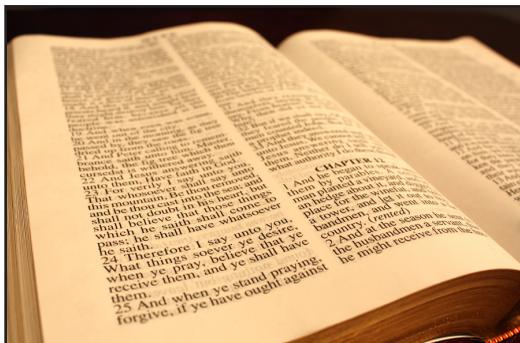


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

W O R S H I P

2nd Sunday of Easter • Baptism • Holy Communion • April 3, 2016



But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

— John 20:31

WE GATHER

WELCOME

Tricia Lindley

PRELUDE

Ty Woodward, Organist

Concerto in A Minor (J. S. Bach/Antonio Vivaldi)
I. Allegro

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #2115 The Faith We Sing — Christ Has Risen

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Bianca Doria, Lay Lector

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space.

Celebrate God in all places under heaven.

Give praise for God's mighty deeds.

Give praise for God's resurrecting power!

* CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

“For Christ the Lord is risen! Alleluia. Amen!”

* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Please greet those worshipping near you.

As a courtesy to others, please silence all cell phones/sound-making devices. * Asterisks indicate standing if you are able.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Tricia Lindley

#2233 TFWS – Where Children Belong

**This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's word, bread and cup, prayer and song: This is where children belong.**

As the congregation sings, all children are invited to come forward.

BAPTISM Ezra Joseph Schlitter (see insert)

I Am a Child of God

I am a child of God; You are God's child, it's true. Children of God are called to love one another, as Jesus taught to do.

As the congregation sings, the children may go to their Sunday School classes.

OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

Rev. Robert English

We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship, for worship, and for service.

Thanks be to God!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE LESSON Revelation 1:4-8 (Pew Bible page 245, N.T.)

Bianca Doria

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL John 20:19-31 (Pew Bible page 115, N.T.)

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

HOMILY "Christian Basics: What Can We Really Believe?"

Rev. Patricia Farris

WE RESPOND

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Your generous gifts support the ministries and outreach of the church. You may place gifts of cash or checks made out to "First UMC" in the offering plates as they are passed. You may also place your Let's Connect/Let Us Pray card in the offering plate. Give online at any time at www.santamonicaumc.org or by using the QR code in the insert. Thank you. May God grow in us generous and joyful hearts.

THE OFFERTORY

The Chancel Choir/Dr. James Smith, Music Director

I Will Not Leave You Comfortless (Everett Titcomb)

I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you yet again: Alleluia. And your heart shall be joyful.
Alleluia.



SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM



Sunday, April 3, 2016

*Parents respond in **bold italics**. Congregation responds with words printed in **bold type**.*

INTRODUCTION

Rev. Patricia Farris

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, from the beginnings of Christianity, Baptism has been seen as our entrance into the family of faith. We believe that Baptism is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. It is through this grace that we enter into a special relationship with Christ and are inheritors of the promise of eternal life. Those who receive this sacrament are marked as disciples of Jesus and are part of the fellowship of the universal Christian church. We believe that Jesus has expressly given a place for children to be counted among God's people; it is a privilege which should not be denied them. We remember the words of Jesus when he said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs."

PRESENTATION

Michael Lamb, Lay Leader

I am pleased to present to you **EZRA JOSEPH SCHLITTER** for Baptism.

THOSE TO BE BAPTIZED *(Questions to the Parents)*

Rev. Robert English

Do you believe in God the source, the fountain of life; and in Christ, the offspring of God, embodied in Jesus of Nazareth and in the church; and in the liberating Spirit of God, the wellspring of new life?

We do.

Tricia Lindley

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you: Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you of new life in Christ, resisting evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

We do.

Rev. English

Will you nurture Ezra in Christ's holy church, that by your teaching and example he may be guided to accept God's grace for himself, to profess his faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

We will.

over

(To the Congregation)

Michael Lamb

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include this child now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround this child with a community of love and forgiveness, that he may grow in his trust of God, and be found faithful in his service to others. We will pray for him, that he may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

BAPTISM

Rev. Farris

EZRA JOSEPH

I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

HYMN #611 United Methodist Hymnal – Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (*verses 1 & 2*)

INTRODUCTION

Michael Lamb

Members of the household of faith, I commend this child to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase his faith, confirm his hope, and perfect him in love.

