

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP

6th Sunday after Pentecost • Holy Communion • July 5, 2026

WE GATHER



Gripping

By Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Acrylic & india ink on watercolor paper

Inspired by Genesis 25:19-34

The Birth of Jacob & Esau

©A Sanctified Art

WELCOME

Rev. Keri Olsen Paget, Deacon Associate

PRELUDE Be Thou My Vision (Gordon Young)

Ty Woodward, organ

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #715 United Methodist Hymnal — Rejoice, the Lord Is King

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dorothy Nichols, Lay Lector

We gather as a family of faith, the descendants of seekers and dreamers.

We come like Isaac, who prayed for a future when the way seemed closed.

We come with our struggles and our strivings, our hunger and our haste.

We come like Rebekah, seeking to understand the stirrings within our own lives.

From the smallest beginnings and the messiest of families, God is at work.

Let us worship the God of Abraham and Sarah, whose promises never fail!

*CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

"God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power. America! America! God shed his grace on thee."

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dorothy Nichols

Please greet those worshipping near you.

**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.

Following the Children's Message children (6 months through 7th grade) will be led to Sunday School in the Preschool playground.

OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

Todd Erlandson, 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!

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

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE LESSON Genesis 25:19-34 CEB

Dorothy Nichols

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

HOMILY "Our Spiritual Family: Beyond the Birthright"

Tricia Guerrero, Pastoral Associate

WE RESPOND

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Todd Erlandson

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. Jim Smith, Music Director

The Battle Hymn of the Republic (arr. Roy Ringwald)

Jacob Stucki soloist;
Cathy Larson, piccolo

Mine eyes have seen the Glory of the coming of the Lord: He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored; He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword; His truth is marching on. (Refrain) Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on. I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps; they have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps; I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps, His day is marching on. (Refrain). In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, with a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me, as he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free, while God is marching on. (Refrain). Amen.

*RESPONSE #94 UMH – The Doxology

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Todd Erlandson

Generous God, we come before you with our messy lives, seeking to let go and trust in your grace. We offer these gifts not because we have everything under control, but because we trust you to work through our messiness. Bless these offerings, that they may become tools for your justice and peace in our world. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Olsen Paget

We will use the Musical Setting beginning on page 2257 in The Faith We Sing hymnal. Gluten-free vegan wafers are available. The Ushers will guide you in coming forward to receive the communion elements. You will be invited to take a piece of bread or gluten-free wafer, dip into the cup, and receive. Online worshippers are encouraged to prepare a piece of bread/cracker and juice to receive at home.

#2265 TFWS – Time Now to Gather

#2126 TFWS – All Who Hunger

A Place at the Table (*see insert*)

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Tricia Guerrero

Loving God, at your Table, you have fed us and turned our grasping hands into open palms. Guide us as we leave here to share your peace, replacing striving and rivalry with your never-ending love. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN #519 UMH – Lift Every Voice and Sing

*BENEDICTION

Tricia Guerrero

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Stars and Stripes Forever (John Philip Sousa)

Ty Woodward, Cathy Larson

*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.*

A Place at the Table

3149



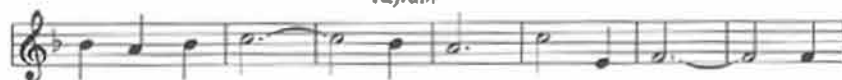
1. For ev - ery-one born, a place at the ta - ble, for
 2. For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble, re -
 3. For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble, a
 4. For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble, a -
 5. For ev - ery-one born, a place at the ta - ble, to



ev - ery-one born, clean wa - ter and bread, a shel - ter, a
 vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share, with wis - dom and
 voice to be heard, a part in the song, the hands of a
 bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give, in an - ger, in
 live with out fear, and sim - ply to be, to work, to speak



space, a safe place for grow - ing, for ev - ery-one born, a
 grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er, for wom - an and man, a
 child in hands that are wrin - kled, for young and for old, the
 hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy, for just and un - just, a
 out, to wit - ness and wor - ship, for ev - ery-one born, the

Refrain

star o - ver - head, _____
 sys - tem that's fair, _____
 right to be - long, _____ And God will de - light _____ when
 new way to live, _____
 right to be free, _____



we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and joy, _____ yes, God will de -



light _____ when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice, _____



jus - tice and joy! _____

—**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:** Children meet in the Sanctuary, following the Children's Message children (6 months through 7th grade) will be led to Sunday School in the Education Building on the 2nd floor.

—**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.

—**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.

—**Flowers:** To order flowers to remember or honor a loved one for Sunday Worship service, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund. Available Sundays: August 2/9/16/23/30.

—**This Sunday's Flowers:** "In Loving Memory of Earl Eskridge - Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather." With Love from Mike, Patty, Adam, Brittany, Brian, Kate, Caleb and Mia.

—**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: www.santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests.

