



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF SANTA MONICA

MID-WEEK RECITALS

ONLINE SERIES



JANUARY
2026

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

12:10 p.m.

NOAH SONDERLING, piano

Prélude from English Suite no. 4 in F major, BWV 809

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Intermezzo in A minor, op. 118 no. 1

Intermezzo in A major, op. 118 no. 2

Ballade in G minor, op. 118 no. 3

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Isoldens Tod (Isolde's Death) from Tristan und Isolde

Richard Wagner (1813-1883), trans. Moritz Moszkowski (1854-1925)

Ballade no. 3 in A-flat major, op. 47

Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)

About the Artist

Pianist **Noah Sonderling** has appeared in concert throughout North America as soloist, chamber musician, art song accompanist, and orchestral keyboardist. He is currently a staff pianist at the Colburn School and the University of California, Los Angeles. He was previously a keyboard fellow with the New World Symphony in Miami Beach. He has appeared as a concerto soloist with that orchestra on multiple occasions, most recently in Leoš Janáček's *Capriccio* for piano left-hand and winds.

Dr. Sonderling has collaborated with artists including Norman Krieger, Anton Nel, Eric Kim, Brandon Vamos, and members of the Cleveland Orchestra and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. He has also appeared as a substitute keyboardist with the Owensboro Symphony and American Youth Symphony and is currently a reserve musician with the Sacramento Philharmonic.

A champion of both classic and modern music, Dr. Sonderling was a member of the Indiana University New Music Ensemble from 2015 to 2020 and appeared twice as concerto soloist with the ensemble. He has worked extensively with both student composers and recognized modern masters such as Krzysztof Penderecki, Augusta Read Thomas, Andrew Norman, Dai Fujikura, and Georg Friedrich Haas.

Dr. Sonderling has participated in a number of summer music festivals, most recently the Music Academy of the West and Spoleto Festival USA in 2024. He was keyboardist of the National Repertory Orchestra in 2023; he appeared as soloist with the orchestra that summer in Robert Schumann's *Introduction* and *Allegro appassionato*, op. 92. Other festivals include the Aspen Music Festival, Manchester Music Festival, Orford Musique Académie, Montecito International Music Festival, and Brevard Music Center.

Dr. Sonderling's awards have included second prize in the 2022 Sidney Wright Piano Accompanying Competition at the University of Texas and first prize in Indiana University's Ligeti concerto competition in 2018. He was also a prize-winner in the 2015 Brevard Music Center Piano Competition.

Dr. Sonderling received his doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin, where he studied with Anton Nel. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Indiana University, where his primary teachers were Menahem Pressler and Norman Krieger. Other mentors have included Michael Tilson Thomas, Asaf Zohar, Christopher Harding, and Junko Ueno Garrett. He also studied harpsichord and fortepiano with Elisabeth Wright and organ with Gregory Eaton.

MID-WEEK RECITALS

2025-26 Schedule

- Sept 10 **Phillip Vaiman**, violin
Oct 8 **Classical Gass**, cello, guitar, and bass
Nov 12 **Laurent Jochum**, organ
Dec 10 **Meagan Martin**, mezzo soprano
Jan 14 **Noah Sonderling**, piano
Feb 11 **Gold Line Saxophone Quartet**
Mar 11 **Sangam: Paul Livingstone**, sitar; **Peter Jacobson**, cello
Apr 8 **Trio Pacifico**, flute, guitar and cello
May 13 **Esther Yune, Susan Kim-Pedroza**, 4-hand piano



Presented by Dr. James E. Smith, First UMC Music Director, the Mid-Week Recital series is held online on the second Wednesdays of the month in the Fall and Spring. Recitals begin promptly at **12:10 p.m. online** then are available to view anytime afterwards.

HOW TO WATCH:

- Website: www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream
- Facebook: [@santamonicaumc](https://www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc)
- YouTube Channel: [@SantaMonicaUMC](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSantaMonicaUMC)
- The First UMC App: (App Store, search [FirstUMC_SM](#))



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First United Methodist Church welcomes you to all of our events
and invites you to join us for in-person and online worship on Sundays at 10 a.m.

To see full schedule of recitals,
and watch past recitals, visit:
[www.santamonicaumc.org/
mid-week-recital-series](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series)

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