

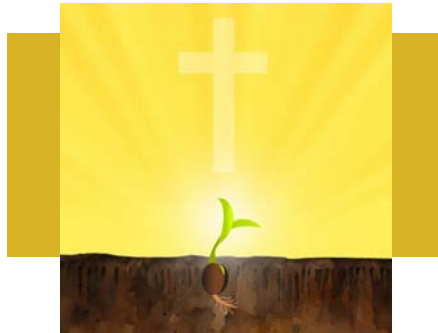


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP

Easter Sunday • Family Sunday • April 20, 2025

WE GATHER



WELCOME

PRELUDE Fanfare on *Easter Hymn* (Aaron Shows)

*LIGHTING THE RESURRECTION CANDLE

Please stand as you are able.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #302 United Methodist Hymnal – Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Darkness has been vanquished.

The light of hope has come,

Come let us worship and celebrate the Good News!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

“King of Kings, (forever and ever), and Lord of Lords, (Hallelujah, Hallelujah) and He shall reign forever, and ever. Hallelujah!”

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Please greet those worshipping near you.

Tricia Guerrero, Pastoral Associate

Brass Quintet, Organ and Tympani

Rev. Greg Batson, Senior Minister

Molly Smith, Lay Leadership Team

Molly Smith

**Asterisks indicate standing if you are able.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Jamie Jones, Family Ministries Coordinator

#2233 The Faith We Sing — Where Children Belong

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping 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 will return to their seats. There is no Sunday School today.

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!

ANTHEM

The Chancel Choir/Dr. James Smith, Music Director

Resurrection Hymn (See What A Morning, arr. Steven Strite)

Alleluia! See what a morning gloriously bright, with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem. Folded the grave clothes, tomb filled with light, as the angels announce "Christ is risen!" See God's salvation plan, wrought in love, Borne in pain, paid in Sacrifice. Fulfilled in Christ, the Man, for He lives: Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia! See Mary weeping, "Where is He laid?" As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb; Hears a voice speaking, calling her name; it's the Master the Lord raised to life again. The voice that spans the years, speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us, will sound 'til he appears, for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia! One with the Father, Ancient of Days, through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty, honor and blessing, glory and praise to the King crowned with pow'r and authority. And we are raised with Him, death is dead, Love has won, Christ has conquered. And we shall reign with Him, for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

LISTENING FOR THE VOICE OF GOD

Rev. Keri Olsen Paget, Deacon Associate

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands, for our offenses given; but now at God's right hand he stands, and brings us life from heaven; wherefore let us joyful be, and sing to God right thankfully our songs of Alleluia! Alleluia!"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE GOSPEL Luke 24:1-12

Rev. Olsen Paget

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

SERMON "Arise"

Rev. Batson

WE RESPOND

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Molly Smith

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

Joy to the Heart (K. Lee Scott) *(see insert)*

*RESPONSE #94 UMH – The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Molly Smith

Radiant God, whose love endures forever, we gather today in the light of resurrection hope, offering these gifts as a response to the abundant grace we have received. In this period of spiritual renewal, may our giving reflect the joy of the empty tomb and the promise of life everlasting. Transform our offerings into acts of love that bring light to the world, just as Christ's light dawned in our hearts. We dedicate these gifts to your service, trusting that, in your hands, they will bring forth new life. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN #327 UMH – Crown Him with Many Crowns

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Batson

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Christ is risen, Christ is risen, now is Christ risen, risen from the dead, Alleluia.

POSTLUDE Toccata from *Symphony No. 5* (Charles Marie Widor)

Ty Woodward, organ

*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.*

Joy to the Heart

JOHN BENNETT, 1920-1991

Tilton
Tune and setting by K. LEE SCOTT

Stanza 1 (Choir)

Look there! the Christ, our Brother, comes
resplendent from the gallows tree
and what he brings in his hurt hands
is life on life for you and me.

Refrain

Joy! joy! joy to the heart
all in this good day's dawning!

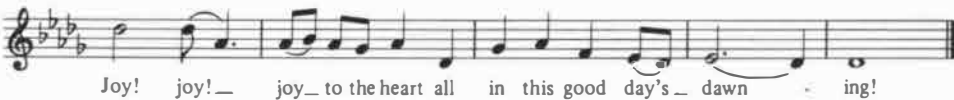
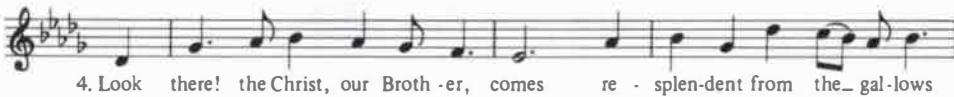
Stanza 2 (Choir)

Good Jesus Christ inside his pain
looked down Golgotha's stony slope
and let the blood flow from his flesh
to fill the springs of living hope. (Refrain)

Stanza 3 (Choir)

Good Jesus Christ, our Brother, died
in darkest hurt upon the tree
to offer us the worlds of light
that live inside the Trinity. (Refrain)

Stanza 4 (Congregation and Choir)



(Repeat Refrain)

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—**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.



