

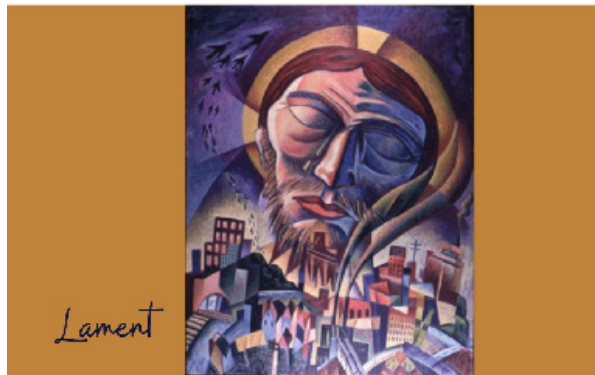


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# WORSHIP

Second Sunday in Lent • Moment for Mission • March 16, 2025

WE GATHER



## WELCOME

Tricia Guerrero, Pastoral Associate

PRELUDE Postlude for the Office of Compline (Jehan Alain)

Ty Woodward, organ

\*OPENING HYMN #116 United Methodist Hymnal — The God of Abraham Praise

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Larry Wilson, Lay Lector

The Lord is my light and my salvation;

**Whom shall I fear?**

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

**Of whom shall I be afraid?**

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage.

**Wait for the Lord!**

## \*CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

“Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation. Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body bear your part: to God all praise and glory.”

## \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Larry Wilson

*Please greet those worshipping near you.*

*\*Asterisks indicate standing if you are able.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Cady Senior, 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

Tricia Guerrero

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

**Thanks be to God!**

## MOMENT FOR MISSION Children, Youth & Family Collaborative (CYFC)

Alashia Jones

HYMN #479 UMH — Jesus, Lover of My Soul

## SILENT PRAYER & PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Tricia Guerrero

Response: **Open our hearts, O God.**

## 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

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## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE PSALM Psalm 27

Larry Wilson

THE GOSPEL Luke 13:31-35

Tricia Guerrero

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

SERMON "Lament"

Rev. Greg Batson, Senior Minister

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## WE RESPOND

### WE OFFER OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Larry Wilson

*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](http://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

Kyrie Eleison *from* Solemn Mass, Opus 16 (Louis Vierne)

Kyrie Eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Christe Eleison (Christ, have mercy)

Kyrie Eleison (Lord, have mercy)

### \*RESPONSE #95 UMH – The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### \*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Tricia Guerrero

**Loving God, our shelter and hope, as we walk through this holy season, we come to you with hearts open to your grace. In our giving, may we reflect the love that sustains us, and may we lift one another up in times of need and vulnerability. Use these offerings to bring comfort to the weary and hope to the brokenhearted, just as you draw near to us in our struggles. Strengthen us to be a source of light and love in this world, reflecting your compassion in all we do. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

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## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

### \*HYMN #451 UMH – Be Thou My Vision

### \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Batson

### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days (arr. Dale Wood)

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](http://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](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund).

—**This Sunday's Flowers:** "In loving memory of Bob Moore, whom I continue to miss every day." With love, Linda Fleischman.

—**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](mailto:s.rolld@santamonicaumc.org). To request a Prayer Quilt for someone in need, go to: [www.santamonicaumc.org/prayerquiltministry](http://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](http://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.

—**Sunday Social Gathering:** After worship today, come say "Hello" for Coffee Hour in Simkins Hall. Stop by the Sunday Welcome Table if you have any questions.

