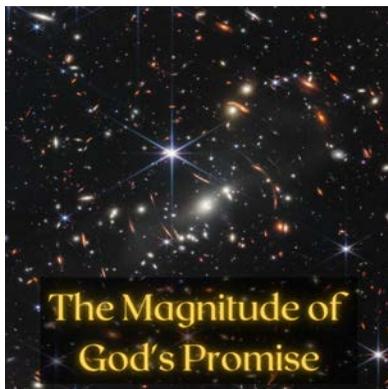


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WORSHIP

First Sunday of Advent • November 27, 2022

WE GATHER



WELCOME

Tricia Guerrero

PRELUDE Sleepers Wake! (J. S. Bach)

Ty Woodward, organ

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#730 United Methodist Hymnal — O Day of God, Draw Nigh

O day of God, draw nigh in beauty and in power; come with thy timeless judgment now to match our present hour. Bring to our troubled minds, uncertain and afraid, the quiet of a steadfast faith, calm of a call obeyed. Bring justice to our land, that all may dwell secure, and finely build for days to come foundations that endure. Bring to our world of strife thy sovereign word of peace, that war may haunt the earth no more, and desolation cease.

O day of God, draw nigh as at creation's birth; let there be light again, and set thy judgments on the earth.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

David Penson, Lay Lector

God of new life and new beginnings, our hearts desire the warmth of your love.

Our minds are searching for the light of your Word.

Increase our longing for Christ, our Savior.

Give us the strength to grow in love.

Teach our hearts to expect a miracle.

With expectant hope, we await Christ's birth.

*CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

"Savior of the nations, come; Virgin's son, here make thy home! Marvel now, O heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth."

**Asterisks indicate standing if you are able.*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Gabe, Leah and Olive Dimalanta

O God, rejoicing, we remember the promise of your Son. As this candle is lit, may the blessing of Christ come upon us, brightening our way and guiding us. May Christ our Savior bring light into the darkness of our world, and to us, as we wait. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

David Penson

We give thanks for God's Creating Spirit that continues to give us life and lead us forward!
Thanks be to God!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE LESSON Romans 13:11-12 (Pew Bible page 152, N.T.)

Maddy Ing, Lay Lector

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

SERMON "The Magnitude of God's Promise"

Rev. Patricia Farris

WE RESPOND

INVITATION TO PRAYER

#211 UMH – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 1, 2)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

Tricia Guerrero

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

Maddy Ing

Your continued financial support of the church is now more important than ever. You may place gifts of cash or checks made out to "First UMC" in the offering plates as they are passed. You may also mail your gift to the church or drop it into the mail slot of our offices any day of the week. Or, 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.

THE OFFERTORY

The Chancel Choir

And the Glory of the Lord *from* Messiah (G.F. Handel)

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

*RESPONSE #95 UMH – The Doxology

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Maddy Ing

O Mighty One, you have done and are doing great things for us, and holy is your name. Bless all we offer you—ourselves, our time, and our possessions—that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Farris

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Now Thank We All Our God (Sigfrid Karg-Elert)

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.

—**Welcome New Visitors!** We're happy you're here. You may fill out a New Visitor Sign-In form outside the sanctuary, go online: www.santamonicaumc.org/im-new, or scan this QR code for the online form.



—**Flowers:** "In memory of Marilyn E. Leoni (11-21-40 to 10-14-21). Loved by all who knew her." From Paul Leoni.

To order flowers to remember or honor a loved one for Sunday Worship service, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund.

—**Give:** There are many ways to give! Checks, cash, stocks or wills, or your gift of time! You may give securely online at: www.santamonicaumc.org/give, via mail, or onsite through the office mail slot. Thank you!

—**Safe Sanctuaries®:** 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.

—**Prayer Quilts:** If there is a Prayer Quilt in worship, you are invited to pray over and tie knots on the quilt on the north wall of the Sanctuary, or call or email Sarah in the church office to request a tie be made on the quilt for you: Sarah Rold (310.393.8258), or s.rolld@santamonicaumc.org. To request a Prayer Quilt for someone in need, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/prayerquiltministry.

—**Prayer Requests:** The Prayer Chain is a network of persons who pray in response to prayer requests, and treat all requests as confidential. Request a prayer at any time. Go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests.

—**Westside Food Bank:** We collect food weekly for the Westside Food Bank. Bins are located outside the Sanctuary Sunday mornings.

STAY CONNECTED:

To join in fellowship and ministry, here's how to connect:

First UMC website: www.santamonicaumc.org

First UMC app: Download from the App Store, search FirstUMC_SM

Facebook: www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc

Instagram: [@santamonicaumc](https://www.instagram.com/santamonicaumc)

YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/SantaMonicaUMC

UPDATED: Currently, based on state and local recommendations, **masks are optional, but always acceptable and welcome.** Everyone is strongly encouraged to get your vaccinations and booster shots. If you feel ill, please choose to worship from home online. Let us know if you need assistance in joining online.