—**Welcome Guest Musicians:** We welcome Aric Kline and McCartney Hutchinson, trumpets; Jon Titmus, horn; Kaelyn Henderson and Conrad Henning, trombones; Aaron Smith, tympani.

—**Children and Families on Sundays:** Today is a Family Sunday, there is no Sunday School. Ask an usher for an activity packet for your child. Childcare for toddlers and infants available in the Fireside Room.

—**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. Available Sundays: April 27. May 4/11/18/25.

—**This Sunday's Flowers:** "In memory of Earlene Fox and Geraldine Davidson." With love from Levon and Lori Fox.

—**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. 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.

—**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.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SANTA MONICA
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West District Superintendent
Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi

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World Labyrinth Day at First UMC

The Labyrinth Society — in collaboration with Veriditas, and The Legacy Labyrinth Project— invites you to join in celebrating World Labyrinth Day! On this 17th Annual World Labyrinth Day, as in previous years, many will walk a labyrinth at 1:00 p.m. local time creating a unified rolling wave of peaceful energy passing from one time zone to the next around the globe. Walk as One at 1 p.m.

Saturday, May 3, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Simkins Hall



May Messy Church

An all age worship experience that explores God's love in an accessible way. At Messy Church, today's busy families of all shapes and sizes are invited into a welcoming space to experience faith. Messy Church meets once a month. Everyone is welcomed as they are. Whether you are single or partnered, young or old, tidy or messy, have questions or doubts, are filled with joy or struggling with life, you will be welcomed at Messy Church. **May theme: Teach Us to Pray**

Saturday, May 3, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. Simkins Hall



Spring Concert

Save the date for the Annual Spring Concert! Don't miss this very special concert as we celebrate our 150th Anniversary, and also honor the extraordinary work of our Music Director, Dr. James Smith, celebrating his 60th Year as First UMC Music Director!

The 2025 Spring Concert consists of "Choral Masterpieces," excerpts from some of the most beloved choral works of the last 3 centuries. The program will include: *Requiem* by Gabriel Faure; and excerpts from these choral favorites: Vivaldi *Gloria*; Bach *Magnificat*; Mozart *Requiem*; Verdi *Requiem*; Orff *Carmina Burana*; Randall Thompson *Alleluia*; Durufle *Requiem*; Mendelssohn *Elijah*; and the *Hallelujah Chorus* from Handel's *Messiah*. A chorus of 60 singers and the Los Angeles Concert Orchestra, conducted by James E. Smith. A freewill offering will be taken.

Stay for the reception following the Concert, where we'll have a cake celebration to honor Jim Smith.

Sunday, May 18, 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary

UPCOMING EVENTS

• History and Archives Community Gathering

One way we will celebrate First UMC's 150 years is to remember and celebrate our history and the stories we share. The History and Archives Committee is hard at work and excited to host a special Community Gathering to prepare for the Fall. We invite all to participate in a special and fun opportunity to look back at old pictures and memorabilia and help us identify people, places, events... and share our stories! Contact Tricia with questions: t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org.

Saturday, April 26, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Fireside Room

• United Women in Faith Senior Scholarship Luncheon

The United Women in Faith are excited to celebrate six high school graduates for a special scholarship recognition, on Sunday, May 4, after worship in the Fireside Room. All are invited to join in the celebration! There is a \$15 charge for the lunch to offset costs. Please RSVP (for lunch count): UWfsantamonica@gmail.com

Sunday, May 4, after worship in the Fireside Room

• Methodist Foundation Scholarships

The Methodist Foundation of Santa Monica, founded in 1967, exists to provide aid to religious, educational and charitable causes. First UMC has a long tradition of honoring the academic achievements of students in our church and community who pursue post-secondary education. Applications open now for our First UMC students of all ages pursuing their educational goals – deadline to apply is **Sunday, May 4, 9 p.m.** Application on the website:

www.santamonicaumc.org/methodistfoundation

• Messy Camp registration - Open Now

Join Santa Monica First UMC for Messy Camp, a one week summer program for children in grades K through 5th grade. The week is full of fun and games, music and movement, scripture stories and crafts, science and mission projects. \$150/first child, \$125/each additional sibling.

Monday, July 28 - Friday, August 1, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Register Now on the website:

www.santamonicaumc.org/messy-camp

MISSION AND SERVICE

• Ongoing 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. The shift is 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., but often ends earlier. Volunteers do not have to work every Saturday or Sunday but are asked to commit to a regular shift each month. If you would like to be part of the group rotation of volunteers, contact Tricia:

t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org.

