Epiphany Sunday  •  Holy Communion  •  January 5, 2020

Welcome

Nathan Oney

Prelude

Andante Sostinuto from Symphonie Gothique (Charles Marie Widor)

Processional Hymn

#254 United Methodist Hymnal – We Three Kings

Call to Worship

Patty Hedges, Lay Lector

We gather in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world and our light. The God revealed in Jesus Christ is our host. We are guests of the One who feeds and heals us. We have come to worship the God who gives us life and light, that the light of Christ might shine through us. To You, O God, be the praise and glory!

Choral Act of Praise

“Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel! Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!”

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Nathan Oney

Please greet those worshipping near you.

We Gather

Nathan Oney

Prelude

Ty Woodward, Organ

Processional Hymn

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Please greet those worshipping near you.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE
#2233 The Faith We Sing — Where Children Belong
This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping 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; it’s true. Children of God are called to love one another, as Jesus taught us to do.
As the congregation sings, the children may go to their Sunday School classes.

OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE
We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship, for worship, and for service.

Thanks be to God!

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

THE GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12 (Pew Bible page 2, N.T.)

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

HOMILY “Our Journey” Rev. Patricia Farris

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 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

Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether (Harold W. Friedell)
Draw us in the Spirit’s tether; for when humbly, in thy name, two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them: Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we thy garment’s hem. As the brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup, Alleluia! Alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up. All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee, that by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be. Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Rev. Farris

Gracious God, as we enter into this New Year with you, bless the days that lie before us, that we may experience a deeper sense of your presence. Bless the lives that we offer you now, that we may be a blessing to others. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

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WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

Prayer after Communion
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*HYMN #2208 TFWS — Guide My Feet

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We give you thanks, O God. May our offerings honor you. May our lives reflect your mercy. May our hands bestow on others the blessings we have received. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We will use the Musical Setting beginning on page 2257 in The Faith We Sing hymnal. Gluten-free vegan 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. The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the following hymns:

#242 UMH — Love Came Down at Christmas
#206 UMH — I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
#338 UMH — Where He Leads Me

*HYMN #94 UMH — The Doxology

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POSTLUDE Fugue in G - the “Jig” (J. S. Bach) Ty Woodward

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Jamie Jones

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You are invited to remain seated until the Postlude concludes, or to exit quietly.
Nursery Care is available at 9:30 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.

We are now welcoming you to also use the parking garage pedestrian entrance/exit on Washington. The gate will remain unlocked for convenience on Sundays between the hours of 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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

Tricia Guerrero is with the Youth on their retreat.

Please see an usher if you need information or assistance.

In case of an emergency, please direct your attention to one of the scheduled ushers, head usher, or Sunday coordinator Sarah Rold.

Flowers: “In loving memory of Jennie Weese.” From Tom Weese.

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.

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 Fireside Room to see a selection of artwork by John August Swanson from the collection of First UMC member Meg Flanders, held in her memory.

Next Sunday: Baptismal Renewal & Installation of Lay Leaders; Rev. Patricia Farris will preach.

We collect food weekly for the Westside Food Bank. In January, please bring nutritional bars: protein, granola, energy or breakfast bars. You may leave items in the bin located outside the Sanctuary.

We gather in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world and our light. The God revealed in Jesus Christ is our host. We are guests of the One who feeds and heals us.

We have come to worship the God who gives us life and light, that the light of Christ might shine through us.

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MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

UMCOR - Disaster Response
As the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Committee on Relief assists United Methodists and churches to become involved globally in direct ministry to persons in need. To find out more about U.S. and International Disaster Responses, go to: www.ummission.org/umcor

West Side 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 and other nut butters.

For more information, or to learn about our ministries and missions, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org.

OPEN INVITATIONS

Prayer Quilt Ministry
The Prayer Quilt Ministry is an outreach ministry that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a handmade quilt. There are a number of ways to be involved. When a prayer quilt is hanging in the Sanctuary come tie a knot and say a prayer. Remember the recipients in your prayers in the following days. And join the ministry for work and fellowship on the third Saturday of each month in Room 300 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. You don’t have to know how to sew to help.

Next meeting: Saturday, January 18, Room 300

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.

