

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP

Thanksgiving/Consecration Sunday • November 25, 2018



Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

– James 1:17

WE GATHER

WELCOME

Tricia Guerrero

PRELUDE *Allegro from Concerto No. 1 in G-minor (G. F. Handel)*

Ty Woodward, Organ

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #694 United Methodist Hymnal – Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Linda Diane Anderson, Lay Lector

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

We glorify our God with songs of thanksgiving and joy.

God has done great things for us, filling us with grace.

God fed our ancestors in the wilderness. God clothes us with hope.

We will offer our hearts to God, always saying, 'Thank you!' to the One who loves us.

We ask your blessing, O God our Creator, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

*CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

"The Lord has done great things for us. We are glad!"

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Tricia Guerrero

Please greet those worshipping near you.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Tricia Guerrero

#2233 The Faith We Sing – 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.

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 Faith in Action in Room 203.

OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

Nathan Oney

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

Thanks be to God!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE LESSON James 1:17 (Pew Bible page 229, N.T.)

Linda Diane Anderson

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Thanks be to God!**

HOMILY "GRATEFUL: Our North Star"

Rev. Patricia Farris

WE RESPOND

INVITATION TO PRAYER #2195 TFWS – In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

LISTENING FOR THE VOICE OF GOD

Nathan Oney

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL 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.

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. 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

Chorale and Chorus *from* Cantata No. 140, Sleepers Awake (J.S. Bach)

Chorale: (Hymn #720, UMH) Wake, awake for night is flying; the watchmen on the heights are crying: awake, Jerusalem at last! Midnight hears the welcome voices and at the thrilling cry rejoices; come forth, ye virgins, night is past; the Bridegroom comes, awake; your lamps with gladness take: Alleluia! And for his marriage feast prepare, for ye must go and meet him there.

Chorus: Now let all the heavens adore thee and saints and angels sing before thee, with harp and cymbals clearest tone; of one pearl each shining portal, where we are with the choir immortal of angels round thy dazzling throne; nor eye hath seen nor ear hath yet attained to hear what there is ours; but we rejoice and sing to thee our hymn of joy eternally.

This piece was written to be performed on the 27th Sunday after Easter, which every so often falls on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, one week before Advent begins. This year that works out to be November 25th, with Advent beginning on December 2. The first performance of the work was on the 25th of November, 287 years ago.

PRESENTATION OF OUR 2019 PLEDGES

*HYMN #87 UMH – What Gift Can We Bring
#102 UMH – Now Thank We All Our God

* PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Rev. Farris

Creator God, with gratitude we return to you what is yours as we dedicate our gifts in the name of Christ. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your blessings and of your great bounty, in the provisions of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need. May our spirits be strengthened by using only what we need, and may we use our strength to help those who need us. In gratitude for all your goodness, we pledge to love you with all our heart, mind, soul and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourself. Give us grace to fill others' lives with love, hope and joy, to the honor of your name and in the service of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*RESPONSE #94 UMH – The Doxology

* UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Nathan Oney

Praise to you, Holy Giver of all gifts. In you there are always more blessings than we can imagine. Give to us that generous spirit that places all that we have at your disposal. Then, by the grace of Christ, let it be multiplied in ways we cannot measure or control, for the welfare of all your people and the glory of your name. Through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN #89 UMH – Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Farris

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Toccata (Gordon Balch Nevin)

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.*

FAMILY INFO

—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 safety of the children and youth very seriously. We follow Safe Sanctuaries® practices, which is our commitment to the physical safety and spiritual growth of all of our children, youth, and adults.

WORSHIP INFO

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

—Flowers: “In remembrance of my dad Osamu Murata.” With love, from Chris Reagh.

—To request prayers, fill in a Let’s Connect/Let Us Pray card and place 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.

—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: Holy Communion; First Sunday of Advent; Rev. Patricia Farris will preach.

MISSIONS

—We collect food weekly for the Westside Food Bank. In December, please bring peanut and other nut butters. You may leave items in the bin located outside the Sanctuary.