• Westside Food Bank

Westside Food Bank is continuing its efforts to assist those affected by the LA fires. Canned food is collected at First UMC every Sunday to benefit the Westside Food Bank. Food bins can be found outside the Sanctuary and in the Preschool.

• Haiti 2025 Fundraiser

Since 2010, when a devastating magnitude 7.0 earthquake crippled the impoverished country of Haiti, First UMC has heard a call to be in an ongoing mission partnership with the Haitian people. Look for more info coming soon for the 2025 Haiti Fundraiser, running from **Sunday, May 4 thru Sunday, May 18.**

Visit the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/haiti/

• Mission and Outreach partners

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. Mission Partners include:

Harvest Home

Upward Bound House

Wesley Foundation of UCLA

Children's Youth & Family Collaborative (CYFC)

InnerChange

The People Concern

Haiti Missions

Westside Food Bank

www.santamonicaumc.org/outreach-missions



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 - 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

YOUTH

• United Methodist Youth Fellowship Group

Weekly UMYF meetings held Sundays 6 - 8 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. www.santamonicaumc.org/youth-ministry

Upcoming Meetings: Apr 27, May 4/18 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!

**World Labyrinth Day, Saturday, May 3, 1 - 3 p.m.,
Friday, June 6, 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/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

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, led by Pastoral Associate Tricia Guerrero. Contact Tricia for upcoming meetings: t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org. Next meeting: **May 7** 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, May 17**

• 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

• 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. IG: @openspacesm. Next meeting: **Wed May 7, 7 p.m., onsite**

• Blood Pressure Screenings

The Health Ministry Council provides free Blood Pressure Screenings once a month after worship. Next meeting: Next **Sunday, April 27** 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



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

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

Flowers

Do you have a loved one you would like to dedicate flowers to on a given week? The church office can take your order, and the cost is \$80. Order at the Sunday Welcome Table, or online:

www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund

Available Sundays: April 27, May 4/11/18/25

Prayer Requests

The First UMC Prayer Group is a network of persons who provide regular, dependable, and confidential prayer support. You may send a prayer request to the church at any time, and our Prayer Group will be notified of your request. Call the church office, or visit:

www.santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests

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



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: 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, 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.



Presented for the Glory of God



Easter Flowers 2025

First United Methodist Church would like to express appreciation to the Seasonal Displays Committee and Mike Eskridge, Chairperson, for the seasonal appointments in the Sanctuary, and to the individuals and families listed in this Order of Worship insert for their gifts of Spring flowers.

Linda Diane Anderson: In loving memory of James Evan Anderson, Jr. who taught her to consider the lilies, of Mary Christian Anderson who planted them and made them grow, and of Lisa Annette Le Fors, beloved cousin and lifelong friend.

JoAnne Bailey: To my mom and dad who I honor and cherish at Easter time!

Mary Crawford: In thanks for - and honor of - all devotional writers.

Spencer and Lindsay Dewald: In honor of Everett Harrison Dewald.

Patty Eskridge: In loving memory of Virgie Eskridge, Mary Margaret Morrison, and Margo Reese, in celebration of our amazing kids Adam, Brittany, Brian, Kate, Caleb, and Mia.

Lori and Levon Fox: In memory of loved ones; in honor of family and friends.

Kendra Gorlitsky: In honor of Carol Reich for her years of art & music & continued optimism; In honor of Anne Premer for all she does to protect the vulnerable; In honor of R. Kenneth Fleagle, beloved father to Kendra & Pam.

Carol Greenwood: Love to all my family on this joyous occasion.

Paul Leoni: To the memory of my wife Marilyn Leoni.

Maile Marquand: In memory of my husband, Dennis, and in honor of my children and grandchildren.

Glenda Martinez: In celebration of my mom, Maria Rojas.

Cindy McQuade: In honor of David and our family here, on Earth and in Heaven.

Dee Menzies: In honor of the First UMC Preschool teachers and administrators and families.

Dorothy Nichols: In honor of my Grandmother, Anna Belle Konkel Nichols, who was the definition of love, my mother Katherine Irene Smith Nichols and my sisters Susan Elizabeth and Katherine Virginia who will always be in my heart. Rest in peace.

Keri Olsen Paget: In memory of my grandparents, Rev. Bob and Ruth Brown; In memory of my Parent-in-laws, Dave and Diane Paget.

Sue Payne: In memory of my husband Dennis Payne, & our parents, Mary & Frank Friedrichsen, and Chuck & Dee Payne.

Kristin Powell: In loving memory of Joyce Grant.

Clive Reid: In loving memory of my beautiful wife Marcia, you're always in my heart.

Diana Stumpf: In memory of Christine and Larry Stumpf, and of Ted and Lois Gehringer.

Caprice Walker: In loving memory of my husband Allan, and celebrating the April birthdays of my parents Bill and Florence Workmen.

Dorothy Williams: In celebration of the blood donors and volunteers who gave of themselves so generously in support of others.

