

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WORSHIP

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost • June 30, 2024

WE GATHER

WELCOME

Tricia Guerrero, Pastoral Associate

PRELUDE

Ty Woodward, organ

Andante religioso from Sonata No. 4 (Felix Mendelssohn)

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #529 United Methodist Hymnal –**

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled? “Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid; I’ll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand. When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress. When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply; the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine. The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Howard Wollitz, Lay Lector

Come to the fountain of life. Come before our God with praise and thanksgiving.

We come to worship God, our Creator and Sustainer, and to give ourselves anew into God’s care and keeping.

Come to the eternal Rock; come and find strength to live faithfully.

We come to be renewed in the divine image, and to be set again on the steady purpose of Jesus Christ.

We offer our praise and gratitude for how we have been led until now.

Ready us now for the journey which lies ahead.

***CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE**

“Bless thou the Lord, O my soul, praise ye the Lord. I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live. I will sing praise while I have my being. Bless thou the Lord, O my soul!”

**Asterisks indicate standing if you are able.*



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Dot Plukas, Sunday School Teacher

#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; 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 Sunday School in Rooms 204 and 206.

OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

Glenda Martinez, Lay Leadership Team

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 Genesis 12:1-9

Howard Wollitz

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

SERMON "Pressing On"

Rev. Larry Young

WE RESPOND

INVITATION TO PRAYER #2128 TFWS — Come and Find the Quiet Center (verse 1)

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

LISTENING FOR THE VOICE OF GOD

Tricia Guerrero

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

Glenda Martinez

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.

OFFERTORY

The Chancel Choir/Dr. James Smith, Music Director

Mercy (Craig Courtney)

I dare not lift my guilty eyes. I hide my lips in trembling shame. And in the darkness of my soul, I shrink from Your rekindling flame. Kyrie eleison, have mercy. In mercy cover me with grace and blot out my iniquity. Renew my heart and wash me clean; grant with Your pardon, purity. Kyrie eleison, have mercy. In equal measure of Your love, you promise mercy, tender compassion to the one, who seeks Your face a broken heart, a fainting soul, together cry for Your forgiveness and Your grace. Against You only have I sinned. My deeds are evil in Your sight, of Your forgiveness let me sing, and in my singing take delight. Kyrie eleison, have mercy.

*RESPONSE #94 UMH – The Doxology

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Howard Wollitz

O God, we give our thanks that, in offering our gifts, we are touched by your grace. In our sharing, make us whole. Bless all those who will be touched by these gifts; and accept our desire to stay open to all the ways your grace would touch and transform us as your people. We ask it in Christ. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN #580 UMH – Lead On, O King Eternal

Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come; henceforth in fields of conquest thy tents shall be our home. Through days of preparation thy grace has made us strong; and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song. Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace. For not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums; with deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes. Lead on, O King eternal, we follow, not with fears, for gladness breaks like morning where'er thy face appears. Thy cross is lifted o'er us, we journey in its light; the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Young

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Chaconne (François Couperin)

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 Let's Connect Card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate, or sign in online: www.santamonicaumc.org/im-new, or scan this QR code for the online form.



—**Children and Families on Sundays:** Families are invited to begin worship in the Sanctuary. Following the Children's Message, children are guided to Sunday School for ages 12 months through 5th grade in the Education Building. Parents with infants are welcome to worship in the Sanctuary or in the Family Zone in the Narthex.

—**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.

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

—**The Chancel Choir:** During the summer months the Chancel Choir is singing some of their favorite anthems from the prior year. We hope they are your favorites also.

—**Give:** Your gifts help us grow our ministries today and into the future. Thank you for considering giving to the General Church Fund to support everything we do. You may give today during service, or other ways; by mailing payment, dropping by the business office, or securely through the online giving portal located on the website front page. Questions about financial gifts, or gifts of time? Give us a call anytime at the church office.

—**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.

