



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# W O R S H I P

4th Sunday of Easter • Mother's Day • May 11, 2025

WE GATHER

WELCOME

Tricia Guerrero, Pastoral Associate

PRELUDE

Ty Woodward, organ

Allegro - Concerto in A Minor (J. S. Bach/Vivaldi)

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#88 United Methodist Hymnal — Maker, in Whom We Live

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ben Ing, Lay Lector

We rejoice in the One who leads us beside still waters,  
**and gives us refreshment of soul.**

Christ our Shepherd shows us the way we should go,  
**so that the name of God will be glorified.**

Though all manner of evil befall us, we will not be afraid,  
**for the Great Shepherd of our souls is with us.**

We are never away from the love and mercy of the Lord,  
**and we shall be with him for ever and ever. Amen!**

\*CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

"Let the people sing praise unto the Lord. Alleluia. Let all the people  
sing praise to the Lord, now worship the Lord, give thanks and sing,  
praise the Lord!"

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*Please greet those worshipping near you.*

Ben Ing



\*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 may go to Sunday School in Rooms 204 and 206.*

## OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

Rev. Keri Olsen Paget, Deacon Associate

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

**Thanks be to God!**

HYMN #138 UMH — The King of Love My Shepherd Is (verses 1-4, 6)

## SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Olsen Paget

## 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 23

Ben Ing

THE GOSPEL John 21:15-19

Tricia Guerrero

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

SERMON "Feed My Sheep"

Rev. Greg Batson, Senior Minister

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## WE RESPOND

### WE OFFER OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Ben 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](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

This Is the Day (Dan Forrest)

This is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it, we will rejoice, and be glad, this is the day the Lord has made. The Lord is my strength, the Lord is my song, He has become my salvation. The Lord is my strength, the Lord is my song, you are my God, I will exalt you. This is the day, the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

### \*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

Rev. Olsen Paget

**Generous and Loving God, accept these offerings as symbols of our very lives. Let these gifts and our actions show forth your love in this world filled with hunger and need. Inspire us to generosity, and fill us with gratitude, so that we might truly feed your sheep. In the name of the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

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## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

### \*HYMN #381 UMH – Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

### \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Batson

### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE March (Clarence Mader)

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). Available Sundays: May 25, June 1/15/29

—**This Sunday's Flowers:** *Reredos:* "In honor and memory of all mothers, step-mothers, grandmothers, aunts, godmothers, and fur-mommies. Love to all those in my life." From Emily Payne. *Narthex:* "In loving memory of Ruth Heppner and Heidi von Martens Crooks." From Jenna Beckerman.

—**Carnations:** In honor of Mother's Day, we offer carnations to all women—those who are mothers, those who care for others in meaningful ways, and those who celebrate or remember their own mothers or nurturing figures in their lives. The ushers will hand them out after worship.

—**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).



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SANTA MONICA  
1008 Eleventh Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90403  
[www.santamonicaumc.org](http://www.santamonicaumc.org)  
310-393-8258

Resident Bishop  
**Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank**

West District Superintendent  
**Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi**

#### MINISTRY

Senior Minister  
**Rev. Greg Batson**  
[g.batson@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:g.batson@santamonicaumc.org)  
Deacon Associate for Spiritual Formation  
**Rev. Keri Olsen Paget**  
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Pastoral Associate  
**Tricia Guerrero**  
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Family Ministries Coordinator  
**Jamie Jones**  
[j.jones@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:j.jones@santamonicaumc.org)

#### MUSIC STAFF

Music Director  
**Dr. James Smith**  
Organist  
**Ty Woodward**

#### OFFICE STAFF

Business Administrator  
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**Sarah Rold**  
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**Brandon Searfoss**  
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Head Custodian  
**Javier Espinoza**

#### PRESCHOOL STAFF

Preschool Co-Director  
**Dane Rold**  
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Preschool Co-Director  
**Johanna Holman**  
[j.holman@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:j.holman@santamonicaumc.org)  
Preschool Director Emerita  
**Dee Menzies**  
[d.menzies@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:d.menzies@santamonicaumc.org)

SUNDAY INSERT  
MAY 11, 2025

# MISSION AND COMMON LIFE

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



## May Online Mid-Week Recital

First UMC is pleased to present the Online May Mid-Week Recital, featuring First UMC's principal organist, **Ty Woodward**. Ty holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance and a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Southern California. He is also currently Staff Organist at Disney's El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood, Organist, and Temple Beth Shalom of Whittier.

To watch past recitals, visit the website:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series)

**Wednesday, May 14, 12:10 p.m. ONLINE:**

- Facebook: @santamonicaumc • YouTube Channel: @SantaMonicaUMC
- Website: [www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream)
- The First UMC App: (Go to the App Store, search FirstUMC\_SM)



## Children, Youth and Family Collaborative Walkathon

As part of its 25th anniversary, the Children, Youth and Family Collaborative is sponsoring a Walkathon fundraiser on May 17 in the Village Green area of L.A. It will be 3.3 miles on mostly flat terrain. We are proposing a team of walkers from First UMC. If we have at least 5 walkers the entry fee will be \$30 per person. Those unable to do the walk can participate as Virtual Walkers with a \$25 contribution. A Health Fair will also be a part of the event. A free T-shirt comes with the walk! For more information or to sign up, contact Rev. Larry Young at [lyoung@lyoung.net](mailto:lyoung@lyoung.net).