Tuesdays: 7 a.m., Fireside Room

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**WORSHIP & PRAYER**

- **Sunday** 10 a.m.  
  Sanctuary Worship
- **Sunday** 5 p.m.  
  simple church

**MEETINGS / EVENTS THIS WEEK**

**Today** - Holy Communion • Epiphany Sunday •  
UMYF retreat returns

11:30 a.m. Bible Study on John’s Gospel, Room 101

**Tuesday, January 7**

7 a.m. Men’s Breakfast, FR

7 p.m. Open Space Monthly Gathering, OS

**Wednesday, January 8**

12:10 p.m. Mid-Week Recital/Reception, S/FR

**Friday, January 10**

7 p.m. Shareringer Monthly Meeting, FR

**Saturday, January 11**

10 a.m. Messy Church Meet-Up, Off-site

**Sunday, January 12**

- **10 a.m.** Sanctuary Worship
- **6 p.m.** simple supper, FR (after simple church)

**CHILDREN & YOUTH**

**Children’s Ministry**

- January Theme: Jesus Leads the Community
- Today: Sunday School in Room 206

**United Methodist Youth Fellowship**

The Youth are on their retreat, no UMYF tonight

The youth ministry at First UMC is a safe, Christ centered environment where youth explore and grow in their faith. Activities are designed to nurture relationships and build a strong, loving community. This is a place of acceptance, outreach and spirituality.

**FELLOWSHIP /COMMUNITY**

**Baptismal Renewal & Installation of Lay Leaders**

Baptismal Renewal is a special worship service of reflection on baptism and on our own baptismal experience. During this worship we will also recognize and install the new Church Leadership for 2020.

**Next Sunday, January 12, Sanctuary Worship 10 a.m.**

**Artist Talk with John August Swanson**

First UMC is pleased to host an artist talk with John August Swanson in the Fireside Room. John will talk about his artwork that is currently being displayed from the collection of First UMC member Meg Flanders, and held in her memory. Light refreshments served.

**Next Sunday, January 12, 11:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room**

**simple supper**

simple supper is a simple church monthly potluck. 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.

**Next Sunday, January 12, 6 p.m. in the Fireside Room**

**Financial Peace University**

Need to get your financial house in order in the New Year? Learn about renowned financial author Dave Ramsey’s tenets of eliminating debt, saving and security, and giving back. Join our 9-week Financial Peace University class led by Pastoral Associate Nathan Oney and past instructor Sarah Rold. For more information or to register, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/fpu.

**Thursday, January 16, 6:30 p.m., in Room 301A**

**Family Place Community Meal**

Going on its fourth year, simple church hosts the monthly potluck Community Meal with Upward Bound House’s Family Place. Upward Bound House provides homeless families with housing and supportive services to suit their specific needs. They empower parents and their children to obtain housing stability, build healthy relationships, and enjoy emotional and financial well-being. The Community Meal potluck is an opportunity to help feed about 30-40 adults & children, served buffet style. Invite your friends and join the next potluck for an evening of conversation, crafts/games with the kids, and a shared meal.

For more information, contact the Community Meal Volunteers by emailing: meal@santamonicaumc.org or call the church office (310) 393-8258.

**Thursday, January 23, 5:30 p.m. Family Place (1020 12th St. Santa Monica)**

**Youth/Scout Sunday**

Come enjoy the annual Youth/Scout Sunday service. The youth of First UMC have the opportunity to lead the Sunday service, from reading scripture to preaching the sermons they have written. This day also celebrates the Scouting Ministries (Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts) and their long-standing traditions of service to the community while transforming the lives of the youths.

**Sunday, January 26, Sanctuary Worship 10 a.m.**

**Pancake Breakfast 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Simkins Hall**

**Livestreaming Sunday Morning Worship**

We now livestream Sunday morning Sanctuary worship at 10 a.m. via our Facebook page. If you’re out of town or unable to make it into church, you can still watch the service in real time, or later at your convenience. (Barring any technical difficulties). Go to the First UMC Facebook page: @santamonicaumc.

**West District Training Conference**

Hosted at Holman United Methodist Church in Los Angeles, California, the West District Training Conference is for both current and emerging leaders within local UMC churches. This day of practical ministry training includes a time of praise and worship as well as numerous workshops led by leaders throughout the West District and California-Pacific Conference. Please bring canned goods to benefit West District Food Ministries. Childcare is available only for those who pre-register online.

Online registration: www.westdistricttraining.com (as of print time, online registration coming soon). $15 per person before January 22, $25 after.

**Saturday, February 8, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Holman United Methodist Church, (3320 West Adams Blvd, LA)**

**Save the Date: Parents Day Night / Kids Fun Night**

While parents enjoy an evening out, children are provided a safe and fun evening of games, activities and crafts, pizza dinner and a movie with the First UMC trained childcare team.

