



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.

MARCH 5, 2023  
SECOND SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF LENT

## 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 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

The Word Was God

Rosephanye Powell (b.1962)  
University of Pittsburgh Men's Glee Club  
Richard Teaster, director

Adon Olam

Salamone Rossi (1570-1630)  
Ancient Jewish Hymn  
UPMGC

*Eternal God, who reigned supreme, before all of creation was drawn;  
When it was finished according to God's will, then the Lord's Name was proclaimed*

*When this our world shall be no more, in majesty God still shall reign,  
God was, and is, and will forever be in glory.*

*Alone is God, beyond compare, without division or ally;*

*Without beginning, without end, to God is the power and sovereignty  
(unfathomable and unimaginable, unchanging and irreplaceable,*

*God is without connections or separations, God's strength and valor are great)*

*God is my my Living Redeemer, rock of my affliction in the enemy day*

*My banner and refuge, filling my cup the day I call*

*(God is a healer and a remedy, watching and helping)*

*Into God's hand I commit my spirit, when I sleep,*

*and I wake and with my spirit, my body.*

*The Lord is with me, I will not fear.*

- Adon Olam English Translation

## IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

**Newly Added:** The Molitor family, John Moran and family, Lidiya Potapenko and family, Kaz Mousavi's niece and other protesters in Iran who have been detained and tortured

**For Healing:** Mark Audley, Eric Brubaker, Patricia Bruce, Ann Burke, Phil Chavez and family, Mary Davis, Cecilia DePippo, Pauline Dominguez, Joyce Dorn, Ann and Neal Dougherty, Brett Hain, Sofia and Woody Hain, René Handley-Arriaza, Rob Hayes, Laura Hevia Del Puerto and family, Sallie Higginbotham, James Jensen, Lynnel Jensen, Stephen Kastner, David Kinel, Jocelyn Medina, The family and friends of Corina Moray, Sharon Garrison Morrow, Johnathan Nieto, Carol Nunemaker, Rev. Pyong Oh, Tommy Parham, Paula Anderson Peacock, Carlos Peraza, Stephanie Peraza, Celina Romero, Wayne Schenck, Ha-yeong Shin, Donna Shook, Jill Shook, Wendy Stiver, Tim Sun, Phyllis and Howard Underwood, Deb and Gary Webster, Jan Wentz, Sonya Wittry, Richard Zeiss, Rosy Zide.

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 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](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org).

## + INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Friends of God, hear these words –  
God loved the world,  
God loves the world,  
we are, all of us, every last one of us, God's beloved!

May the truth of this tender love story,  
shine through our worship today,  
and renew our sense of calling.

So come, with your questions,  
your frustrations and your discouragements;  
come with your doubts, your fears,  
and your longings;  
come, to discover yet again  
how Jesus reveals God's love and mercy.

Come, knowing that God looks upon you with tenderness and joy.  
Come into worship,  
let us listen for God's Word to us,  
offer our prayers, sing our praise,  
and renew with our spirits the tender love and joy of God.

Beloved of God,  
let us worship!

## + OPENING HYMN

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

UMH 139

## + WELCOME AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

## COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

### TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

The Servant Song

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.

We are pilgrims on a journey;  
we're together on the road.  
We are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

## GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

### CENTERING SONG

*Restore in Us, O God*

O Spirit, wake in us  
the wonder of your pow'r;  
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives  
like springtime bud and flow'r.

*Moment for Silent Meditation*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

### SERMON

*Boundless Love*

Rev. Amy Aitken

## 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 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.

## DOWNLOAD OUR APP

Have you downloaded our FUMC app yet?

Visit [fumcpasadena.org/app](http://fumcpasadena.org/app) to download the app to your favorite device and stay connected and up to date with out latest content.

## ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH MEN'S GLEE CLUB

Founded in 1890, the University of Pittsburgh Men's Glee Club is the oldest student organization at the University, as well as its oldest musical ensemble.

In addition to its performances on campus and in the greater Pittsburgh area, the Club is known for its rich history of concert tours throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. Recent international tours have included performances in Amsterdam, Paris, Rome, Salzburg and Budapest.

In the states, the Club has sung in major cities such as Chicago, Raleigh, Washington, DC, Philadelphia, New York, Hartford, San Antonio and Austin.

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

### OFFERTORY

Thankful

David Foster/Carol Bayer Sager  
arr. Mark Hayes

Somedays, we forget to look around us  
Somedays, we can't see the joy that surrounds us  
So caught up inside ourselves  
We take when we should give

So for tonight we pray for  
What we know can be  
And on this day we hope for  
What we still can't see  
It's up to us, to be the change  
And even though we all can still do more  
There's so much to be thankful for

Look beyond ourselves  
There's so much sorrow  
It's way to late to say, I'll cry tomorrow  
Each of us must find our truth  
It's so long overdue

Even with our differences  
There is a place we're all connected  
Each of us can find each other's light

### +PRESENTATION MUSIC

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God, above ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

### +PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of unwavering love, you have held nothing back in your love for us, not even your Son. How we marvel at that kind of love, and how we long to reflect a portion of that devotion back to you. As we dedicate our offerings to you, lead us away from our tendency to hold back and worry that there will not be enough. Help us to live as the people of love and abundance you have called us to be. In Christ we pray. 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. 2257 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**

### **COMMUNION SELECTION**

Dostoyno Yest Nikolai Golovanov (1891-1953)

It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos,  
ever-blessed and most pure, Mother of God.  
More honorable than the Cherubim,  
and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim.  
Without defilement you gave birth to God the Word.  
True Theotokos, we magnify you!

