



First United Methodist Church
PASADENA
 500 East Colorado Boulevard
 Pasadena, California 91101
 (626) 796-0157
 www.fumcpasadena.org

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.

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 11:30 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.

TOLLING OF 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

"The Old Year Has Passed" Johann Walther (1684-1748)

+ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

At the dawn of a new year, we come in gratitude and joy to worship, centering ourselves in God's overflowing love and grace for us, our neighbors and for all of creation.

Let the day begin, with new energy and commitment to honor the sanctity, beauty and bounty of your creation.
God of Creation, let your light shine!

Let the darkness lift, to welcome a dawn of plenty, a time when all people live in harmony and peace, sharing in God's goodness with joy.
God of Abundant Life, let your light shine!

Let the light shine, to open our spirits to the presense of your Holy Spirit. Guide our hearts, open our minds and use our hands in the ways of compassion, service and blessing.
God of Inspiration, let your light shine!

Let the sun rise on old conflicts with new resolve to end the silent wars of resentment and despair. Let God's grace lead us away from apathy and cruelty to a renewed desire to live together as God's beloved community.
God of Peace, let your light shine!

At the dawn of this new year we come to worship our God!
**God of Light, confident in your faithfulness,
 We lift our hearts in praise and thanksgiving!**

+ OPENING HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

Newly added: Peggy Gott, Sallie Higginbotham and family, Lynnel Jensen, Andrea Lussier and family, Wayne Schenck, Jill Shook, Arya Whall

For Healing: Mark Audley, Family of Serafin Alvarez and Sarah Brunkow, Christina Bittar, Maya Bradshaw, Nancy Brubaker and Eric Brubaker, Patricia Bruce, Ann Burke, Thelma Calantas, April Charczenko, Mary Davis, Hazel Emily Der, Pauline Dominguez, Joyce Dorn, Ann and Neal Dougherty, Peggy Gott, Brett Hain, Sofia Hain, Rob Hayes, Sallie Higginbotham, James Jensen, Stephen Kastner, Magdalena Lovejoy, Pauline Lowe, Sharon Garrison Morrow, Carol Nunemaker, Rev. Pyong Oh, Paula Anderson Peacock, Carlos Peraza, Stephanie Peraza, Nicoletta Rogers, Celina Romero, Shane Ross, Donna Shook, Doug Shook, Lauren Sloboda, Wendy Stiver, Tim Sun, Phyllis and Howard Underwood, Darnica Watson, Deb and Gary Webster, Jan Wentz, Sonya Witty, Brian Worth, Richard Zeiss, Rosy Zide.

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.

+ WELCOME AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

He Came Down

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.

He came down that we may have life;
He came down that we may have life;
He came down that we may have life
Hallelujah forevermore.

GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

CENTERING SONG

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray,
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Moment for Silent Meditation

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build up;
a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek and a time to lose;
a time to keep and a time to throw away;
a time to tear and a time to sew;
a time to keep silent and a time to speak;
a time to love and a time to hate;
a time for war and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

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

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

HOMILY

Telling Time

Pastor Amy Aitken

OFFERTORY

What Songs Were Sung

John Jacob Niles

+PRESENTATION MUSIC

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

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

Faithful God, as we celebrate this New Year, we pause to listen to your call in our lives. You provide direction for our journey. Lead us now. Guide our actions not with one more resolution, but with true purpose and meaning. Out of this spirit, we dedicate unto you our tithes and offerings given for the ministry and mission of this congregation throughout the New Year.

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. Whether we are in this sanctuary together or apart from one another, we recognize that God's love knows no bounds. At this Table, as we celebrate Christ's presence and give thanks for our identity and our unity in Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Congregational responses can be found on p. 15 of the hymnal.

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

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

UMH 383

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

Noel XI

Jean-Jacques Charpentier (1734-1794)

OFFERING TO GOD OUR HEARTS, OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

An offering is an act of gratitude and faithfulness in response to God's love and grace in our lives. 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.



BENEDICTION FOR A NEW YEAR

Let us look for Christ wherever
we go

Let us never stop seeking
Believing that there is a light that
shines in the darkness
Which the darkness shall not
overcome

And may the love of the Creator
The joy of the Spirit
And the peace of the Christ-child
Be with you this New Year, and
evermore.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

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

Regathering, Refocusing and Moving Forward in Ministry: Join us this Saturday, January 7 from 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. as we share in a time of discernment, visioning and planning for the ministries of this church. Lunch will be provided and childcare is available upon request. Please RSVP to connect@fumcpasadena.org

Rose Parade Flower Bouquets for Shepherds Ministry Delivery For the past 25 years the African Team Mission has been a part of our Alternative Christmas offerings. As part of their ministry, they have worked with the Rose Parade float builders to put together bouquets of flowers from the flowers leftover after decorating the floats.

This year, FUMC Shepherds Ministry will be able to be recipients of this beautiful gift to share with our members. We need volunteers to help with the pick up of the bouquets to put into vases and then deliver, having conversation bringing beauty and fellowship into their lives.

Meet up, January 2, 2023, 3:00 p.m. in the Church Lounge. For more information and to volunteer: connect@fumcpasadena.org

Mindful Mondays: An all levels easy flow yoga class taught by Darby Orr is taking place on Tuesday at 12:00 p.m. in the Cloister or Fellowship Hall. Suggested donation is \$15 (FUMC and FCC members and friends may attend for \$5. Cash and epayments accepted.)

Have you downloaded our FUMC app yet? Visit fumcpasadena.org/app to download the app to your favorite device and stay connected and up to date with our latest content.

The United Women in Faith Morning Circle: On January 9 at 1:00 p.m. the UWF will have their monthly meeting in the Church Lounge. Ashley Slade (our Communications Director) will share her story and some information about her work.

The United Women in Faith Evening Circle: On January 20 at 7 p.m. the UWF will gather at the home of Diane Harris (please email her for the address) for fun and fellowship. Come meet, chat, and make Valentines with other women who attend or are involved with First UMC. There will be light dinner and snacks. You are encouraged to bring an optional small snack to share.

Bad Weather Supply Donations:
We are pleased to be hosting the Friends in Deed's Bad Weather Supply program again, starting on Thursday, January 5 in Great Hall from 5 p.m - 7 p.m. The program is in need of donations to protect our neighbors from cold, rainy winter days. Items needed include:

- Cold weather and waterproof clothing, coats, hats, socks, and shoes
- PPE: masks and hand sanitizer
- Supplies such as umbrellas, ponchos, blankets, sleeping bags, tarps, hand and foot warmers, bookbags/suitcases

If you are interested in donating, please contact Lindsey at lindseyr@friendsindeedpas.org

TODAY AT FIRST UMC

- 10: 00: Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00: Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:15: Confirmation Class (Library)

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:
Beth Gerber

Passionate Worship Lay Leader:
Paul Audley

Director of Media Ministries
Dave Lohr

Today's Worship Leader:
Mark Wright