**Next Date Night: Friday, February 14, 5 p.m. 2nd Fl. Education Building**

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**Stay Informed**

Keep up-to-date with General Conference news and church events by email. If you don’t already receive the church Friday email or monthly Sentinel email, leave your email address on the attendance pad in the pew or go to the Sunday Hospitality table during Coffee Hour. All information is strictly confidential and is for first UMC communication purposes only.
**WORSHIP & PRAYER**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 12**

**Sanctuary Worship**
6 p.m. **simple supper**, FR

**Sunday, January 12, 11:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room**

**Family Place Community Meal**
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**MEETINGS / EVENTS THIS WEEK**

**Today**
- Holy Communion • Epiphany Sunday • UMYF retreat returns

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- Men’s Breakfast, FR
- Open Space Monthly Gathering, OS
- **7 p.m. Sharerenging Monthly Meeting, FR**
- **12:10 p.m. Mid-Week Recital/Reception, S/FR**
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**FELLOWSHIP / COMMUNITY**

**Baptismal Renewal & Installation of Lay Leaders**
Baptismal Renewal is a special worship service of reflection on baptism and on our own baptismal experience. During this worship we will also recognize and install the new Church Leadership for 2020.

**Next Sunday, January 12, Sanctuary Worship 10 a.m.**

**Artist Talk with John August Swanson**
First UMC is pleased to host an artist talk with John August Swanson in the Fireside Room. John will talk about his artwork that is currently being displayed from the collection of First UMC member Meg Flanders, and held in her memory. Light refreshments served.

**Next Sunday, January 12, 11:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room**

**simple supper**
simple supper is a simple church monthly potluck. 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.

**Next Sunday, January 12, 6 p.m. in the Fireside Room**

**Financial Peace University**
Need to get your financial house in order in the New Year? Learn about renowned financial author Dave Ramsey’s tenets of eliminating debt, saving and security, and giving back. Join our 9-week Financial Peace University class led by Pastoral Associate Nathan Oney and past instructor Sarah Rold. For more information or to register, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/fpu.

**Thursday, January 16, 6:30 p.m., in Room 301A**

**CHR = Choir Room; CR = Conference Room; CY = Courtyard; FR = Fireside Room; L = Library; MH = Member’s Home; OS = OH Site; S = Sanctuary; SH = Simkins Hall; WR = Work Room (UMW)**
Prayer Quilt Ministry
The Prayer Quilt Ministry is an outreach ministry that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a hand-tied quilt. There are a number of ways to be involved: When a prayer quilt is hanging in the Sanctuary come tie a knot and say a prayer. Remember the recipients in your prayers in the following days. And join the ministry for work and fellowship on the third Saturday of each month in Room 300 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. You don’t have to know how to sew to help.
Next meeting: Saturday, January 18, Room 300

For more information, or to learn about our ministries and missions, go to www.santamonicaumc.org.

OPEN INVITATIONS

2020 Mid-Week Recital Season
The first of the 2020 Mid-Week Recitals begins in January with David Childs, baritone. David is a baritone who specializes in Jewish Music. (See more info to the right)

FEBRUARY 12
Susan Greenberg, flutist; Christina Mantes Mateo, harp
Susan Greenberg played in the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra for 36 years, and Christina Mateo has an international career as harpist with numerous orchestras.

MARCH 11
Sergey Kosemyan, cello; Anna Markosyan, piano; Vladimir Khonyakov, piano
All three musicians have had international careers as chamber musicians and soloists.

APRIL 8
Kirill Giadkovsky, piano
Since making his first public appearance at age six, Dr. Giadkovsky has toured extensively on three continents, performing piano and organ recitals, and as a soloist with orchestras in various cities.

MAY 13
Namhee Han, organ
Namhee has been the organist at Westwood Presbyterian Church in LA for the last 20 years, where she relishes her contributions to its long tradition of classical choral music programs.

2020 Home Run for Kids
Registration is now open for the 8th Annual Home Run for Kids Walk/Run in the Brentwood community of West Los Angeles. This year’s event— including a 5k/10k chip-timed course, and a stroller & pet friendly Kiddie K— expects to draw over 1,200 participants with all proceeds benefiting Upward Bound House. This is a great opportunity for kids and parents alike to work together to solve family homelessness, a growing crisis across Los Angeles.

Join the First UMC Team! To register, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/home-run-for-kids. (Team name: First UMC Santa Monica)

Before the race, First UMC will hold a brief on-site worship service complete with Communion at 8 a.m. Look for the white First UMC tent. Find out what it means to pray on your feet!

Sunday, February 9, 8 a.m. Darlington Ave., 11645 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

UMCOR - Disaster Response
As the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Committee on Relief assists United Methodists and churches to become involved globally in direct ministry to persons in need. To find out more about U.S. and International Disaster Responses, go to: www.umcmission.org/umcor

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