Resident Bishop  
**Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank**

West District Superintendent

**Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi**

Senior Minister

**Rev. Greg Batson**

[g.batson@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:g.batson@santamonicaumc.org)

Pastoral Associate

**Tricia Guerrero**

[t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org)

Deacon Associate for Spiritual Formation

**Rev. Keri Olsen Paget**

[k.olsenpaget@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:k.olsenpaget@santamonicaumc.org)

Business Administrator

**Christina Eddy**

[c.eddy@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:c.eddy@santamonicaumc.org)

Congregation Care Associate

**Anne Premer**

[a.premer@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:a.premer@santamonicaumc.org)

Music Director

**Dr. James Smith**

Organist

**Ty Woodward**

Office Manager

**Sarah Rold**

[s.rolld@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:s.rolld@santamonicaumc.org)

Membership and Facilities

Coordinator

**David Penson**

[d.penson@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:d.penson@santamonicaumc.org)

Communications Director

**Tina Gage**

[t.gage@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.gage@santamonicaumc.org)

Head Custodian

**Javier Espinoza**

Family Ministries Coordinator

**Jamie Jones**

[j.jones@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:j.jones@santamonicaumc.org)

Program and Outreach Coordinator

**Brandon Searfoss**

[b.searfoss@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:b.searfoss@santamonicaumc.org)

Preschool Director Emerita

**Dee Menzies**

[d.menzies@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:d.menzies@santamonicaumc.org)

Preschool Co-Director

**Dane Rold**

[d.rolld@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:d.rolld@santamonicaumc.org)

Preschool Co-Director

**Johanna Holman**

[j.holman@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:j.holman@santamonicaumc.org)

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](http://www.santamonicaumc.org) · 310-393-8258



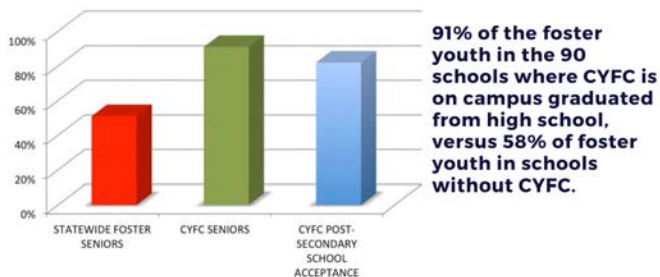
## Children, Youth & Family Collaborative

Today during Moment for Mission, we highlight Children, Youth and Family Collaborative. CYFC is a nationally recognized organization serving over 2,500 foster youth and youth on probation, with programming in nine school districts with successful replication of its nationally recognized model in over 89 schools. CYFC Director **Lydia Templeton is an FUMC Covenant Missionary.**

CYFC utilizes a holistic approach to improve the educational outcomes of foster youth and youth on probation. They are "creating a culture where foster youth will no longer be synonymous with academic deficiencies and poor high school graduation rates."

CYFC makes the connection between disadvantaged youth and a caring community through partnerships with the California Department of Education, Los Angeles colleges and universities, Department of Probation, Department of Children and Family Services, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, community groups, and faith-based organizations.

For more info, visit the website: [cyfcla.org](http://cyfcla.org)



### St. Patrick's Day Luncheon - Today!

Stay after worship today for the 23rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon! **The proceeds will benefit Children, Youth and Family Collaborative, which serves foster youth both during and after their school years.** The suggested donation of \$12 per person includes lunch, a spirited singalong led by JoAnne Bailey and the ACT Singers with virtuoso piano accompaniment by Mary Crawford. Emcees Cindy McQuade and David Mayhan will supply the witty banter, colorful quips, and Irish antics. Craft materials provided for children. Kids under 5 dine free. Purchase your ticket at the door.

**Today, 11:15 a.m. in Simkins Hall**

## LENT 2025

### • Lent 2025

Lent is the 40-day period (not including Sundays), beginning with Ash Wednesday (March 5) and ending with the celebration of Easter (April 20). We are providing a full schedule of opportunities to observe a holy and meaningful Lent at First UMC. See in this insert, and the church website for full schedule:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/lent](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/lent)

### • Lenten Art Exhibit - Open Now

During Lent there is a print exhibit in the Fireside Room that accompanies the Lenten Book Study based on *The Third Day*. **Thru Lent in the Fireside Room**