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant to participate faithfully in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

*RESPONSE #94 United Methodist Hymnal – The Doxology

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. English

Holy One, bless our offerings and transform them into healing for the wounded, hope for the disheartened, courage for the frightened, and faith for the embittered. In the name of Jesus Christ, your faithful witness, the first resurrected, and the ruler of the sovereigns of the earth. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We will use the Musical Setting beginning on page 2257 in The Faith We Sing hymnal. Gluten-free wafers are available from the servers upon request. The Ushers will guide you in coming forward to receive the communion elements. You may pause at the kneeler to pray or be in silent prayer at your seat.

#2248 TFWS – Baptized in Water

#2269 TFWS – Come, Share the Lord

#2267 TFWS – Taste and See

#2251 TFWS – We Were Baptized in Christ Jesus

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Tricia Lindley

God who was and is and is to be, be for us the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, the Almighty. Grant that we might be your forgiveness and your peace, through Jesus Christ, your faithful witness and our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #2114 TFWS – At the Font We Start Our Journey

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Minuet *from* Suite Gothique (Léon Boëllmann)

Ty Woodward

Worship concludes with the Postlude music which prepares us to transition from worship to life in the world. You are invited to remain seated until the Postlude concludes, or to exit quietly.

—The Head Usher today is Sam Johnson. See an usher if you need assistance.

—After today's service, members of our Communion Server Ministry will be taking the communion elements to those who were unable to worship with us.

—If you would like to learn more about baptism or inquire about baptism for your children, please see one of our pastors.

—Nursery Care is available at 9 a.m. in Room 204 in the Education Building. Parents with young children are welcome to worship in the sanctuary or in the Kids Zone in the narthex.

—First UMC takes the care and safety of children seriously. We are a Safe Sanctuary congregation.

—A changing table is provided in the restroom located in the hallway west of the Fireside Room. Please see an usher for directions.

—To request prayers, you may fill in a Let's Connect/Let Us Pray card found in the pews, and drop in the offering plate during worship.

—If there are Prayer Quilts on the north wall of the sanctuary, you are invited to prayer over and tie knots on the quilts.

—Stop by the Hospitality Table in Simkins Hall in The Shelby Center during Coffee Fellowship today to ask about membership.

—Preparing an estate is good Christian stewardship—saying thanks to God, expressing your love and concern for family, and showing charity toward others. Join the First UMC Legacy Circle: info@santamonicaumc.org.

—Flowers at the Reredos: Given to the glory of God, from donations to the First UMC flower fund. Please consider a gift to the Flower Fund. Your donation will be used for Sundays such as today, when flowers have not been ordered.

—Visit the Fireside Room after worship today to view First UMC member Janet Rawuka's watercolor paintings, on display through April.

—Next Sunday: Worship at 10 a.m.; Rev. Patricia Farris will preach.

—Each time we worship, we collect food for the Westside Food Bank. In April bring canned pork and beans.

Resident Bishop

Minerva G. Carcaño

West District Superintendent

Kathy Michelle Wilborn

Senior Minister

Rev. Patricia Farris

p.farris@santamonicaumc.org

New & Emerging Ministries

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Chaplain in Residence

Rev. Keri Olsen

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Director of Children & Youth Ministry

Tricia Lindley

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Preschool Director

Batsheva Spector

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Assistant to the Preschool Director

Dane Rold

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Music Director

Dr. James Smith

Organist

Ty Woodward

Lead Coordinator

Sarah Rold

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Membership and Facilities

Coordinator

David Penson

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Communications Director

Tina Gage

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Communications Coordinator

Shalimar Carducci

s.carducci@santamonicaumc.org

Head Custodian

Javier Espinosa

God is real. God is love.

Every person matters. You matter.

Together we can change the world.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SANTA MONICA

1008 Eleventh Street, Santa Monica, CA 90403 www.santamonicaumc.org · 310-393-8258

April 3, 2016

Story of a Blood Donor • by Dorothy Williams

When I was 14, my sister, just a year older than I, underwent open heart surgery – her second heart surgery. I knew that she had used blood and there was a big “debt” to be paid in replacing it. While she was in the hospital, my brother had a fluke bicycle accident and was hospitalized 20 miles across town. It was an intense time, and all I could do was try to keep the home fires burning, supervise my 7-year-old-brother, and try to manage a few things in the house while my parents were at work or at the hospitals . . . but I wanted to do something more meaningful. As soon as I was old enough, I started donating blood to the local blood bank to replace some of the units my sister had used, grateful that she was well and aware that my brother was fortunate not to have needed blood, too.

Over the years, relatives needed surgeries, friends had accidents, illnesses, and surgeries, and then I gave birth to very premature twins. All of these could have . . . and many did . . . required blood transfusions.