Resident Bishop

Bishop Grant J. Hagiya

West District Superintendent

Rev. Mark M. Nakagawa

Senior Minister

Rev. Patricia Farris

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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

FOCUS ON

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

November 25, 2018

A Christmas Celebration



An Evening of Carols, Etc.

Featuring the Premiere Performance of

MAGNIFICAT

by Michael McClish

The Chancel Choir

Ty Woodward, organ

The Mark Twain Ringers

Chamber Orchestra

Rev. Patricia Farris, *spoken words*

James E. Smith, *conductor*

*Don't miss this yearly event which,
for many, sets the mood for the
coming Christmas season.*

**Concert: Sunday, December 2, 7:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary. Reception to follow in Simkins Hall.
Suggested donation at the door: \$10 / Seniors and Children under 12: \$5.**

*For those who can't attend the performance Sunday night, you may observe the Concert rehearsal this Saturday morning December 1, 9 a.m. at no charge. Carols and readings rehearsal begins at 11 a.m. Out of courtesy to the musicians please no cell phones; families with babies/small children may listen from the Narthex.

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WORSHIP & PRAYER

Sunday 10 a.m. **Sanctuary Worship**
 Sunday 5 p.m. **simple church**
simple church speaker: Nathan Oney

MEETINGS / EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today - *Thanksgiving/Consecration Sunday*
 11 a.m. Angel Tree Project begins, SH
Tuesday, November 27 - *UMC Giving Tuesday*
Saturday, December 1
 9 a.m. Christmas Concert Rehearsal, S
 3:30 p.m. Habitat for Humanity Patience House
 Celebration & Tour, Off-site
Sunday, December 2 - *First Sunday of Advent •*
Holy Communion • Advent Devotionals available
 11 a.m. Alternative Christmas Fair, SH
 11 a.m. Angel Tree Project, SH
 11 a.m. UMW Bazaar Final Sales, Workroom
 7:30 p.m. Christmas Concert, Sanctuary,
followed by a reception in Simkins Hall

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Children's Ministry

November Sunday School: Different Kinds
 of Family
 This Sunday: Faith in Action Sunday

Youth Ministry

No UMYF meeting tonight.

*First UMC takes the safety of the children
 and youth very seriously. We follow Safe
 Sanctuaries® practices, which is our commitment
 to the physical safety and spiritual growth of all
 of our children, youth, and adults.*

FELLOWSHIP /COMMUNITY

Angel Tree Project - Begins Today

First UMC church member Chris Ruud is organizing her 16th year of the Angel Tree Project - a community effort to provide homeless families at Upward Bound House with much-needed household items. Stop by the Angel Tree table during Coffee Fellowship today in Simkins Hall to sponsor a gift. Then return the wrapped gift back to the church office by Sunday December 16. For questions, contact Chris Ruud: chr10is@yahoo.com.

Starting today, and Sundays, December 2, 9 & 16 after worship in Simkins Hall

UMC Giving Tuesday

On **November 27**, United Methodists will once again come together to support the work of Advance missionaries and projects on UMC #GivingTuesday. Consider supporting a project in an area you care about, such as food and agriculture, church development, disaster response and relief, education, health, economic empowerment, social justice, WASH/ Water and Sanitation, women and children, and mission personnel.

For a complete list of projects, visit:
www.umcmision.org/Give-to-Mission

Habitat for Humanity Patience House Celebration & Tour

The Patience House build is looking great! Come meet the Mulvihill Family, check out the progress of the Patience House build and the entire block, and enjoy delicious refreshments. For more info, contact Ellen Evans Agee: ebea9999@gmail.com.
www.habitatla.org.

Saturday, December 1, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Culver City Presbyterian Church (11269 Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA)

After worship, everyone is invited to stay for Coffee Fellowship in Simkins Hall.

If you are a new visitor today, feel free to ask any questions you may have at the Hospitality Table in the Simkins Hall Alcove.

