



AUGUST 17, 2025
TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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.

ALL ARE WELCOME



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'S MINISTRIES

Children are welcome to remain in worship or take part in our Children's Ministries:

Nursery Care

(Infant–4 years old)

Nursery care is available every Sunday from 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School and Music

(PreK–6th Grade)

We will have One Room Sunday School in Room 104 during worship. Child Pick Up (for ages 4+) is in Room 104 at 11:00 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.

PRELUDE

Prelude on the Tune, "Beach Spring" Aaron Shows (b.1989)

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

We're here today to worship a God who gives new life. Even when things feel finished, God is just beginning.

God's love never stops, and His mercies are new every day.

This is our hope. Our faith can be a strong anchor for our souls. The prophet Jeremiah reminds us:

The person who trusts in God is blessed! They won't be afraid when the heat comes, their hope stays fresh, and they never stop producing fruit.

Let's drop our anchor deep into God's faithfulness and show His love to the world. Let's worship the God who helps us grow.

+ OPENING HYMN

Come And Find the Quiet Center

TFWS 2128

+ WELCOME AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
UMH 133 (v. 1)

*Children are invited to come forward or remain seated.
As the children gather, we sing together.*

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a piece is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

CENTERING SONG

Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

UMH 474 (v. 1)

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

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Lamentations 3:19-26 & Jeremiah 17:7-8

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness
is wormwood and gall!
My soul continually thinks of it
and is bowed down within me.
But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."
The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.
It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the Lord.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.
They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

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

ANTHEM *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Richard Walters

SERMON *The God That Grows* Pastor Mina Nau-Mahe

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Giving supports all of the ministries of the church. If you'd like to partner with us and make a financial gift today, you may use your phone to scan the QR code or place your offering in the wooden offering boxes near the doors.



+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 up-lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving God, we thank you for all you have given. We offer these gifts as an act of trust, knowing that in you, our lives are fruitful even in a dry season. Bless these offerings and use them to grow your kingdom here on Earth. May our giving be a sign of our growing faith. Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

+CLOSING HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

UMH 140

+BENEDICTION

May God, the one who holds you steady, bless you and be with you. As you go from this place, may you feel so deeply rooted in love that you can face any trial. May mercies feel brand new for you every single morning.

And as you grow, may you know how seen, how loved, and how cherished you truly are, now and always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

IN OUR PRAYERS...

As a community of faith, praying for others is an important part of our practice. We encourage you to add those on our prayer list to your personal prayers.

To view our prayer list, scan the QR code:



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

JOIN CHURCH CENTER

Church Center is our new online dashboard where you can get access to our directory, online giving, register for events, and more! Scan the QR Code below to log in.



Need help? Contact our help desk: helpdesk@fumcpasadena.org.

We ask that you give us 24-48 hours to respond to your queries.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are given today to the Glory of God by the Dyson Family in celebration of Jean Shelby's 90th birthday.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

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

TODAY

Turn-A-Page Book Group on Aug. 17 at 11:30 a.m. in the Church Lounge

- We will meet to discuss this month's book choice: *The Fight in the Fields-Cesar Chavez & the Farmworkers* by Susan Ferriss and Ricardo Sandoval. All are welcome, even if you have not read the book.

COMING UP

Special Bible Study addressing the "Clobber Passages" on Aug. 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge

This Bible study will take a fresh and faithful look at the so called "clobber passages," which have been used to marginalize LGBTQ+ individuals. We will examine the cultural and historical contexts in which these passages were written and uncover alternative readings that affirm love, inclusion, and acceptance. All are welcome.

Young Adult Group Barbecue, Aug. 24 at 5:00 p.m.

- Join the Young Adults Group for a barbecue at Pastor Amy's home. Bring a side or a dessert to share and come enjoy a chill afternoon. To ensure there's enough food, please RSVP by emailing gabrielmalasig@gmail.com by Aug. 20.

Movie Night presents STRAW on Aug. 24 in the Church Lounge

- Join us for a screening the movie *STRAW* directed by Tyler Perry (rated R). A light supper is served at 5:00 p.m. The movie will begin at 5:45 p.m. Please contact Priscilla Baca (priscillabaca1@gmail.com) to reserve dinner.

M&M Study: "Give A Blessing: Find and Share Genuine Acceptance"

- The M&Ms (Monday Morning Group) is starting a new 4-week study and all are invited. Learn how the key ingredients of a blessing, when applied in a family, a group living situation, a church, a workplace or classroom can bring warmth, healing and hope.

Janet Logan will lead the course on Mondays from August 25 - September 22 (there will be no meeting on Labor Day) in the Church Office conference room. Meetings are 11:00 a.m. to noon. To sign up, email Priscilla Baca (priscillabaca1@gmail.com)

All-Church Labor Day Camp is Aug. 29 through Sept. 1.

Join us in the beautiful San Bernardino mountains. Camp begins Friday, Aug. 29, after 3:00 p.m. Spend the day or the full weekend. For more information and to register, scan the QR code below:



UWF Women's Retreat, September 12 - 13 - Join us for a meaningful time of fellowship, renewal, and connection at this year's Women's Retreat, hosted by the United Women of Faith Evening Circle. We will gather at the Mariposa Retreat Center in South Pasadena from Friday, Sept. 12 to Saturday, Sept. 13. Contact Heidi Neuroth (hneuroth@outlook.com) for more information. Register at the QR code below:



TODAY AT FIRST UMC

- 10:00 a.m. - Sunday Worship (Chapel)
- 10:15 a.m. - Children's Sunday School (Education Wing)
- 11:15 a.m. - Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:30 a.m. - Turn-a-Page (Church Lounge)

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:

Olivia Yu Yurui

Director of Music Ministries:

Scott Lehmkuhl

Organist:

Aaron Shows

Ministry Coordinator:

Dori Fotsch

Facilities & Office Manager:

Aisha Williams

Business Manager:

Jami Carrera

Communications Director:

Ashley Slade

Administrative Assistant:

Joy Atrops-Kimura

Leadership Council Chairperson:

Kevin Lussier

Lay Leader for Finance & Generosity:

Mikala Rahn

Lay Leaders for Missions:

Pam Marx & Rosalie Niemann

Chair of Trustees:

John Kramar

TO SIGN UP FOR NEWS@FIRST VISIT

FUMCPASADENA.ORG/NEWS