Resident Bishop
Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank
West District Superintendent
Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi
Senior Minister
Rev. Patricia Farris
p.farris@santamonicaumc.org
Pastoral Associate
Tricia Guerrero
t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org
Deacon Associate for Spiritual Formation
Rev. Keri Olsen Paget
k.olsenpaget@santamonicaumc.org
Business Administrator
Christina Eddy
c.eddy@santamonicaumc.org
Congregation Care Associate
Anne Premer
a.premer@santamonicaumc.org
Preschool Director
Dee Menzies
d.menzies@santamonicaumc.org
Assistant Preschool Director
Dane Rold
d.rolld@santamonicaumc.org
Music Director
Dr. James Smith
Organist
Ty Woodward
Office Manager
Sarah Rold
s.rolld@santamonicaumc.org
Membership and Facilities Coordinator
David Penson
d.penson@santamonicaumc.org
Communications Director
Tina Gage
t.gage@santamonicaumc.org
Head Custodian
Javier Espinoza
Family Ministries Coordinator
Jamie Jones
Program and Outreach Coordinator
Brandon Searfoss

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.

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

SUNDAY INSERT
JUNE 30, 2024

MISSION AND COMMON LIFE

www.santamonicaumc.org

SPECIAL ALL-CHURCH CHARGE CONFERENCE VIA ZOOM

Sunday, June 30 at 1 p.m.

Zoom link on the website:
www.santamonicaumc.org



Special All-Church Charge Conference **via Zoom (not in person)**

We are holding a required All Church Special Charge Conference TODAY at 1 p.m. sharp **via Zoom only**. The single agenda item is to approve the Salary and Benefits package for our incoming Senior Pastor, Gregory Batson, appointed July 1, 2024 by our conference. All church members are welcome to attend. District Superintendent Reverend Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi is presiding. Members of SPRC will be attending to answer any questions. The SPRC, Finance Committee, and Board of Trustees have all reviewed and approved the package for Gregory Batson. This is a required meeting as set forth in the Book of Discipline. We welcome your presence, comments, and vote, and are grateful for this time of transparency, so please join us for this very important meeting. **Today, 1 p.m. via Zoom**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81783160093>

Meeting ID: 817 8316 0093



Walk the Labyrinth / Chapel Open for Prayers

The Labyrinth is open on the first Friday of every month, 1–3 p.m. in Simkins Hall. If you've never walked the Labyrinth before, there are printed instructions to help with your walking meditation.* Take an hour for yourself in this "device-free" zone. Children and families welcome! **For those unable to walk, we have finger labyrinths available, see a volunteer for assistance.* The Chapel is also open for prayers during this time.

Friday, July 5, 1–3 p.m. in Simkins Hall and the Chapel

Next Sunday! Welcome Luncheon for the Batsons

Let's give Rev. Greg and family (wife Tania, sons Tom, Dan & Wes) a warm welcome on their first Sunday at First UMC! Next Sunday, July 7, Rev. Greg will lead worship, followed by a special luncheon after worship in Simkins Hall. We are excited to welcome the Batsons into our community and to begin working together in sharing God's love. Don't forget to wear your nametags! If you need a nametag, email David: d.penson@santamonicaumc.org. We thank the United Women in Faith for being the primary sponsor for the luncheon.

Next Sunday, July 7

10 a.m. Worship: Rev. Batson leading worship

11 a.m. Welcome Lunch for Greg and Family



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SANTA MONICA

1008 Eleventh Street, Santa Monica, CA 90403 • 310-393-8258

www.santamonicaumc.org • info@santamonicaumc.org   [@santamonicaumc](https://www.instagram.com/santamonicaumc)

UPCOMING EVENTS

• Messy Camp – God’s Messy Creation

Join Santa Monica First UMC for Messy Camp (formerly known as Vacation Bible School/Camp), a one week summer program for children in grades TK through 5th grade. The week is full of fun and games, music and movement, scripture stories and crafts, science and mission projects. All of this within the context of exploring our beautiful and messy world together, and learning ways we can make our community and world a better place. *Messy Camp Cost: \$100/child*

Registration now open!

www.santamonicaumc.org/messy-camp

Monday, August 5 – Friday, August 9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
First UMC campus

• Welcome Basket for the Batsons - **Last Day today!**

Michael Lamb and Carlee Forbes are putting together a basket of items to welcome the Batsons to Santa Monica. Today is the last day to contribute a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant, coffee shop, grocery store, etc. You may drop these off at the Welcome Table today.