FELLOWSHIP /COMMUNITY (CONTINUED)

Alternative Christmas

Missions Council has the antidote for “Black Friday” – the Alternative Christmas Fair. Each year, Missions Council prayerfully selects local and global mission projects. You may make a donation to any of the projects as a gift to a friend or loved one, and send a card announcing your gift. The dates for Alternative Christmas are:

Sundays, December 2, 9 & 16 after worship in Simkins Hall.

UMW Bazaar Final Sales

Missed the UMW Bazaar? It's not too late to peruse handmade crafts and treasures made and curated by the United Methodist Women. Starting next Sunday, stop by the UMW workroom after worship. All proceeds benefit the missions and ministries supported by the UMW.

Sundays, December 2, 9 & 16 (free entrance) after worship in the UMW Workroom

DanceFit!

DanceFit meets twice in December - get in your exercise during this hectic season filled with holiday treats. First UMC member Whitney Hagan leads DanceFit. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and bring a towel. Water will be available. No charge but donations appreciated. Kids are welcome. Tell your friends!

Saturdays, December 8 & 22, 10 - 11 a.m. in Rm 300

Messy Church Christmas Celebration

The First UMC Filipino families welcome all to a special Messy Church Christmas celebration. The theme is *Light Up the Darkness*, and will include a Filipino family craft and Filipino food and treats. Maligayang Pasko! (Merry Christmas in Tagalog). RSVP food count to: shalimarcarducci@gmail.com.

Saturday, December 8, 4:30 - 6 p.m. in the Chapel/ Simkins Hall



simple supper

simple supper is a new potluck gathering of the simple church community. At simple church, we strive to live by a rule of life in three simple rules: do no harm, do good, stay/grow in love with God. This has never been easy, but the first church in Acts 2 laid a foundation. They implemented a simple program to support one another in Christian living: prayer, study, fellowship, and eating together. Sharing a meal has always been a holy act of hospitality and of fellowship, and there is no reason to make it complicated; bring a dish to share, eat, and enjoy. There is no need to RSVP, all are welcome, and we will celebrate with those who are present. So join the simple church community after worship at 6 p.m. in the Fireside Room on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

Sunday, December 9, after simple church in the Fireside Room



2019 Stewardship Campaign – Grateful

The Annual Giving Stewardship Campaign invites us each and all to prayerfully consider our financial pledge to support the mission and ministries of First UMC. Pledge cards are found in the pews, and will be consecrated today during worship.

For more information about the ways to give, visit: www.santamonicaumc.org/give.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

UMCOR Wildfire Response

UMCOR is already actively engaged in California in response to previous wildfires and we anticipate supporting both conferences as they identify and respond to the needs of the populations affected by the current wildfires. UMCOR stands ready to support the response of the conferences with relief kits, Early Response Teams, and funding. For more info, go to:

<https://www.umcor.org/umcor/resources/news-stories/2018/august/umcor-responds-to-current-disasters-around-the-world>

Westside Food Bank

Food is collected every Sunday to benefit the Westside Food Bank. Food bins can be found outside the Sanctuary and in the Preschool. For the month of December we are collecting peanut butter and other nut butters.

OPEN INVITATIONS

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study is a weekly meeting where men of all ages and generations gather to ground themselves in the Holy Scripture. As men try to navigate the stresses and complexities of this modern world and daily life, Men's Breakfast is a place for community, prayer and fellowship through the sharing of God's Holy word. Come by as your schedule permits!

Meets Tuesdays, 7 a.m. in the Fireside Room

Lectionary Scripture Discussion

A lectionary is a collection of readings or selections from the Scriptures, arranged and intended for proclamation during the worship of the people of God. The lectionary provides a guide to those who wish to read, study, and pray the Bible in tune with the church's prayer and preaching. Center your mind by joining the conversation! Come and go as you need – and prepare for worship with deeper insight and understanding.

Sundays: 9 – 9:45 a.m., in the Fireside Room

LOOKING FORWARD



CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

DEC 23 - 10 a.m. Service of Lessons and Carols

DEC 24 - 4 p.m. Christmas Eve No Fuss, No Muss Family Worship

DEC 24 - 11 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

