



PASADENA
FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

150 YEARS OF SERVICE

500 East Colorado Boulevard
Pasadena, California 91101
(626) 796-0157

JANUARY 28, 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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.

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.

PRELUDE Ave Verum Corpus Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 1791)
Stephen DeCesare (b.1969)

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy God, you invite us to this time of worship.

In your Holy Presence, we find unlimited love.

Holy God, you invite us to this time of worship.

In your Holy Presence, we find healing, hope and redemption.

Holy God, you invite us to this time of worship.

In your Holy Presence, we find our true selves, our joy and your peace. Come, let us worship our Holy God.

+ OPENING HYMN All Creatures of Our God and King UMH 62

+ 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

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Children are invited to come forward or remain seated.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS UMH 33

Jeremy Camp
Claudia Capria and Becca (Suh-Hee) Han
Chris and Dori Fotsch
Calbert Murray

IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

Newly Added: Victoria Audley

For Healing: Joyce Breslin, Family of Patricia Bruce, Erika Carillo, Willa Dalrymple, Albert Davis, Mary Davis, Trygve Gangnes, Jr., Juliette De Guzman, Joyce Dorn, Charlotte Dyson, John Evans, Cameron Fernandez, Cosette Fester, Zina Figilis, Brett Hain, Sofia Hain, Friends and family of Muriel Henderson, Sallie Higginbotham, Kendall In, Lisa Jaffe, Norman Jensen, Stephen Kastner, Greg Klimuck, Julie-Ann Kosakowski, Julie and Henry Lee and their family, Sam El Masri, Jocelyn Medina, Heidi Neuroth, Carol Nunemaker, Katherine Olivas, Leslie Parham, Tommy Parham, Donna Shook, Olivia Schott and family, Priscilla Shurney, Frances Smith, Jeffrey Stephens, Tim Sun, Deb and Gary Webster, Jan Wentz, Leilani Williams, 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.

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.**

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

**Speak with authority
in our lives, Christ.**

**Speak to us,
and to what is in us,
so that we might be whole.**

**Speak to us,
with love,
with hope,
and with strength,
so that we might hear you,
and know, deep inside,
that we are your people,
and that you are our God.
Let it be so.**

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:21-28

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Always in the Darkness (Your Light Shines)* arr. Patricia Mock
and Brian Buda

SERMON *By What Authority?* Pastor Amy Aitken

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

+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 DEDICATION

Loving God, in gratitude and joy, we offer these gifts to your work in the church. May these gifts and our lives bring healing, hope and peace our neighbors and to your people. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

+CLOSING HYMN *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* UMH 155
(Verses: 1, 4, 5 & 6)

BLESSING OF A PRAYER QUILT

Today we tie prayers of strength and healing into a quilt for Victoria Audley, cousin of Paul Audley.

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE *Dialogue* Jean-Jacques Charpentier (1734-1794)

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.



TODAY AT FIRST UMC

- 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:15 a.m.: Children's Sunday School (Education Wing)
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00 a.m. Children's Music Classes (Education Wing)
- 11:15 a.m. Confirmation Class (Youth Lounge)
- 12:00 p.m. Youth Handbells Rehearsal (Handbell Room)
- 12:45 p.m. Resound Ringers Rehearsal (Handbell Room)
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Group & Dinner (Youth Lounge)

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

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

The Bad Weather Shelter Needs More Volunteers - First UMC has begun supporting the Bad Weather Shelter through Friends In Deed at Trinity Lutheran Church. We provide a team on Tuesday nights to help set up cots and serve food and drinks when the shelter is activated because of low temperatures or bad weather. We are in need of more to support this essential program. If you want to volunteer, please contact Mikala Rahn (mikala@learningworkscharter.com). Generally, the obligation will be from 6 p.m. through 9 p.m. on Tuesdays when our team is called.

You are invited to a Pasadena City Council Candidates Forum: How will Pasadena City Council candidates address the housing and homelessness crisis? When: Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 7 pm via zoom. For link and more info, go to makinghousinghappen.org/events.

Secret Service: Children and Youth Winter Camp is Feb. 17-19. - The "Secret Service" Children and Youth winter camp teaches young people about being a disciple of Christ. Part of being a disciple is the call to serve others. We're asking campers to join the "Secret Service" by learning about the call of Jesus to humbly serve those in need. Learn the importance of serving God and others, and how to do good works in humility without fanfare, while immersed in the beautiful scenery at Camp Sky Meadows.

Pre-Order Sandwiches to support Children and Youth Winter Camp - Purchase sandwiches and cupcakes to support the Children and Youth Winter Camp at Camp Sky Meadows. Pre-orders will be taken in Fellowship Hall after Worship. Sandwiches will be available for pickup on Sunday Feb. 11.

Movie Night, Jan. 28 at 5:00 p.m. - We are watching "Barbie" for our January movie night! Supper will be served at 5:00 p.m. and the movie will screen in the Church Lounge at 5:45 p.m. How has the message of this iconic toy changed over the years? Please contact Priscilla Baca (priscillabaca1@gmail.com) if you would like to reserve dinner.

Turn-A-Page Book Group: Refuge Feb. 18 in the Church Lounge - The February Book Pick is *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place* by Terry Tempest Williams. All are welcome, even if you haven't read the book.

Write for The Messenger Articles are due Feb. 15 - The next issue of *The Messenger* is fast approaching and we are looking for writers! Are you interested in submitting an article about First UMC or your faith journey? Email Ashley (ashleys@fumcpasadena.org) for more information.

Now you can help our Community Pantry just by using your Ralphs Card! - First UMC has enrolled in the Ralphs Community Contribution Program. This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your card to First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, all you have to do is shop at Ralphs and swipe your Shopper's Card. A link to learn more is included in Wednesday's News@First email.

SERVING IN MINISTRY

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

Today's Worship Liturgist:
Beverly DeVoy

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

Interim Business Manager:
Jami Carrera

Communications Director:
Ashley Slade

Leadership Council Chairperson:
Kevin Lussier

Lay Leader for Finance & Generosity:
Mikala Rahn

Lay Leaders for Missions:
Pam Marx & Rosalie Niemann

Chair of Trustees:
Paul Audley

Guest Musician:
Melissa Hendrickson, horn

REFERENCES

The Prayer of Illumination was written by Richard Bott, and posted on Sharing Liturgy.
<http://liturgy.richardbott.com/>

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