermore.

GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

CENTERING SONG

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, Desire of nations bind
all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust thou brought us forth to life;
deliver us from earthly strife.
Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Moment for Silent Meditation

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:67-79

Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.
He has raised up a mighty savior for us
in the house of his child David,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all
who hate us.
Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors
and has remembered his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness
in his presence all our days.
And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.
Because of the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

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

SERMON

Zachariah's Song

Pastor Amy Aitken

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

OFFERTORY

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Gustav Holst

+PRESENTATION MUSIC

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

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 DEDICATION

Bless these gifts, O Lord, and help them to bring the transforming love you have given us into ministries of hope and peace in this, our hurting world. Amen.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

In the United Methodist Church, all who love God and are striving to love their neighbor are invited to share in this holy meal. Our communion elements are gluten and alcohol-free so that all may share in this sacrament together. Whether we are in this sanctuary together or apart from one another, we recognize that God's love knows no bounds. At this Table, as we celebrate Christ's presence and give thanks for our identity and our unity in Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Congregational responses can be found on p. 15 of the hymnal.

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**

OFFERING TO GOD OUR HEARTS, OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

An offering is an act of gratitude and faithfulness in response to God's love and grace in our lives. 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.

Scan the QR code below to access the church's online giving website. Offering baskets are available by the exits to receive checks and currency.



However you choose to share your gifts, we thank you for being here and sharing in the ministries of First United Methodist Church.

ADVENT EVENTS

There are lots of events at FUMC this Advent season.

To stay up to date, visit
fumcpasadena.org/advent.
Or scan the QR code below:



For all other events, visit:
fumcpasadena.org/events

RECEIVING THE ELEMENTS

You are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion at the stations in each aisle. If you wish be served in your seat, servers will gladly come to you.

GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

+CLOSING HYMN

All Earth is Waiting

UMH 210

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

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

FUMC Music at Vroman's: Resound Ringers, Youth Handbells and Dulcets perform at Vroman's this Sunday at 1:00 p.m. This will be a wonderful way to engage with our community, and listen to beautiful Christmas music!

Alternative Christmas Market: Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Dec. 11. The market offers our members and friends the opportunity to make donations as "Christmas gifts" to benefit one or more charitable causes.

Stewardship Season: We are so thankful for all the pledges we have received in support of the church's ministry in 2023. The faithful giving of our congregation allows us to offer ministries of worship, music, missions, services to our community, as well as all of our ministries with children, youth, families and adults of all ages. If you haven't completed your Estimate of Giving card for 2023 (Pledge card), they can be found on the welcome tables and returned in the offering baskets. Pledge cards can also be completed on our church's website. **We thank you for financial support for all of the ministries we cherish at FUMC.**

Christmas Joy Concert! Saturday, December 17 at 4:00 p.m.

Rose Parade Seats and Parking - Now Taking Reservations: Please scan the QR code below to make your reservation.



Grief During the Holidays, a FUMC ministry, continues as a place to find comfort, understanding and hope will gather on Wednesdays until **Dec. 14** from 2:00-3:00 p.m. on Zoom. Registration is required. Please email connect@fumcpasadena.org for more information.

Want to be a part of the Christmas Morning Online Worship? We are looking for videos (5 seconds long - filmed landscape-style on your phone) or photos of you and your family sharing a Christmas greeting! Send your photos and messages to Ashley: ashleys@fumcpasadena.org.

Save the Date: What's Next: Reconnecting, Renewing and Reimagining the Ministries of FUMC. Saturday, January 7, 2023, 9:00-3:00pm. All are encouraged to join in this important time to envisioning what's next for FUMC. Lunch and childcare provided.

TODAY AT FIRST UMC

- 9:00 a.m.: Spirit Seekers: (Church Lounge)
- 10: 00: Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00: Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00: Advent Workshop (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:15: Confirmation Class (Library)
- 11:15: Youth Sunday School (rm 207)
- 12:00 p.m.: Youth Bell Choir
- 12:45 p.m.: Adult Bell Choir (rm 204)
- 5:30: Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)

FIRST UMC STAFF AND LAY LEADERSHIP

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Amy Aitken

Director of Intentional Faith Development:

Rev. Jennifer Chapman

Minister of Hospitality & Congregational Care:

Rev. Connie Tamkin

Director of Music Ministries:

Scott Lehmkuhl

Organist:

Aaron Shows

Intentional Faith Development Lay Leader:

Mikala Rahn

Extravagant Generosity Ministry Lay Leader:

J.P. Harris

Risk-Taking Mission Ministry Lay Leader:

Beth Gerber

Passionate Worship Lay Leader:

Paul Audley

Director of Media Ministries

Dave Lohr

Today's Worship Leader:

Nancy Elrod

For more news and announcements, visit:
fumcpasadena.org/news