• Donations Needed for Backpacks and School Supplies Drive

Our church has a long history of supporting students through the gift of backpacks and school supplies each year. This year your donations will go towards the **School Bell Backpack Program through the Assistance League of Santa Monica**. With our help, this program will supply 26 schools across Santa Monica and Los Angeles with over 600 backpacks filled with school supplies.

During the month of July, First UMC will continue the tradition of taking donations that will enable us to support students heading to school. **We are ONLY accepting money donations (not supplies) towards the purchase of supplies in bulk.** To donate, go to www.santamonicaumc.org/school-supplies, click Give Online, then select “School Supplies” in the dropdown menu. You may also send in a check made to First UMC, notate "School Supplies" in the memo.

MISSION AND SERVICE

We at First UMC work in partnership with a variety of groups and organizations throughout our community and the larger UMC to bring hope and healing where it is needed most. Together we can change lives and transform the world. **Visit the website:**

www.santamonicaumc.org/outreach-missions

• Ways to Serve at First UMC

Many of you have asked... How can I do more? How can I serve? These are excellent questions to consider! We have ways to serve out in the community with our Mission Partners - AND ways to serve here in our church community. Opportunities include: Labyrinth Host, Lay Lector, Welcome Ambassador, Usher, In-Home Communion Server, Singing in the Chancel Choir. All are vital ways to faithfully share your gifts. If you are interested in learning more or exploring a service opportunity, please reach out to Tricia Guerrero, Pastoral Associate: t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org.

• Westside Food Bank

Food is collected at First UMC every Sunday, as well as seasonal food drives, to benefit the Westside Food Bank. Food bins can be found outside the Sanctuary and in the Preschool.

• Volunteer Opportunity at The People Concern

Linda Diane Anderson runs a volunteer group on the **third Saturday of the month** at The People Concern, making sandwiches and assembling sack lunches. If you would like to be part of the group rotation of volunteers, contact Tricia: t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org. The shift is 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., but often ends earlier.

• UWF Christmas in July 2024 Boutique Sale

Save the Date for Sunday, July 21, when the United Women in Faith’s Christmas in July sale returns! Featuring Christmas ornaments, décor, and delicious homemade baked goods. Proceeds from the sale will benefit United Women in Faith mission projects.

Sunday, July 21, after worship in the Simkins Hall Alcove

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

• Children's Ministry

Families are invited to begin worship in the Sanctuary. Following the Children's Message, children are guided to Sunday School for ages 12 months through 5th grade in the Education Building. Parents with infants are welcome to worship in the Sanctuary or in the Family Zone in the Narthex. You are invited to look around and greet a child and their family in worship. You might hear a few more giggles and whispers or see some wiggles...let's celebrate the joyful and life-filled presence beloved children bring to our community each week! www.santamonicaumc.org/childrens-ministry

• Preschool Enrollment Ongoing

Schedule a tour today with Dee Menzies, Preschool Director at 310-395-7292, or visit our webpage for more information: www.santamonicaumc.org/preschool

YOUTH

• United Methodist Youth Fellowship Group

Weekly UMYF meetings held Sundays 6 - 8 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. www.santamonicaumc.org/youth-ministry
The Youth are now on summer break.