Resident Bishop
Bishop Grant J. Hagiya
West District Superintendent
Rev. Mark M. Nakagawa

Senior Minister
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Pastoral Associate for Family Ministries
Tricia Guerrero
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Head Custodian
Javier Espinoza
Children's Ministries Coordinator
Jamie Jones

God is real. God is love. ■ 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



Stewardship Continues

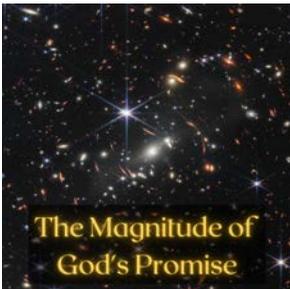
The 2023 Annual Giving Stewardship Campaign invites us each and all to prayerfully consider our financial pledge to support the mission and ministries of First UMC. To fill out a pledge card online visit www.santamonicaumc.org/stewardship, or fill out a pledge card available in the pews, and drop it in box in the Narthex.



Update

Dr. Jim Smith, Director of Music, will be on Leave through the end of the year to receive treatment on mobility issues. While this year's Christmas Concert will not be held as planned, we are fortunate that Ty Woodward, Principal Organist, will step in to assume direction of our choir. We will continue to enjoy beautiful music for the Advent/Christmas season in worship in addition to the December Midweek Recital.

First UMC's Advent Guide



Today marks the beginning of Advent. We invite you to celebrate the season, inviting new life to be born in you at this time when we need it most. It is the gift of God's grace, bringing salvation to all. This year we celebrate the theme "**The Magnitude of God's Promise.**"

On the following pages is a list of ways to engage and move through the holiday season. All events may also be found on the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/advent

Advent Devotional

This year's Advent Devotional booklet is now available in the Narthex and at the Welcome table, and daily emails are underway. This year we meditate on these scriptures with the theme "The Magnitude of God's Promise." The collection of writings is offered as a framework for your own Advent ponderings. The writers are a diverse group of people, though all are from this congregation. To sign up to receive Advent Devotion daily emails, visit the website and click the Subscribe button at the bottom of the page: www.santamonicaumc.org/advent. Audio devotions as read by the writers (*subject to change*) will be included in the emails from Sunday, December 18 thru Sunday, December 25.

First UMC's Advent Guide



Angel Tree Project

Angel Tree is back and is again being chaired by church member, **Chris Ruud**. This church/community project provides new household items to families of Family Place/ Upward Bound House with new things for Christmas. Celebrating her 19th year coordinating this fundraiser, Chris is excited that there will be a table in the Courtyard after worship for four Sundays to take sign-ups. If you worship online, or can't make it to church, please call or email Chris (310 393.3255, chr10is@yahoo.com) for info on what you can do to help.

Starting today thru December 18, in the Courtyard



Family Ministry's Advent Toy Drive

Family Ministries is hosting an Advent Toy Drive benefiting the Children, Youth & Family Collaborative (CYFC), one of two covenant missionaries supported by First UMC, and headed by Lydia Templeton. Toy donations are starting today - look for the bin in the Sunday School playground to drop off your toy donations. Then on December 11 during Sunday School, children and youth are invited to participate in a Faith in Action service project to wrap all the toys!

Starting today thru December 11, drop-off box in the Sunday School playground



Family Ministry's December Park Meet Up

Join us at the park! Open to all of the church community - bring a blanket or chair, check out the farmer's market, or a book at the library. Kids can play on the playground and park. Tricia and her family look forward to seeing you there!

Saturday, December 3, 9 - 11 a.m. Virginia Ave Park



Alternative Christmas: In-Person and Online

Sponsored by the Mission 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. After worship for two Sundays, visit the displays in the Courtyard celebrating this year's featured missions: Harvest Home, Upward Bound House, Wesley Foundation of UCLA, CYFC, InnerChange, The People Concern, Haiti Missions, and Westside Food Bank. To find out more about each group, and donate through December, visit the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/mission-partners

December 4 and December 11, in the Courtyard, through December online

United Women in Faith: Peanut Brittle Sales, and a Mini Boutique

United Women in Faith are excited to be back selling hand-made **peanut brittle** on the Sundays of December 4 and December 11, after worship in the Courtyard. Then on December 18 they're offering a "Mini Boutique," selling more peanut brittle and a limited amount of home-made items.