—**Westside Food Bank:** We collect food weekly for the Westside Food Bank. Bins are located outside the Sanctuary and at the Welcome table on Sunday mornings. To see list of preferred items, visit the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/hunger-walk.

—We welcome **Community UMC of Pacific Palisades** each Sunday at 11 a.m. in the chapel with generous hospitality.

Resident Bishop
Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank
West District Superintendent
Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi

MINISTRY

Senior Minister
Rev. Greg Batson
g.batson@santamonicaumc.org
Deacon Associate for Spiritual Formation
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Pastoral Associate
Tricia Guerrero
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Family Ministries Coordinator
Jamie Jones
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MUSIC STAFF

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Dr. James Smith
Organist
Ty Woodward

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Javier Espinoza

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Preschool Director Emerita
Dee Menzies
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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SANTA MONICA
1008 Eleventh Street • Santa Monica, CA 90403
www.santamonicaumc.org 310-393-8258





Messy Church Goes Wild

Messy Church is excited to offer a park meet-up on Saturday. Let's get out in the L.A. wilderness to discover the awe and wonder in the world around us! Meet up at the park for some playground fun, encounter God in a nature walk, and enjoy some yummy snacks and time together in community! Details and directions on the website:

www.santamonicaumc.org/messychurch

Saturday, July 11, 9:30-11:30 a.m.



United Women in Faith Christmas in July

Save the date for the annual UWF Christmas in July! The merchandise is donated and United Women in Faith volunteers supply the workforce, so **100% of the proceeds will benefit mission projects.** *Please help by bringing your "gently used" Christmas treasures and costume jewelry (intact or broken), to the Church office or to the UWF workroom this coming week, between July 5 - July 12. (Church office Tues/Wed/ Thurs, Welcome Table on Sundays.) To donate Christmas items, baked goods, or to volunteer to help with the sale, contact Karen at uwfsantamonica@gmail.com.

Sunday, July 19, after worship in the Alcove



Westside Food Bank - Volunteers Needed!

Summer is one of the busiest times of the year at the Westside Food Bank. While school is out and expenses rise many children and seniors throughout our communities face an increased need for food support. Because of that, your volunteer support is more important than ever. Thus, **the Westside Food Bank is looking for volunteers to assist with food sorting and packing, mobile pantry distributions, and warehouse support all summer long!** Go to the website to sign up for volunteer opportunities based on your schedule: www.wsfb.org/take-action/volunteer-opportunities/.

Additionally, join the FUMC monthly team on July 22, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. to sort and pack food for distribution. Let us all help care for our neighbors in need. If you have any questions or to volunteer, contact Rev. Keri: k.olsenpaget@santamonicaumc.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

• Children and Youth Faith in Action

During Sunday School next Sunday, July 12, our children and youth will team up for a special service project! We'll be packing backpacks and gathering school supplies to support our friends at Upward Bound House. We are deeply grateful to the United Women in Faith for their generous sponsorship, which helps us continue this cherished tradition of blessing students in our community in preparation of heading back to school.

Next Sunday, July 12, during Sunday School

• Free Blood Pressure Screenings

The Health Ministry Council hosts Blood Pressure screenings one Sunday of the month in the Alcove. We are grateful to this ministry for their continued care of the congregation!

Next Sunday, July 12, 11 a.m. in the Alcove

• REFLECT Worship

Come to our monthly worship service "Reflect." All are welcome to this additional opportunity to come together for worship and sharing in an informal setting. We gather in Simkins Hall at 5 p.m. The service includes a time of prayer and sharing, scripture, a reflection on a classic work of art, and concludes with Holy Communion. At 6 p.m., you are invited to stay and share in a community meal. Tricia Guerrero preaching.

Sunday, July 19, 5 p.m. worship in Simkins Hall, followed by 6 p.m. meal

• Messy Camp 2026: Growing in God's Garden!

First UMC offers an unforgettable week of adventure at Messy Camp, where kids will explore the beauty and wonder of God's Garden, led by Jamie Jones and a team of volunteers. Each day, campers will dig into hands-on science experiments, exciting games, Bible story adventures, creative crafts, catchy songs, and a hands-on mission project. Through fun, fellowship, and messy activities, kids will discover how our hearts grow when we practice caring for one another and trusting God. *Registration is full.*

Monday, July 27 – Friday, July 31, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
First UMC Campus

MISSION AND SERVICE

TWO ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

• The People Concern

Every 3rd Saturday

Saturday, July 18, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Linda Diane Anderson and Janet Searfoss run 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 meet at the church to carpool.

• Westside Food Bank

Every 4th Wednesday

Wednesday, July 22, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. 1914 14th Street, Santa Monica. Volunteers will pack cases of food for distribution at the Mobile Pantry at Virginia Avenue Park.

To volunteer for either service date, email Keri:

k.olsenpaget@santamonicaumc.org

- In addition, **the Westside Food Bank is looking for volunteers to assist with food sorting and packing, mobile pantry distributions, and warehouse support all summer long!** Go to the website to sign up for volunteer opportunities based on your schedule:

www.wsfb.org/take-action/volunteer-opportunities/.