If your life has not included this much first-hand exposure to blood as a medical need, you may indeed see yourself as blessed or lucky.

But I, too, see myself as blessed or lucky – certainly not because of the illness, birth defects, prematurity, or other situations that made my life so full of this awareness – but because I had something I could share. I had an opportunity to DO SOMETHING MEANINGFUL in response to these needs. I had blood in abundance, and

with less than an hour of my time and the willingness to roll up my sleeve and endure the pinch of a needle being placed in my arm, I could actually make a huge difference in someone’s life – I might even save it!

Now, mind you, I don’t like needles any better than the next person, but if I ever got cold feet about donating, I could always remind myself that the recipient of that blood had a whole lot more needles and pain than those few seconds when I would experience anything unpleasant. It made me feel good to know that I could do something “important” for someone else who might be in the same position as my teenage sister or my 2-pound babies who received blood as an almost-daily treatment.

Donating has become a habit. In Luke 3:11, John taught that “He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise.” I think the same can be applied to blood!

- Dorothy Williams is a long-time First UMC member and has been one of the main coordinators for the Health Ministry Council’s Blood Drive for several years.

Health Ministry Council’s Blood Drive
(walk-ins welcome)

Today: 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Simkins Hall in The Shelby Center

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH *of* SANTA MONICA
1008 Eleventh Street, Santa Monica, CA 90403
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*Westside Food Bank collection for April: **Canned pork and beans.**

* **Sundays at First UMC**

- 9 a.m. Lectionary Scripture Discussion, Room 101
- 9 a.m. Partnership with God, Rm 101
- 9 a.m. Nursery Care, 204
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Warmup, CHR
- 10 a.m. Worship Service, S
- 10:10 a.m. Sunday School, Education Bldg.
- 11 a.m. Fellowship, Courtyard
- 3 p.m. Amadeus Handbell Choir Rehearsal, CHR
- 6:15 p.m. UMYF, Youth Lounge

Today - Holy Communion • Baptism

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Health Ministry Council's Blood Drive, SH
 5 p.m. simple church, SH

Tuesday, April 5

7 a.m. Men's Breakfast, FR

Wednesday, April 6

9 a.m. UMW Workparty & Lunch, WR

Thursday, April 7

7 p.m. Cross(+)Brew, OS
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, CR

Friday, April 8

7 p.m. Shareringer Monthly Dinner, FR

Saturday, April 9

4 p.m. Messy Church, S/SH

Sunday, April 10 - Reception of New Members

11:15 a.m. CPR/First Aid Training for Church Volunteers, FR

Save the Date: Vacation Bible School

Before you know it, summer break and VBS will be here! Contact Tricia Lindley at: t.lindley@santamonicaumc.org for more info or to volunteer. VBS: August 1 - 5, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Kids ages 5-11.



Scan this QR code with your smart phone to go directly to First UMC's online giving page.

Highlights

Messy Church

Come for a new intergenerational worship experience where we learn about God's love through crafts, activities, story and a shared meal. Children, families, and adults of all ages are welcome to this worship experience. Saturday April 9, 4 - 6 p.m., includes time for a meal and fellowship. Sanctuary and Simkins Hall.

Calling ALL Church Volunteers

The Board of Trustees are working on a campus wide safety plan this year. We are asking all volunteers to be trained on the basics of CPR/First Aid. A special thank you to longtime church member Heidi Crooks for sponsoring the event. Sunday April 10, 11:15 a.m. The class is only three hours and a delicious lunch will be provided. You CAN save a life. RSVP to shalimar.s.carducci@santamonicaumc.org as soon as possible.

April Mid-Week Recital

We welcome Sven-Ingvar Mikkelsen, organ & Jochen Brusck, violin, for this month's Mid-Week Recital. As organist at Frederiksborg Castle Chapel in Denmark, Mikkelsen collaborates with Brusck to perform extensively throughout Europe and the United States. FREE Concert, Wednesday April 13, 12:10 - 12:40 p.m. Sanctuary. Reception for the artists in the Fireside Room after recital.

Book-of-the-Month Study/Potluck

The 2016 General Conference of The United Methodist Church will receive a new study document, "Wonder, Love, and Praise." Understood as a companion to our two previous documents on the sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptism, "Wonder, Love, and Praise" is a study on ecclesiology—a theological understanding of the church itself. It draws on our Wesleyan heritage, our common Christian tradition rooted in the scriptural witness, and the contemporary ecumenical discussion. Be among the first to read it! Contact the church office for download information or ask about a hard copy at the Sunday Hospitality Table. Bring a dish to share. Sunday April 17, 11:30 a.m., Fireside Room.