



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 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 26, 2023
FIFTH 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

I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes Unto the Hills Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

+ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Lazarus, though dead, was called to life by Jesus.

May we also be called to new life this day.

As others witnessed this resurrection, they believed in Jesus.

May we, who have heard, believe in the power of Jesus to conquer our fears and doubts.

In Christ, God makes a way where there is no way. In Christ, God creates new life where there is no life.

God turns our mourning to dancing and our sorrow to joy.

We bring our hearts and our lives into God's loving presence this day.

OPENING PRAYER

O God, as we continue this Lenten journey,

help us to examine our attachments,

and to sense where you invite us

to live more simply and deeply.

Teach us that in letting go

we become free, rather than deprived,

generous rather than covetous,

and spacious rather than restricted.

We offer you our lives, as we place our feet

on the road to Easter,

walking the Way that you have gone before us. Amen.

+ OPENING HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

UMH 140

+ WELCOME AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

In Memorium: Howard Underwood

Newly Added: Phil Chavez and Family, Ivonne Munguia, Gail Nance, The Roper Family, Emily Schult, Phyllis Underwood and family

For Healing: Mark Audley, Patricia Bruce, Mary Davis, Joyce Dorn, Ann and Neal Dougherty, Brett Hain, Sofia and Woody Hain, Rob Hayes, Sallie Higginbotham, Lynnel Jensen, Janice Jones, Stephen Kastner, David Kinel, Tom Kosakowsk, Jocelyn Medina, Kaz Mousavi's niece, Johnathan Nieto, Carol Nunemaker, Rev. Pyong Oh, Tommy Parham, Lidiya Potapenko and family, Celina Romero, Wayne Schenck, Ha-yeong Shin, Donna Shook, Jill Shook, Wendy Stiver, Deb and Gary Webster, Jan Wentz, Sonya Wittry, Richard Zeiss

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.

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

The Servant Song (TFWS 2222)

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 this 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

Restore in us, O God,
the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts,
and all our sins remove.

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

GOSPEL READING

John 11:1-44
(Page 104 in The New Testament)

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

SERMON

Unbind Him and Let Him Go Pastor Amy Aitken

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

OFFERTORY

Greater Love Hath No Man

John Ireland

Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death.
Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends.
Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,
that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.
Ye are washed, ye are sanctified,
ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.
Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation;
that ye should show forth the praises of him
who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.
I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God,
that you present your bodies, a living sacrifice,
holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

+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

Loving God, we dedicate these gifts and our lives to your service. Use us as vessels of your grace, offering new life among your people. Send us forth into the world, overflowing with your love, joy and mercy. Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

+CLOSING HYMN

When We Are Living

UMH 356

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

Nachspiel (Aftermath)

Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)

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.

FLOWERS

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of Marilynne Kennedy Wilander's 80th birthday with a grateful heart for our church and wonderful friends and family.
-Roger and Marilynne Wilander

MUSIC

While we'd like to provide texts and translations for choir anthems, regrettably, we do not always have space to print them. We are so grateful for the beautiful music offered by our choir and musicians. With or without text, we invite you to allow the music to be a source of God's grace, joy and peace in this time of worship.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

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

TODAY

Youth Cabaret Auction - The youth will host our annual Cabaret (dinner and show) fundraiser today at 12:00 p.m.

COMING UP

Lenten Study - Artist Fabian Debora will be joining us for our last Lenten study session on March 29 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Lounge. We encourage all to attend.

The UWF Evening Circle is excited to host the Labyrinth Circle in Fellowship Hall on March 31 at 7pm. It should be a fun evening as we learn how to walk our path on the Labyrinth Circle! Please bring your favorite appetizer, snack, dessert, or drink to share!

Easter Luncheon - April 9 at 12:00 p.m. - Celebrate with us a Traditional Easter meal with us after church in Fellowship Hall. To RSVP, email office@fumcpasadena.org or sign up in Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, March 26th.

A donation of \$10.00 per person is requested, but donations in any amount will be graciously accepted. We hope you will join us for an enjoyable time of fun, food, and fellowship with our church family.

Easter Bag Goodies - Easter is upon us and it's time to fill some Easter "bags" for the foster kids in the Adopt a Child Abuse Caseworker (ACAC) program. We have the bags, candy and the filler grass. We are in need of donations to pay for these things! Please give financial donations to Diane Harris or the church office by Sunday, April 9. Donations should be marked as ACAC Easter gifts. Thank you for your generosity!

Easter Lilies - This year we have ordered Easter Lilies to give to those who are not able to worship in person due to health limitations and age as part of our Shepherds Ministry. There will be cards inserted in each lily for who it needs to be delivered to sometime Easter week. We hope you will pick one up after Easter day worship and take it to one of our beloved members and spend a bit of time in conversation with them.

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday - April 2 Sanctuary (10 a.m.)

Holy Week begins with a procession of palms recalling the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Join us on the Colorado Patio for donuts and coffee at 9:30 and we will process into the sanctuary with our palms at 10:00 am. Father Greg Boyle of Home Boy Industries will be our guest preacher.

Maundy Thursday - April 6 Soup Supper at 6:00 pm, Worship service in the Chapel at 7 p.m.

This service commemorates the institution of the Last Supper and Jesus' command that we love one another. Included are a celebration of Holy Communion and choral music by the Chancel Choir.

Good Friday - April 7 Chapel (7 p.m.)

Christ's Passion is remembered in a service of darkness, using the ancient liturgy of Tenebrae and music of the Taizé Community in France.

Easter - April 9 Sanctuary (10 a.m.)

New life is the focus of this festive service that includes choirs, brass ensemble and pipe organ. An Easter Egg hunt for young people will follow the service in front of the church.

TODAY AT FIRST UMC

- 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00: Coffee Hour
- 11:00: Youth Bell Choir (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:15: Confirmation Class (106)
- 12:00 p.m.: Youth Cabaret and Auction

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:

Bev DeVoy