

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

W O R S H I P

Second Sunday in Lent • March 12, 2017



There was a Pharisee named
Nicodemus, a Jewish leader.
He came to Jesus at night....

— John 3:1-2a (CEB)

WE GATHER

WELCOME

Tricia Lindley

PRELUDE Postlude for the Office of Compline (Jehan Alain)

Ty Woodward, Organist

* CENTERING ON GOD

Please stand and turn toward the cross in the center aisle.

#484 United Methodist Hymnal — Kyrie Eleison

From Psalm 121

#484 UMH — Kyrie Eleison

Leslie Nordby, Lay Lector

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #120 UMH — Your Love, O God

* CALL TO WORSHIP

O God of many names, lover of all peoples;

We pray for peace in our hearts and homes, in our nations, and in our world.

We pray for the peace of your will, the peace of our need.

O Christ, our friend and guide, passing through darkness to make it light,

Be our companion that we may fear no evil and bring us to life and glory.

* CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

"Bow down thine ear, bow down thine ear and hear us. O Lord."

* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Please greet those worshipping near you.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Tricia Lindley

#191 UMH - Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

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

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 GOSPEL John 3:1-17 (Pew Bible pages 93-94, N.T.)

Leslie Nordby

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "Adversaries Connect"

Rev. Patricia Farris

WE RESPOND

INVITATION TO PRAYER

RESPONSE 2 (*Lent & General*)

Ps. 51:10
Alan Luff



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O



God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

LISTENING FOR THE VOICE OF GOD

Rev. Keri Olsen

SILENT PRAYER & PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response: **Lord, have mercy.**

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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

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. Credit cards are now accepted at the Sunday Hospitality Table during Coffee Fellowship. Thank you. May God grow in us generous and joyful hearts.

THE OFFERTORY

The Chancel Choir/Dr. James Smith, Music Director

Make Me an Instrument (Craig Courtney)

O Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that we might not seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying we are born to eternal life. Amen.
(Words of St. Francis of Assisi)

* RESPONSE #95 UMH – The Doxology

* UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. English

Holy One, holy and eternal—make us pure in heart to see you; make us merciful to receive your kindness; and through all the gifts you bestow upon us, to share our love with all your human family. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* HYMN #2175 The Faith We Sing – Together We Serve

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Litanies (Jehan Alain)

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.

—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.

—A changing table is provided in the restroom located in the hallway west of the Fireside Room.

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

—Please see an usher if you need information or assistance.

—Flowers: Dried floral arrangements at the reredos help to remind us of our Lenten Discipline during the season of Lent.

—Now is the time to donate toward the purchase of Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday morning sanctuary worship in celebration of a loved one, an event, a joy, or a remembrance. Stop by the Sunday Hospitality Table or call, email or mail your dedication (please print clearly) along with \$12 per plant to the church office. Deadline to order is April 9.

—To request a prayer, fill in a Let's Connect/Let Us Pray card and drop it in the offering plate during worship.

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

—Visit the Fireside Room to view drawings and writings by First UMC Sunday School kids, the Youth Group, and adult groups, based on the Lenten theme of Authenticity/Compassion/Courage.

—Stop by the Hospitality Table in Simkins Hall in The Shelby Center during Coffee Fellowship for information or to ask whatever might be on your mind! We're here to serve you.

—Next Sunday: Rev. Patricia Farris will preach.

—We collect food weekly for the Westside Food Bank. In March bring canned fruits and vegetables.

—The Haiti Work Team is returning later today from their Mission Trip, working in the town of Sobiér.

—Look for the special Habitat for Humanity LA Lenten Devotional Calendar which you can pick up at the Sunday Welcome Table, and the Hospitality Table. This is a great way to combine support for Habitat Culver City with your Lenten spiritual practice.

Resident Bishop

Bishop Grant J. Hagiya

West District Superintendent

Rev. Mark M. Nakagawa

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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

March 12, 2017

by Rev. Robert English, New & Emerging Ministries

This month we celebrate one year as a Messy Church!

I am amazed at all the ways we have explored God's love and grown in relationship with one another. From shaving cream messiness to penguin races, from kid-friendly yoga to a spider web of God's love, from singing and dancing during celebration to sharing a meal as one Messy Church family, we have all come to know God's love in new, fun and messy ways.



