



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 O Christ, the Healer Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

God comes into a world filled with uncertainties and darkness.

**God seeks out the voids of belief and conviction.**

God embraces the wounded and broken.

**God knocks down the walls of division and strife.**

God is the candle shining in the darkness of our days.

**God is the light of our lives.**

God is the one who makes all things new.

**Praise be to God, now and forevermore!**

+ OPENING HYMN Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above UMH 126

+ 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.

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.**

## IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

**Newly Added:** Lynette and Delano Black, Jonathan Poutney, Mona Woodard

**For Healing:** Victoria Audley, 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](mailto: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](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org).

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

### GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

### ANTHEM

*He Never Failed Me Yet*

Robert Ray

Carrah Stamatakis, solo

### SERMON

*Relentless Faith*

Rev. Nau-Mahe

## 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

**We make our offerings, small and large, with the hope and confidence that all we do, all we offer all we say, all we think, and all we hope will take root in this world and be the source of new expressions of God's love, of God's justice, of God's character, of God's mission, and of God's reign. May God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven through us, alongside us, despite us, and for us. 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.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of Hope,  
you call us to be practitioners of prophetic imagination,  
people who aren't afraid to dream about a better future,  
and to take concrete steps to bring it to fruition.  
But, too often, we settle for far less than you intend:  
for what is easy, for what is convenient,  
for what is better for a few, instead of what best serves all people.  
Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of moral imagination.  
Help us dream of your promised day,  
when we shall beat our weapons into gardening tools,  
unlearn the ways of war,  
and plant seeds of peace in places ridden with violence.  
In the name of the Prince of Peace, we pray. Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

#### 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**

## GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

#### +CLOSING HYMN

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

UMH 479

#### BLESSING OF A PRAYER QUILT

Today we tie blessings of courage and strength into a prayer quilt for Aisha's sister-in-law, Leilani Williams, who is having serious health challenges.

#### +BENEDICTION

#### +POSTLUDE

*Postlude in A minor* George Calkin (1829-1911)

## 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](mailto: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.. If you want to volunteer, please contact Mikala ([mikala@learningworkscharter.com](mailto:mikala@learningworkscharter.com)). Generally, the obligation will be from 6 p.m. through 9 p.m. on Tuesdays when our team is called.

**Fat Sunday Funday! Feb. 11 at 11:15 a.m. on the Colorado Patio** - We will be celebrating "Fat Sunday" with a Mardi Gras themed Lunch (including pancakes)! There will be crafts to enjoy and an Alleluia Banner to sign. Are you ready to try a Pancake race? Better begin training!

**United Women in Faith Daytime Group meeting is Feb. 13 at 1:00 p.m.** - The UWF Daytime Group will meet in the Church Lounge

**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.

**Ash Wednesday is Feb. 14** - Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent is a time of spiritual reflection and renewal as we prepare our hearts for Easter. We invite you to join us as we begin this holy season together in worship on Feb. 14 at 7:00 p.m. in our chapel.

**United Women in Faith Evening Circle meeting is Feb. 16** - Join us for this gathering of fun and fellowship at a member's home on the 3rd Friday of each month. Please email Jami Carrera ([jamicarrera@yahoo.com](mailto:jamicarrera@yahoo.com)) for the address.

This year we have selected **The Amen Effect: Ancient Wisdom to Mend Our Broken Hearts and World** by Rabbi Sharon Brous for our Lenten Reading and Reflection. In a time of loneliness and isolation, social rupture and alienation, what will it take to mend our broken hearts and rebuild our society? We will have three discussion sessions from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Feb. 18, March 3, and March 17 in room 205). You can purchase a copy after worship beginning this Sunday (\$25) or from your favorite bookseller.

**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.

## 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:**  
Randy Godshall

**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 Rahm

**Lay Leaders for Missions:**  
Pam Marx & Rosalie Niemann

**Chair of Trustees:**  
Paul Audley

**Guest Musician:**  
Carrah Stamatakis, soloist

## 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](mailto:ashleys@fumcpasadena.org)) for more information.

## TO SIGN UP FOR NEWS@FIRST VISIT

[FUMCPASADENA.ORG/NEWS](http://FUMCPASADENA.ORG/NEWS)

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