



### 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

Day of Arising

David Cherwien (b. 1957)

### + CALL TO WORSHIP

We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.

**We come because we seek to abide in Christ.**

The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.

**We come because we long to be spiritually vibrant, alive, productive.**

If we abide in Christ, then Christ’s words will abide in us.

**We come because we strive to be faithful disciples.**

We gather for worship now to the glory of the One God:

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

**May we grow wildly as God tends us lovingly.**

### + OPENING HYMN

Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song

UMH 544

### + WELCOME AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

### COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

### TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

Halle, Halle, Halleluja

TFWS 2026

*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.*

Halle, Halle, Halleluja!  
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!  
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!  
Halleluja! Halleluja!

### GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

### CENTERING SONG

Spirit of the Living God

UMH 393

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me,  
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Moment for Silent Meditation

## IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

**Newly Added:** Linda Gerkin, Eric Olsen and Ami Jenkins

**For Healing:** Victoria Audley, Ronan Bessler, Lynette Black, Joyce Breslin, Ann Burke, Albert Davis, Mary Davis, Joyce Dorn, Neal Dougherty, Charlotte Dyson, John Evans, Cameron Fernandez, Cosette Fester, Tom Griffith, Brett Hain, Sofia Hain, Cindy Heckman, Lisa Jaffe, Norman Jensen, Stephen Kastner, Julie-Ann Kosakowski, Rachel Lang, Ann Larson and Family, Meredith Lyon, Stone Ma, Allison Masquez, Carol Nunemaker, Katherine Olivas, Mardy Olivas, Donald Palmer and Family, Leslie Parham, Tommy Parham, Jonathan Poutney, Mikala Rahn, Ben Ridgway, Donna Shook, Priscilla Shurney, Frances Smith, Jeffrey Stephens, Tim Sun, David T., Stan and Barbara von Mayrhauser, Deb and Gary Webster, Jan Wentz, Leilani Williams, Nadine Wittry and family, Sonia Wittry, Jacques 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 box 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).

## 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 15:1-8

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

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

### ANTHEM

Awake, My Heart

Jane M. Marshall

Awake, my heart, and render  
To God thy sure defender  
Thy Maker, thy preserver  
A song of love and fervor.

Confirm my deeds and guide me:  
My day, with thee beside me,  
Beginning, middle, ending,  
Will all be upward tending.

My heart shall be thy dwelling,  
With joy and gladness swelling;  
Thy word my nurture, given  
To bring me on toward heaven.

### SERMON

Graciously Branching Out

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

### +PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, you are the vine grower, and we belong to you. Thank you for carefully tending us, especially in difficult times. You provide what we need in order to grow as disciples of Jesus. Help us to abide in him, the true vine. May these offerings and our lives bear much fruit and bring glory to you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

### GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

+CLOSING HYMN *I Need Thee Every Hour* UMH 397

### +BENEDICTION

### +POSTLUDE

*Carillon on an Ancient Easter Hymn, "O Filii et Filiae" (O Sons and Daughters)*  
Richard Keys Biggs (1886-1962)

## 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

- 10:15 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 Room 207)
- 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)
- 5:00 p.m. - Movie Night (Church Lounge)
- 5:30 p.m. - Youth Group Dinner and Program (Youth Lounge)

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

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

### TODAY

#### Movie Night is tonight at 5:00 p.m.

- We will be watching "The Pawnbroker". A Jewish pawnbroker, victim of Nazi persecution, loses all faith in his fellow man until he realizes too late the tragedy of his actions. Supper will be served at 5:00 p.m. in the Church Lounge with the movie set to start at 5:30 p.m. with discussion to follow.

### COMING UP

**Charge Conference** - We will be having a Charge Conference on May 5 at 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Members will vote on the merger with St. James as well as a proposal from the Board of Trustees.

#### Ending Well Process Groups -

One of the most important things you do in your senior years may be to store and organize important documents and information for your loved ones. The free Ending Well Zoom Workshop will help you make sense of all the to-dos of organizing your affairs, creating ease for yourself and you loved-ones. To learn more scan the QR code below. Or to register, contact [connect@fumcpasadena.org](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org).



**Less Worry, More Hope Process Group - Every Wednesday in May, 7:00-8:00 p.m. via Zoom** - Nobody is immune from worry and anxiety but there are healthy ways we can adjust and respond to anxious situations. The Less Worry, More Hope process group is for those who want to explore new ways to think about what causes anxiety and how to respond to feelings of worry. Learn more here.

To register, contact [connect@fumcpasadena.org](mailto:connect@fumcpasadena.org).

#### Join FUMC's Table at the Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast (May 2)

- FUMC hopes to sponsor a table at the upcoming prayer breakfast hosted by Friends In Deed and led by Mayor Gordo. The breakfast is from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Pasadena Convention Center. Each ticket will be \$60 to help defray the cost of an FUMC table sponsorship. Please contact Pam Marx ([pamelamarx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pamelamarx@sbcglobal.net)) to reserve your spot today.

#### Turn-A-Page Book Group will meet May 19 at 11:30 a.m. in the Church Lounge to discuss this *The Little Liar* by Mitch Albom

- This story, inspired by true events, follows an innocent 11 year old Greek Jewish boy named Nico, who is tricked by Nazis into lying to his fellow Jews about the final destination of the trains they are forced to board. Even if you haven't read the book please feel free to join the discussion.

#### Pasadena Methodist Foundation scholarships for the school year 2024-2025 are available now.

- This year the Foundation is able to accept both full- and part-time students. **The deadline for submission is June 1, 2024.** Please find both new and renewal applications on the [Foundation's website](#), or you may pick up your new or renewal application in the church office.

## 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:**  
Beverly DeVoy

**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

TO SIGN UP FOR NEWS@FIRST VISIT  
[FUMCPASADENA.ORG/NEWS](https://fumcpasadena.org/news)

500 East Colorado Boulevard  
Pasadena, California 91101  
(626) 796-0157