•Sierra Service Project Carnival & Fundraiser

Our SSP team is gearing up for an **intergenerational service trip to the Teec Nos Pos Chapter of the Navajo Nation this August**, and we invite our church family and friends to be a part of the journey. Please join us on Sunday, July 26 for a special day of support and community. This year, we are hosting a "Service Trip Carnival" to give you a firsthand look at the work our team will be doing. Stop by our interactive booths to try your hand at skills like hammering nails or setting up campsite gear, and learn more about the Navajo Nation and the impactful home repair projects we'll be undertaking. We look forward to seeing you there for a delicious lunch and an opportunity to support this vital ministry!

Sunday, July 26, 10 a.m. Commissioning in worship, followed by 11:15 a.m. Fundraiser/Luncheon in Simkins Hall

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

• Children's Ministry

Families are invited to worship in the Sanctuary. Parents with infants are welcome to worship in the Sanctuary, in the Family Zone in the Narthex, or in the nursery.

www.santamonicaumc.org/childrens-ministry

We have 3 groups for **Sunday School** following the children's message in worship:

- Nursery Care for 6 months through toddler
- Younger Elementary for Kinder-3rd graders
- New Sunday School group for 4th-7th graders

Please contact Jamie (j.jones@santamonicaumc.org) for more info.

• Preschool Enrollment - Open Now

We still have **available spots open** for the 26/27 school year. Accepting deposits now, don't miss out!:

www.santamonicaumc.org/preschool

YOUTH

• United Methodist Youth Fellowship Group

The Youth Ministry at First UMC is a community of youth and adult volunteers who gather weekly to explore and grow in faith together. **They are now on Summer break**, but you may still contact Tricia with questions:

t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org

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: Friday, August 7, 1 - 3 p.m.

Visit the website for full schedule:

www.santamonicaumc.org/labyrinth

• Prayer Requests

The Prayer Chain is a network of persons who pray in response to prayer requests. Members of the Prayer Chain treat all requests as confidential. You may send a prayer request to the church at any time. Our Prayer Chain will be notified of your request. Fill out the form online:

www.santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests/

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.

Wednesday, July 8, 10 a.m. via Zoom

• Prayer Quilt Ministry

To request a Prayer Quilt for someone in need, visit:

www.santamonicaumc.org/prayerquiltministry

*(*Prayer quilts may only be requested and sponsored by members of the First UMC congregation.)*

Meets the 3rd Saturdays of the month, 9:30 a.m. in Room 300. Next meeting: **Saturday, July 18**

• The Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir provides music every Sunday during the 10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship Service. Sing in the Choir! **Thursday evening rehearsals are now on summer break.** Contact Jim Smith if you are interested in joining: djes@roadrunner.com

• Messy Church

Messy Church is off for June, but will have a park meet-up in July! Meet at Ferndell Trail near Griffith Park for some playground fun, encounter God in a nature walk, and enjoy some time together in community! **Saturday, July 11, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**

Details: www.santamonicaumc.org/messychurch

• Blood Pressure Screenings

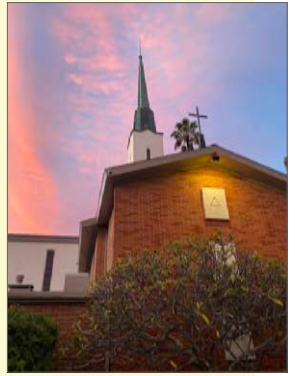
The Health Ministry Council provides free Blood Pressure Screenings once a month after worship. Next meeting: **Sunday, July 12 after worship**, Alcove

Welcome!

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica! We are followers of the way of Jesus Christ: loving God, loving neighbors and offering compassion to a world in need. Rooted in the Methodist tradition of personal transformation and social justice, our community is committed to sharing God's love, grace and hope and to the flourishing of all God's creation. For over 150 years we have been an active presence in the Westside community and around the world.

We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God's image. We welcome you to be a part of our community and worship with us, no matter your age, race, nationality, citizenship, culture, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, ability, faith story, or economic situation.

Come and participate in beloved community - a place to belong, whoever you are, just as you are.



This Week's Featured Artwork

Gripping

By Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Inspired by Genesis 25:19-34

The Birth of Jacob & Esau

©A Sanctified Art

Excerpt from artist statement

"Jacob enters the world gripping for power, reaching for what he believes he is entitled to receive. Different colors surround each of the children, marking their barrier in Rebekah's womb. Jacob's hand becomes our own, forcing us to confront the ways in which we, too, grip for power, control, and entitlement...." Read the artist's full description in the Fireside Room exhibit, on display through July.

Artwork courtesy of A Sanctified Art.



Stay Connected

To join in fellowship and ministry online, here's how to connect online. (QR code to website)

First UMC website: www.santamonicaumc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/

Instagram: @santamonicaumc

YouTube: @SantaMonicaUMC

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



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



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SANTA MONICA

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