**Saturday, May 17, 8 a.m. Susan Miller Dorsey High School**

3537 Farmdale Ave Los Angeles, CA 90016



## Grounding in Transition

*Cultivating "Home" when life has been turned upside down*

In the wake of the wildfires many are in discernment about what's next or how to move forward. Many are living, working or going to school in temporary locations. Join us to explore ways to cultivate a sense of "home" in this unexpected season of transition.

Please RSVP or ask questions to Rev. Keri Olsen Paget at

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

**Thursday, May 22, 1-2:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SANTA MONICA  
1008 Eleventh Street, Santa Monica, CA 90403 • 310-393-8258  
[www.santamonicaumc.org](http://www.santamonicaumc.org) • [info@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:info@santamonicaumc.org)   @santamonicaumc

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### • Pennies for Peanuts 2025

Our annual Pennies for Peanuts Fundraiser is running through **Sunday, May 18**. Every penny counts—help us support vital outreach in Haiti! Read Haiti team leader Todd Erlandson's latest update, and **Donate online:** [www.santamonicaumc.org/haiti](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/haiti), or drop off cash/check donations after worship on Sundays at the Pennies for Peanuts table. Let's turn small change into big change!

### • Spring Concert

The Annual Spring Concert is next Sunday! 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 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. Afterward, join us for a reception to celebrate the 60 years of incredible musical direction from Jim Smith. There'll be cake and light refreshments, and conversation.

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

*For those who can't attend Sunday night, you may observe the Concert rehearsal Saturday morning (May 17) at 9 a.m. - 12 noon, at no charge. Families with babies/small children may listen from the Narthex.*

### • Preschool Spring Fair

Save the date and stay after worship for our Annual Preschool Spring Fair. Fun for all ages! They'll have a bake sale, bubbles, arts & crafts, and bounce houses. Tickets: \$20 for first child / \$10 each additional child (*all inclusive*); \$10 for food ticket for adults.

**Sunday, June 1, 11 a.m. after worship in the Courtyard, Simkins Hall and the Preschool Playground**

## MISSION AND SERVICE

### • Westside Food Bank Ongoing Volunteer Opportunity

Westside Food Bank continues to help 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. Join First UMC for the last Fridays of the month to help Westside Food Bank with packaging produce boxes.

#### **Fridays: May 30, June 27, July 25, August 29**

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. 1710 22nd Street, SM 90404 Contact Tricia to register: [t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org)  
Sign up for a day(s) that works for you.

### • 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](mailto:t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org).

### • 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.

[www.santamonicaumc.org/outreach-missions](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/outreach-missions)

### • Youth Service Project 2025 Trip

This year a group of 10 youth and adult volunteers from First UMC Santa Monica will be spending a week (**July 5-13, 2025**) working in San Diego's South Bay with an organization called the Sierra Service Project. This urban placement will offer opportunities connected to the unique challenges of this area, specifically focusing on poverty, immigration and the environment. The type of work includes costly home repair projects for low income families and elderly residents, as well as environmental restoration projects and community-led initiatives. More info: [www.santamonicaumc.org/ysp](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/ysp)



## 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](http://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](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: May 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!

**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/](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: **May 14** via Zoom, 2 p.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](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, June 7, 4 - 6 p.m.** in Courtyard/Fireside Room. Theme: Fruits of the Spirit

### • 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: **TBD**

### • Blood Pressure Screenings

The Health Ministry Council provides free Blood Pressure Screenings once a month after worship.

Next meeting: **Sunday, May 25** in the Alcove

## We Welcome Community UMC to Our Campus

Over the past few months, we have helped many community members of Pacific Palisades in the aftermath of the January wildfire. This includes the Community United Methodist Church whose sanctuary and properties were destroyed. For example, we provided a space for that congregation to collect and distribute essential items immediately after the fire and hosted a music concert for them in our sanctuary this past week. Recently, in response to a request from their pastor, The Rev. Catie Coats, we have been working together to provide a safe and welcoming worship space for the Community UMC congregation. We have reached an agreement and are pleased to announce that we are sharing some of our facility space and resources with these fellow United Methodists.



On May 4th, the Community UMC congregation began to use our Chapel for Sunday worship at 11 a.m. We are also providing parking on the 3rd floor of our parking garage, a space for a coffee/fellowship hour following worship, a Sunday School room, and office space. We anticipate this arrangement for the next year and will work together to coordinate our schedules for special events. This is a concrete way we can help our neighbors as they move forward during this time of transition.

As we continue the celebration of resurrection and new life in Christ, let us welcome the staff and members of Community UMC with open arms and generous hospitality.

– Pastor Greg

## Charge Conference Special Session: Rev. Keri Olsen Paget

*From Pastor Greg: We are excited to share some news about expanding the role of the Rev. Keri Olsen Paget, our Deacon Associate for Spiritual Formation. We have been blessed by her leadership in spirituality, pastoral care and worship, and now have the opportunity to benefit more from her ministry with us. We give thanks to God for this season of hope and new life.*

Our Staff Parish Relations Committee has recommended **Rev. Keri Olsen Paget** expand her role as Deacon Associate of Spiritual Formation. She has been working quarter time, and with charge conference approval, she would move into half time ministry on July 1, 2025. **All members of the church are invited to join the meeting and vote for this expansion of her appointment to our church.** Keri says:

“It has been an honor to learn about the deep spiritual roots of this community and witness how individuals and groups grow and flourish in their faith. I can’t wait to see how we will continue to bloom and grow through the work of the Holy Spirit.”

To participate in the Charge Conference Zoom, and read full statement, visit the website:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/rev-keri-olsen-paget](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/rev-keri-olsen-paget)

**Wednesday, May 21, 7p.m. via Zoom**



## 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, 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.

