



## 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

Londonderry Air

Andrew Fletcher (b.1950)

### + CALL TO WORSHIP

Spirit of life, light of life, breath of life,

**breathe new life into us.**

Christ of love, Christ of sorrow, Christ of hope,

**breathe new life into us.**

Wind of God, breath of God, spirit of God,

**breathe new life into us.**

**We worship you, open to your grace.**

**Raise us to new life in your spirit. Amen.**

### + OPENING PRAYER

God in heaven,

you are the God of rushing winds

swirling over mountains and across the plains,

the God of mighty gusts

driving clouds and current around the earth.

The winds of time are yours,

a century is but a moment in your sight.

This morning we ask for the wind of your Spirit

to blow through your church,

stirring us with your courage,

moving us with your compassion,

filling us with your hope.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

### + 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

TFWS 2153

*I am Gonna Live so God Can Use Me*

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

*I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

*I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

# GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

## CENTERING SONG

*As the Deer*

TFWS 2025

As the deer pants for water, so my soul longs after you.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.  
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

*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

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophecy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

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

## ANTHEM

*O Great Spirit*

Shaw Kirchner  
Barbara Geier, flute

## SERMON

*Grounded in Creation: The Winds*

Pastor Amy Aitken

## 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

God of abundance,  
We give you thanks for the gifts of the earth  
and the gifts of your people.  
Knit us together as one in you  
that we may know connection, joy, and peace  
with all of creation.  
Amen.

## GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

### +CLOSING HYMN

*Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

TFWS 2120

### +BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*Grand Choir in G Major*  
Jean-Jacques Charpentier (1734-1794)

## 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](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org) and we will gladly add them.

## REFERENCES

The Call to Worship was written by Rev. Teri Peterson.

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

For more information, email us at [connect@fumcpasadena.org](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org)

### TODAY

**ACAC Backpack Drive** - School supply and monetary donations for the Adopt a Child Advocate Caseworker (ACAC) Back to School Program are due today

**Movie Night, tonight at 5:00 p.m. in the Church Lounge** - We will screen "Flawless" starring Robert DeNiro and Philip Seymour Hoffman. All are welcome!

### COMING UP

**Film Screening of 1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture on August 3 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Lounge** - This feature documentary follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946. Researcher Ed Oxford, a contributor to the film, will be in attendance.

**Special Bible Study addressing the "Clobber Passages" on August 7, 14, and 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.

**Blessing of the Backpacks on August 10 During Worship** - Next month we will have our annual blessing of the backpacks. Have your child bring their backpacks for a special blessing and some goodies!

**Turn-A-Page Book Group on August 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. This book is a testament to Cesar Chavez, community organizers, and the desperately poor farm laborers who heroically risked everything to feed their families. All are welcome, even if you have not read the book.

**Young Adult Group Barbecue, August 24 at 5:00 p.m.** - Join the Young Adults Group for for a barbecue at Pastor Amy's home. Bring a side or a dessert to share and come enjoy a chill afternoon. Will there be games? A slip and slide? You'll have to find out! To ensure there's enough food, please RSVP by emailing [gabrielmalasig@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielmalasig@gmail.com).

### SAVE THE DATE

**Labor Day Camp - Our annual All-Church Labor Day camp is August 29 through September 1.**

Join us in the beautiful San Bernardino mountains. Camp begins Friday, August 29, after 3:00 p.m. (Dinner will be on your own and a continental breakfast provided on Saturday, August 30.)

Full meals begin with lunch on Saturday, going through breakfast on Monday, September 1. Spend the day or the full weekend. Register for camp below!

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)
- 5:00 p.m. - Movie Night (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:

Daniel Niemann

### Director of Music Ministries:

Scott Lehmkuhl

### Organist:

Aaron Shows

### Guest Musician:

Barbara Geier, flute

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