Messy Church is close to my heart because it is a special time each month for my family to worship together and grow spiritually. Messy Church is a gift and for that I am thankful. I am also grateful for: all of the hard work our volunteers put in each month, for those who cook and coordinate each meal, for the musicians who lead us in celebration, and all of the crafts we take home which remind us that God is with us.

After one year of Messy Church, we can see its impact on the community. It makes a difference to all the new families and children who worship with us each month and learn, perhaps for the first time, about God's love in Jesus Christ. It makes a difference by helping parents to hand down to our children a way of life that is rooted in faith and loving action in the world. It makes a difference by encouraging us to carve out a little space in our busy schedule to just be together in a safe and loving spiritual community.



If you haven't yet come to Messy Church, give it a try, and tell your friends and neighbors!

Next Messy Church: Saturday April 8, 4 p.m. Chapel and Simkins Hall.

Theme: Jesus is the Good Shepherd

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WORSHIP & PRAYER

Sunday 10 a.m. **Sanctuary Worship**
 Sunday 5 p.m. **simple church**
*simple church theme: going with-in to live with-out:
 born from above*

MEETINGS / EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today - Second Sunday in Lent • Haiti Work Team returns • Daylight Saving Time begins

11 a.m. St. Patrick's Day Luncheon, SH

Saturday, March 18

9:30 a.m. Prayer Quilt Workparty, Room 300

11 a.m. Carl Rogers Memorial/Reception, S/SH

Sunday, March 19 - Third Sunday in Lent •

*LA Marathon

11 a.m. Haiti Report Back Luncheon, SH

11 a.m. Free Blood Pressure Screenings, FR

2:30 p.m. Walk the Labyrinth, SH

*** LA Marathon Next Sunday**

San Vicente Blvd. will be closed all day for the Marathon. Plan your drive to church accordingly! www.lamarathon.com.

Sunday, March 19

Lent 2017

AUTHENTICITY • COMPASSION • COURAGE

CHILDREN & YOUTH**Children: Sunday School this Week**

March Theme: Jesus Shows Love

Bible Verse: John 13:34

"I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you must also love each other."

Anchor Point: Jesus shows us how to love each other.

March 12: Zacchaeus

UMYF: This Sunday

6:15-8:30 p.m. in Youth Lounge

Program: Prayer Stations

FELLOWSHIP /COMMUNITY**St. Patrick's Day Luncheon - Today!**

Women of Action invites everyone to the 18th annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon. The cost of \$8 per person includes lunch and a robust and rousing sing-along, with gaily Gaelic piano. Children are welcome and will be provided materials to create seasonal crafts. Children under 5 will be admitted free. Don't forget to wear green! After worship today, 11 a.m. in Simkins Hall.

Haiti Report Back Luncheon - Next Sunday

The 2017 Haiti Work Team will host a Report Back Luncheon as they share experiences of their trip, where they helped build a medical clinic in a rural part of Haiti called Sobier. Each mission trip is truly a learning experience. The team members witness the beauty of the Haitian culture and landscape, and their work transforms not only the landscape, but their own lives as well. No charge. Sunday March 19, 11 a.m., Simkins Hall. (Childcare provided until 12:30 p.m.)

Book of the Month Study/Potluck - Save the Date

March book: *How Jesus Saves the World From Us: 12 Antidotes to Toxic Christianity* by Morgan Guyton. Guyton is a UM minister serving as a Campus Minister in New Orleans. Well acquainted with young adults' critiques of the church, he challenges us all to look again at the church we love and sometimes question. Sunday March 26, 11:30 a.m. Fireside Room.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES**Family Place Community Meal**

Thursday, March 23: 5 - 7 p.m. at Family Place (1020 12th St., SM) Contact r.english@santamonicaumc.org. to sign up to bring a dish, or set-up/clean up.

Habitat for Humanity

Look for the Habitat for Humanity LA Lenten Devotional Calendar at the Sunday Welcome Table or at the Hospitality Table. Combine support for Habitat Culver City with your Lenten spiritual practice.

Save the Date: Red Cross Community Blood Drive

Sunday April 23, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Simkins Hall. For more information, questions, or to volunteer, contact Dorothy Williams (dorothywil@gmail.com).

For our full calendar of this month's events, including weekly group meetings, pick up a copy of the Sentinel located in the Narthex, or go to our website: www.santamonicaumc.org/calendar.