- Dostoyno Yest English Translation

## **GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE**

### **+CLOSING HYMN**

*You Satisfy the Hungry Heart* UMH 629

### **+BENEDICTION**

*An Irish Blessing* Gustav Holst (1874-1934)  
May the road rise up to meet you wherever you may roam, may the sun  
shine upon your face and always keep you warm. May the rains fall ever  
gently and soft upon your fields, and may love follow you as you journey the  
years. May your days all be filled with kindness, and your dreams follow you  
in stride. If the darkness consumes your noble heart, look to the light inside.  
May the strong winds of November be always at your back, and may God  
hold you safe in the palm of His hand. May God speed you upon your  
journey and safely show you home. Until then, know you will be in my heart,  
and in my soul.

### **+POSTLUDE**

*What Wondrous Love Is This?* Aaron Shows (b.1989)

## TODAY AT FIRST UMC

- 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00: Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:15: Youth Sunday School (207)
- 11:15: Confirmation Class (106)
- 11:30: Worship Leaders Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 p.m.: Youth Bell Choir (204)
- 12:45: Adult Bell Choir (204)
- 4:30: Youth Choir (Choir Room)
- 5:30: Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

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

### TODAY



## 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:

Rosalie Niemann

### Passionate Worship Lay Leader:

Paul Audley

### Director of Media Ministries

Dave Lohr

### Today's Worship Leader:

Iris Perez

## Good Inside Parenting Group

Current parents (and grandparents) of infants, toddlers, children, and youth, are invited to a discussion group on *Good Inside: A Guide to Becoming the Parent You Want to Be* by Dr. Becky Kennedy. Pastor Jen will lead parents in discussion and reflection as we offer one another encouragement and support in parenting and life. Participants are encouraged to obtain a copy of the book and read the chapters assigned for each discussion, but you're welcome to come regardless (whether or not you read the book, you're still "good inside"!)

We will meet in Room 206 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- March 5 - Introduction and Chapter 1
- March 19 - Chapters 2-3
- April 2 - Chapters 4-5
- April 16 - Chapters 6-7
- April 23 - Chapters 8-9
- May 7 - Chapters 10-11

## Worship Leaders and Liturgists Meeting

After worship this Sunday in the sanctuary, we will have a meeting for all who participate in or might be interested in participating in the reading the liturgy during worship services.

Due to Covid, it has been a long time since we have come together. Now the time has come! We will go over the details of the reading schedule, answer questions, and most importantly meet newcomers and reestablish our team. Pastor Amy will be joining us. Your attendance will be most appreciated!



## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

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

### Coming Soon

**New Lenten Series** - On March 8, we continue our Lenten Series on Forgive Everyone Everything by Father Greg Boyle with art by Fabian Debora. This session will cover Love All The Time (pgs. 26-49).

Each session will begin at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP via the link in News@First, or email [connect@fumcpasadena.org](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org).

The book is available to purchase for \$15 in the church office or you may purchase a copy online (copies are limited).

**Spirit Seekers Class** - Sundays at 8:45 a.m. in the Church Lounge. In the Season of Lent, Spirit Seekers will also use Father Boyle's book Forgive Everyone Everything as a modern-day devotional guide for the course. This study concludes on Palm Sunday, April 2.

**Art Night**, March 10, 6 - 10 p.m., - artWORKS Teen Center will host student performances and art activities on the church patio. For more information on all Art Night events, visit [artnightpasadena.org](http://artnightpasadena.org).

**Red Cross Blood Drive**, March 19, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - There will be a blood drive held with the Red Cross Bloodmobile in the parking lot behind the church off of Green Street and Los Robles. To schedule an appointment please log onto [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) enter sponsor code: FUMCPASADENA.

**Turn-A-Page Book Group**, March 19, 11:30 a.m. in the Church Lounge to discuss this month's Choice: The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich. Even if you haven't read the book please feel free to join the discussion.

**The Celebration of Life service for Joan Bothast** will be held on Saturday, March 11, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Pasadena Methodist Foundation ([www.pasadenamethodistfoundation.org](http://www.pasadenamethodistfoundation.org)), or any local or national chapter of PEO (<https://donations.peointernational.org/>).

**Youth Cabaret Auction Donations** - The youth will host our annual Cabaret (dinner and show) fundraiser on Saturday, March 25 (6:00 p.m.) and Sunday, March 26, (12:00 p.m.). They are currently asking for donations for this year's Silent Auction, which will feature items donated by local businesses, church members and friends, as well as items created and services offered by youth.

If you have anything you can donate (especially things like vacation stays, gift cards, services, tickets, etc), we warmly welcome your contribution! Donations are all tax deductible.

Reservation information coming soon!

**New Support Ministry: Care for the Caregiver.** Meets the 3rd Thursday of the month (Starting March 16), 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. - Many of us are caregivers of an aging parent or relative.

Our first session will feature Jacqueline Burson-Whall, R.N., who is part of our worshiping community, and is an expert in the field of elder care issues. We will focus on the topic of "living alone in the home" and the desire for independence, minimizing the risks, and peace of mind for family members.

The group will meet in the Church Lounge and via Zoom. Registration encouraged, especially for those wanting to participate via Zoom. Contact [connect@fumcpasadena.org](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org) to register. A Love Offering is suggested to support special guests.

**Bad Weather Supply Donations:** We are pleased to be hosting the Friends in Deed's Bad Weather Supply program on Thursdays in Great Hall from 5 p.m - 7 p.m. If you are interested in donating cold weather items, please contact Lindsey at [lindseyr@friendsindeedpas.org](mailto:lindseyr@friendsindeedpas.org).

Pastor's Bible Study will meet next Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.  
(3/8). We will discuss John 4:5-26, 39-42.

We will be meeting via Zoom. Please find the link in the News@First email.