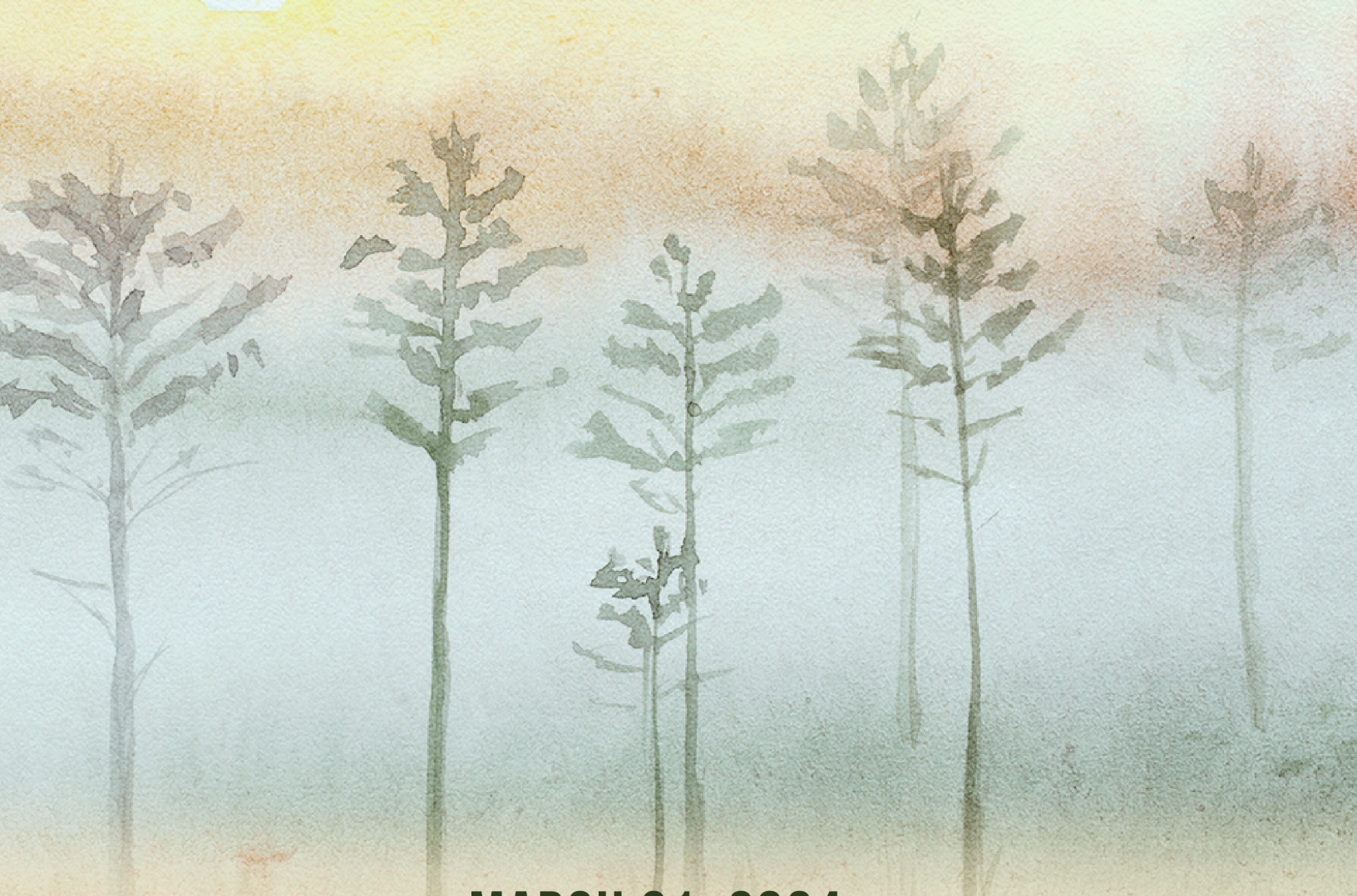




Easter Sunday



MARCH 31, 2024

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PASADENA

500 East Colorado Boulevard Pasadena, California 91101

(626) 796-0157 / www.fumcpasadena.org



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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 ages 4 through 6th grade are invited to the courtyard after the Children's Sermon for Easter activities. Children will return to their families before the end of the Worship service.

We hope you will join us next week for our full Children's Sunday School and Music program from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.!

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.

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

Risen Indeed: An Easter Fanfare

Aaron Shows (b.1989)

+ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Early on the first day of the week, the women went to the tomb. **They went to perform a service, out of love for one they had lost.** They went to fulfill their obligations, the expectations of their faith. **They never expected what they would find: an empty tomb.** They never expected an earthquake, or angels, or Christ himself. **We come with our expectations, our emptiness and our hopes.** We come with the crosses we have carried, the stones that block our way. **We come to meet the Christ and to hear his greeting.** We come to remind each other that nothing **Absolutely nothing!** Nothing can separate us from the love of God. Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!**

+ OPENING HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

UMH 302

+ WELCOME AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

GIFT OF MUSIC

Share the Easter Joy

Mark Patterson
Cherub and Cantate Choirs

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

Halle, Halle, Halleluja (TFWS 2026)

*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.*

Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halleluja! Halleluja!

ANTHEM

An Antiphonal Easter Alleluia

Joel Raney
Cantate, Youth, and Chancel Choirs
with Resound Ringers

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

GOSPEL READING

Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

SERMON

The God of the Gospel

Pastor Amy Aitken

PASTORAL PRAYER

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**

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 baskets 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.

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.



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

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

OFFERTORY

Easter Hymn of Praise

arr. Mary McDonald
Chancel Choir and Resound Ringers

+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 of gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

+CLOSING HYMN

Ring the Easter Bells With Gladness

Jon Paige and Brad Nix

Ring the Easter bells With Gladness set the alleluias free.
Dry each tear and end all sadness, Christ has won the victory.
Fill the earth with joyful music, let each voice be true and strong.
Ring the Easter bells with gladness, raise a resurrection song.

Ring the Easter bells forever, Jesus is the Living Word.
He has risen as our Savior, King of kings and Lord of Lords.
Rising with a shout of triumph, Christ has won the victory.
Ring the Easter bells forever, set the alleluias free.

+BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hallelujah Chorus from "Messiah"

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Please join us for coffee and refreshments in our patio.
Children are invited into the sanctuary for an Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30 a.m.

SERVING IN MINISTRY

The entire congregation shares in offering the ministries of this church. Some of the people who help lead our ministries include:

Pastor
Rev. Dr. Amy Aitken

Associate Pastor:
Rev. Mina Nau-Mahe

Liturgist:
Tom Bowman

Director of Music Ministries:
Scott Lehmkuhl

Organist:
Aaron Shows

Director of Resound Ringers
Megan Goldstein

Guest Musicians:
Michael Gutierrez
Ryan Buchannon
June Satton
Stephen Hannan
Joseph Martone

PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR

Come meet Pastor Amy over a slice of Pizza on April 14 in the Church Lounge after worship.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Join us Sunday, April 21, for a celebration of Earth Day as we learn how to weave creation-friendly practices into our daily lives.

We will also have our popular Blessing of the Animals event. After worship, bring your pet to our Colorado Patio for a blessing and a certificate!