Sundays, December 4, 11 & 18

FIRST UMC'S



United
Women
in Faith

2022

Beth Chouinard-Mitchell, tuba
Hannah Yi, piano

Wednesday
DEC 14
12:10 P.M. PT

STREAMING LIVE ON

Facebook: [@santamonicaumc](#)
YouTube: [www.youtube.com/santamonicaumc](#)

Online
MID WEEK RECITALS

December Mid-Week Recital

Listen to beautiful music this Advent Season! The December Mid-Week Recital features: Beth Chouinard-Mitchell, tuba; Hannah Yi, piano.

How to watch: • Facebook Live - Search @santamonicaumc • YouTube Live- Search "Santa Monica UMC" • Website - www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream

• The App - download the app at the App Store, search FirstUMC_SM

Wednesday, December 14, 12:10 p.m. Livestream

Available to watch anytime afterwards on the above platforms.

Hosted by Fellowship and Events

Advent Brunch
Sunday, December 18
after worship in Simkins Hall

Activities will include seasonal crafts, card making for homebound members, caroling, and a special visit from Santa!

Advent Brunch

Save the date for a special Advent Brunch following worship of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 18, hosted by Fellowship and Events. Activities will include seasonal crafts, card-making for homebound members, caroling, and a special visit from Santa! Catered by Nick's Paradise Cafe.

Sunday, December 18, after worship in Simkins Hall

ORDER NOW!

Poinsettias
• \$15 PER ORDER •

Poinsettias

Beautiful poinsettias will once again grace our sanctuary for the Christmas Eve Family and Candlelight Services. A dedication insert will be in the Order of Worship for December 18, and the Christmas Eve services. Order at the Sunday Welcome Table, online here: www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund, or call the church office. Each plant is \$15, and may be picked up after the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

Deadline to order is Tuesday, December 13.



Preschool Christmas Concert

The First UMC Preschool is excited to have the Preschool Christmas Concert back in the Sanctuary this year! All are welcome to watch the adorable Preschoolers perform their holiday songs.

Friday, December 16, 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary



First UMC Creche

We invite you to our courtyard to view our Nativity scene, or creche, with the Holy Family—Joseph and Mary, and the animals that shared their shelter and warmth. We celebrate God's love that comes to be with us, bringing peace, hope and joy for all. The display will be on view through December.



Santa Monica Nativity Scenes

The Calvary Baptist Church, located at 1502 20th Street, will again be the home of Santa Monica's annual Nativity Scenes display starting on December 11, and continuing through the beginning of January.

First UMC's *Advent Guide*

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- Sat Dec 3** Family Ministry's Park Meet-Up
- Sun Dec 4** Holy Communion / Second Sunday of Advent
After worship: Alternative Christmas
Angel Tree Project
Family Ministry's Advent Toy Drive
United Women in Faith selling Peanut Brittle
- Sat Dec 10** Family Connection Christmas Party
- Sun Dec 11** Third Sunday of Advent
After worship: Alternative Christmas
Angel Tree Project
Family Ministry's Advent Toy Drive
United Women in Faith selling Peanut Brittle

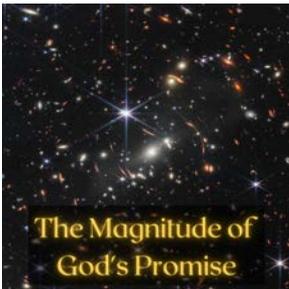
Blue Christmas Service in the Chapel - 4 p.m.
- Wed Dec 14** December Mid-Week Recital
Open Space Christmas Party
- Fri Dec 16** Preschool Christmas Concert
- Sun Dec 18** Fourth Sunday of Advent, Service of Lessons & Carols (*Part 1*)
After worship: Advent Brunch
Angel Tree Project (*final Sunday*)
United Women in Faith Mini Boutique
Blood Pressure Screenings
UMYF Christmas Party
- Fri Dec 23** United Methodist Youth Alumni Christmas Party
- Dec 24** **Christmas Eve Services - 4 p.m. & 7 p.m.**
- Sun Dec 25** Christmas Day - Family Sunday, Service of Lessons & Carols (*Part 2*)
- Dec 26 - Jan 2** *Church Office Closed*



Blue Christmas Service

Grieving is hard at Christmas time. If you are experiencing the loss of a loved one, a separation, illness, or other cause for pain, it may seem that you are alone while everyone else is experiencing the joy of the season. But the Christmas story itself is full of pain and loss. The Blue Christmas service is for everyone who might not be feeling up to the cheeriness of other holiday celebrations, aiming to make space for grief, meeting it head on, and perhaps finding some hope. If you or someone you know are in need of this space apart, please join us for a time of worship.

Sunday, December 11, 4 p.m. in the Chapel



CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE

A "No Muss, No Fuss" Christmas Pageant for all ages. Costumes will be available at the door for all children to participate.

Saturday, December 24, 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Special choir music and candlelight.

Saturday, December 24, 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

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