God is real. God is love. Together we can change the world.
OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship, for worship, and for service. Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

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

HOMILY

“Where New Life Starts: When in Doubt, Keep Going”

Rev. Patricia Farris

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Your continued financial support of the church is now more important than ever. You may mail your gift to the church or drop it into the mail slot of our offices any day of the week. You may also give online at www.santamonicaumc.org/give, or mail checks through your online banking programs. You may continue to earmark gifts for our various mission projects. May God grow in us generous and joyful hearts. Thank you.

OFFERTORY

I Wonder As I Wander (Appalachian Tune)

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Dane and Dominic Rold

Good and gracious God, we give you thanks that you come into the world in Christ Jesus. He is the fullness of life and the life of love. In faith and hope, we offer our gifts of money and self, that as his followers, we may be the face of your love on earth. Restore us this day. Fill us with love. We pray with grateful hearts, Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Farris

I invite you to take the communion elements you have in your home—a piece of bread or cracker and a cup of water or juice. After I consecrate the elements at the altar table, I invite us to commune all together, receiving the bread and cup which make Christ present and real to us in our bodies, hearts, and souls.

We experience the presence of Christ in our hearts through the grace of God which knows no walls or boundaries, in which there is no distance or separating. We are always truly “one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world!”

HYMN

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Ty Woodward

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Tricia Guerrero

Come, O come Emmanuel. You are the Way, the Truth and the Life. You are the true vine and the bread of life. Come, living Savior. Come to your world and to our hearts which wait for you. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Dane and Dominic Rold

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.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Farris

POSTLUDE

Tricio Sonata for Oboe, Cello and Piano (Francis Poulenc)

Instrumental Trio

Instrumental Trio: Linda Muggeridge, oboe; Kevan Torfeh, cello; James Smith, organ and piano
OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE
Dane and Dominic Rold, Lay Lectors

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Thanks be to God!

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

THE GOSPEL
Mark 1:1-8
Rachel Snider

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

HOMILY
“Where New Life Starts: When in Doubt, Keep Going”
Rev. Patricia Farris

WE RESPOND

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES
Dane and Dominic Rold

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HYMN
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God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Tricia Guerrero

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THE LORD’S PRAYER
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE
Trio Sonata for Oboe, Cello and Piano (Francis Poulenc)
Instrumental Trio

Movement II: Andante

Instrumental Trio: Linda Muggeridge, oboe; Kevan Torfeh, cello; James Smith, organ and piano
—We are enlivened and empowered by the everlasting power of God’s rainbow of love and light. This is a moment to grow in generosity and joyful hearts. Let’s stay steady, and be faithful and creative, offering all the gifts with which we have been blessed to hold one another through these times. Be sure to check the church website for updates on worship and ministry opportunities: www.santamonicaumc.org.

—Thank you to Mike Eskridge for the beautiful flowers in the Sanctuary. To donate to the flower fund, or to send flowers to go to home-bound seniors, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund.

—Prayer Quilts: If there is a prayer quilt during service, you may call or email Sarah in the church office to request a tie be made on the quilt for you; she will let you know the requested prayers: Sarah Rold (310.393.8258), or srold@santamonicaumc.org. Prayers will be collected Tuesday – Friday of the following week, and the prayer knots will be tied by the church staff.

—Stewardship: It’s not too late to turn in your 2021 pledge - you may pledge online at: www.santamonicaumc.org/stewardship, or mail in your pledge card. Thank you!

We gather online • Second Sunday of Advent • Holy Communion • December 6, 2020

Welcome and Lighting of the Advent Candles

Prelude - Sinfonia from Cantata No. 156 (J.S. Bach)
Instrumental Trio

Call to Worship

God of timeless grace, you fill us with joyful expectation. Make us ready for the message that prepares the way, that with strong hearts and holy joy we may eagerly await the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ. Let us prepare the way of the Lord!

Come, O come, Emmanuel!

Response

O Come, O come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
December Online Mid-Week Recital
Tune in Wednesday, December 9, for the December Mid-Week Recital featuring Calico Winds, wind ensemble. To read about the musicians and view the program go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series.
ONLINE Mid-Week Recital: This Wednesday, December 9, 12:10 p.m.

Alternative Christmas - ONLINE
Sponsored by the Missions Council, the Alternative Christmas Fair is a way to support mission projects and programs in the community and around the world, by giving a financial gift in the name of a loved one. This year we celebrate Alternative Christmas on the website from December 1-15. Fill out the Giving Form online, then you will receive a receipt via email with your donation. Go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/acfair for more info.

Sunday Zoom Coffee Hour - Special Guest Jocelyn Hicks-Garner
Join Jocelyn Hicks-Garner for the beginning of coffee hour as she discusses a few of the mission projects participating in Alternative Christmas. Today at 11 a.m. All are welcome via Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/95709897528
Zoom ID: 957 0989 7528 Password: fumc

First UMC Creche
Come by the church campus during the month of December to view the annual Creche scene. This year, additional decorations were provided by Mike Eskridge to make the area even more special. We also thank Dan and Cooper Nessel, and Javier Espinosa for the installation.

Advent Devotional
It’s not too late to sign up to receive your daily Advent Devotional emails. Sign up, or download the pdf booklet: www.santamonicaumc.org/advent-devotional. The devotional is written by First UMC members and provides a wonderful opportunity to share Advent with family and friends. This year’s theme is “Where New Life Starts.”

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