PRAYER

• Walk the Labyrinth/Chapel Open for Prayers

The Labyrinth and Chapel are open on the first Friday of the month, from 1 - 3 p.m. Families welcome! Open dates:
- **Next Opportunity: Friday, July 5, 1 - 3 p.m.**

• Prayer Requests

The Prayer Chain is a network of persons who pray in response to prayer requests. You may send a prayer request to the church at any time.
www.santamonicaumc.org

• Request a Prayer Quilt

The Prayer Quilt Ministry is a group that makes Prayer Quilts as a service for those in need. (**Prayer quilts may only be requested and sponsored by members of the First UMC congregation.*) To request a Prayer Quilt, visit:
www.santamonicaumc.org/prayerquiltministry

ONGOING MINISTRIES AT FIRST UMC

If you'd like more information for ministry opportunities, you may contact the church office (310) 393-8258, or visit the website: www.santamonicaumc.org

• Men's Bible Study

Tuesdays, 7 a.m. via Zoom Men's Bible Study is a weekly online meeting where men of all ages and generations gather to ground themselves in the Holy Scripture.
www.santamonicaumc.org/biblestudy

• Listening Hearts Women's Group

Listening Hearts is a spiritual community of women who gather to listen to one another in the midst of life's chaos, led by Pastoral Associate Tricia Guerrero. Contact Tricia for upcoming meetings:
t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org

Next meeting: **Wednesday, July 3**, Literati Cafe

• Prayer Quilt Ministry

Meets the 3rd Saturdays of the month, 9:30 a.m. in Room 300. Next meeting: **Saturday, July 20**

• The Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir provides music every Sunday during the 10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship Service. **Sing in the Chancel Choir!** We always welcome new members who would like to sing with the choir! Thursday evening rehearsals are on summer break, but you may still contact Jim Smith if you are interested:
djes@roadrunner.com

• Open Space Young Adults

Open Space is a young adult ministry that offers community for young adults to journey alongside one another in spiritual discovery, growth, and belonging. Learn more: www.santamonicaumc.org/open-space. IG: @openspacesm. Next Meeting: **Wednesday, July 17**

• Blood Pressure Screenings

The Health Ministry Council provides free Blood Pressure Screenings **once a month** after worship. Next meeting: **July 14** in the Alcove.

Welcome to First UMC of Santa Monica!

Welcome to the worship, service, and fellowship of Santa Monica First United Methodist Church. First UMC is committed to a ministry that touches the lives of people in many significant ways. Through our worship and music, study opportunities, social groups, mission involvement and ministries of care, we proclaim the good news of God's love for all people. We also work to help make the world a better place in which to live, here in the communities of the Westside and around the world, and eagerly invite your participation in this beloved community. Our church has been a significant presence in the larger Santa Monica community for over 125 years.



Giving Matters

There are many ways to contribute to the mission and ministry of First UMC. You may give online via the QR code below (*take a photo of the code with your phone camera*), via mail, or onsite through the church office mail slot. To learn more about ways to give, including the annual Stewardship campaign, Planned Giving, Tree of Life, support for the Music Program, and the flower fund, visit:

www.santamonicaumc.org/give



Upcoming Preaching Schedule

June 30 Rev. Larry Young preaching
July 7 **Rev. Gregory Batson's first Sunday in worship**

Sunday Flowers

Do you have a loved one you would like to dedicate flowers to on a given week? The church office can assist with the dedication and the cost is \$80. Order at the Sunday Welcome Table, or online: www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund **Available Sundays: July 7, 14, 21, 28**

STAY CONNECTED

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

First UMC website: www.santamonicaumc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc

Instagram: @santamonicaumc

YouTube: @SantaMonicaUMC

The First UMC App: Go to the App Store, search FirstUMC_SM.



Website Pages to note:

Selected piece from the First UMC Spring Concert:
Francis Poulenc's "Gloria,"

www.santamonicaumc.org/music-theater

Sunday Worship Service archives -

www.santamonicaumc.org/sunday-service-archive

Audio Sermon Archives - *Listen to past sermons*

www.santamonicaumc.org/sermon-archives

The First UMC App:

First UMC offers a free app - download it and give it a try! With the app, you can:

- Participate in Sunday's service, in real time or anytime at your convenience, right from your smartphone or iPad.
- Access our calendar of our events
- Invite a friend to an event, or share info about a special program we offer.

- Access an **audio/ written Bible** with a built-in daily reading plan.

To download the app, go to the App Store, search FirstUMC_SM