### • Lenten Devotional

The Spiritual Formation Council invites you to read your Lenten Devotional online and in print. Printed copies are available in the Narthex and at the Welcome Table, and daily emails are underway. To sign up for the emails, visit the website at: [www.santamonicaumc.org/lent](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/lent)

### • Connecting to God through Prayer: A Workshop and Community Dinner

The First UMC Spiritual Formation Council presents an opportunity to learn about connecting to God through prayer. After some instruction and dialogue, participants will have time to engage in silent contemplative prayer practices, doodle, and/or written prayers. Program at 5 p.m., potluck at 6 p.m. The church will be providing a main dish so sides, salads and desserts are welcome! Please RSVP by emailing Rev. Keri at [k.olsenpaget@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:k.olsenpaget@santamonicaumc.org) by **tomorrow, Monday, March 17.**

**Sunday, March 23, 5 - 7 p.m. in the Fireside Room**

### • Lenten Book Study - Continuing

All are welcome to join Rev. Greg Batson and Rev. Larry Young as they co-host a 5-week Lenten Book Study based on the book *The Third Day*, by Bishop Tom Berlin. Class schedule: (same class, one in-person and one online)

• **Sundays, March 16, 23, 30 & April 6, 11:30 a.m., in the Fireside Room** led by Rev. Larry Young

• **Wednesdays, March 19, 26, April 2 & 9, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom** led by Rev. Greg Batson. Zoom link on the website: <https://santamonicaumc.org/lenten-book-study-25>

## LENT 2025 (cont.)

### Field Trip: Museum of Social Justice

Everyone is invited to meet and explore the Museum of Social Justice, and view their Spring 2025 Special Exhibit: *That Stubborn Resistance*, La Piedra Art Collective. This exhibition highlights 40 years of art, history, and activism by La Piedra Art Collective and its multilayered social and cultural contributions to state history and culture.

[www.museumofsocialjustice.org/about.html](http://www.museumofsocialjustice.org/about.html)

**Saturday, March 22, meet there at 10 a.m.**

Admission Free,  
115 Paseo de la Plaza, LA,  
CA 90012



## MISSION AND SERVICE

### • First UMC Blood Drive - Sign Up Now!

The Health Ministry Council is pleased to announce a Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in Simkins Hall on Sunday, April 6. Consider making a blood donation part of your Lenten practice. The American Red Cross is in critical need for donors of all blood types - give blood and you'll have the knowledge that you've truly helped save someone's life! For more information, questions, or to volunteer, contact Debi Jenkinson [debijwong@yahoo.com](mailto:debijwong@yahoo.com). Schedule your appointment now on the website: [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), and enter sponsor code FirstUMCSM, or, **stop by the Health Ministry table today during Coffee Hour.**

**Sunday, April 6, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in Simkins Hall**

### • NEW! Westside Food Bank Volunteer Opportunity

Westside Food Bank is underway helping with the long recovery period in the aftermath of the LA fires. The damage has been devastating, and Westside Food Bank is doing everything in its power to help our community. Come to our volunteer opportunity to help Westside Food Bank with packaging produce boxes.

**Friday, April 11, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

1710 22nd Street, Santa Monica 90404

Contact Tricia to RSVP: [t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org)

## CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### • **NEW! Community Lunch for Families**

Join Pastors Greg and Tricia for a Community Lunch following worship on Sunday, March 30. We will gather to eat in Room 300. The church will provide baked chicken and we invite everyone to bring a side dish, salad, or fruit to share. Supervision of children and youth in the youth room and playground will be available after lunch giving parents the chance to visit with the Pastors and one another. We look forward to this opportunity to connect with families! Please rsvp to Tricia - [t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org). **Sunday, March 3, 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Room 300 in Education Building**

### • **Preschool Enrollment OPEN NOW!**

Schedule a tour today with Preschool Co- Directors Dane or Johanna at 310-395-7292, or visit our webpage for more information: [www.santamonicaumc.org/preschool](http://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](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/youth-ministry)  
**Upcoming Meetings: Mar 16/23 in the Youth Lounge**

## 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!  
**Next Opportunity: April 4, 1 - 3 p.m. Simkins Hall**

### • **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/prayer-requests/](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests/)

### • **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](http://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](http://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](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/biblestudy)

### • **Listening Hearts Women's Group**

Listening Hearts is a spiritual community of women, led by Pastoral Associate Tricia Guerrero. Contact Tricia for upcoming meetings: [t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org).  
Next meeting: **Mar 19** at Literati Cafe, 10 a.m.

### • **Prayer Quilt Ministry**

Meets the 3rd Saturdays of the month, 9:30 a.m. in Room 300. Next meeting: **Saturday, April 12**

### • **The Chancel Choir**

The Chancel Choir provides music every Sunday during the 10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship Service. **Sing in the Chancel Choir!** Thursday evening rehearsals are from 7:30 - 9 p.m. in the Choir Room. Contact Jim Smith if you are interested: [djes@roadrunner.com](mailto:djes@roadrunner.com)

### • **Messy Church**

Messy Church is a monthly all age worship experience that explores God's love in an accessible way.  
Next Messy Church: **Saturday, May 3, 4 - 6 p.m.** in the Fireside Room. Theme: Teach Us to Pray

### • **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](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/open-space). IG: @openspacesm. Next meeting: **Wednesday, Mar 19, 7 p.m.**, offsite

### • **Blood Pressure Screenings**

The Health Ministry Council provides free Blood Pressure Screenings once a month after worship. Next meeting: **Sunday, Mar 23** in the Alcove.



# 150th Planning is Underway!!

2025 is a special year for First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica - our 150th Anniversary! Our church was founded the same year as the City of Santa Monica, and we have been an integral part of this community since the beginning. **We look forward to a special worship service and celebration event on Sunday, October 12, 2025.** We will also have special events throughout the season, starting September 7, to commemorate this special milestone. We look forward to the planning and moments together as we remember our past, celebrate the present, and hope for the future. Contact the church office for special volunteer opportunities: [info@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:info@santamonicaumc.org)



## LA Fires Response

In the wake of the fires that have devastated the Los Angeles area, we now take time to connect with one another and process what has happened. In this time of crisis, we come together to support one another. Visit the website for support and volunteer opportunities:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/la-fire-response](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/la-fire-response)

March 7, 2025: **See Message of Support from Bishop Escobedo-Frank** (sent to First UMCSM as well as 10 other local UMC churches)

On the website: [www.santamonicaumc.org](http://www.santamonicaumc.org)



## Giving Matters

There are many ways to contribute to the mission and ministry of First UMC. You may give online via the QR code on the right (*Point your phone camera at the QR code and click on yellow link*), 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](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/give)



## Stay Connected

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

**First UMC website:** [www.santamonicaumc.org](http://www.santamonicaumc.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc](https://www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc)

**Instagram:** @santamonicaumc

**YouTube:** @SantaMonicaUMC

**The First UMC App:** App Store, search FirstUMC\_SM.



## All Church Cookbook! Call Out For Recipes

In celebration of our 150th Anniversary, we are excited to announce an All-Church Cookbook, and we need your recipes! How to participate:

- Submit One (1) Family recipe
- Submit a photo of your choice (*family pic or of the recipe*)
- A brief description (2 - 3 sentences) of why you chose this recipe

Send your submissions to Tina Gage:

[t.gage@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.gage@santamonicaumc.org), or, stop by the Sunday Welcome Table to drop off your submission.

**Deadline to submit is Sunday, May 25. Cookbooks will be available in the Fall.**

## Sunday Flowers

Do you have a loved one you would like to dedicate flowers to on a given week? Order at the Sunday Welcome Table, or online, the cost is \$80. [www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund) Available Sundays: March 23/30

