



FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SAN DIEGO

JULY 21, 2024 – 9:00 AM



FIRST CHURCH IS A COMMUNITY THAT IS GROWING
IN GRACE AND REACHING OUT WITH LOVE.

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

*With joy we welcome your presence today, wherever you are.
Please join us as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship together.*



Register Your Attendance

Welcome

Words of Inspiration

“All courageous conversations begin with simple questions and the curiosity to truly listen.”
~ Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Prelude Dr. Jaebon Hwang

Arioso

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750); arr. Virgil Fox



*Assistive listening available in First Church Sanctuary.
See pew card or usher to connect to Listen EVERYWHERE.*

- **Opening Prayer** Rebecca Luers, *liturgist*

God of grace, may this be the place.
 May this be the place for connection and growth,
 for community and hope.
 May this be the place for strangers to become friends
 for deepening relationships and courageous conversations.
 May this be the place, because all belong here.
 All are welcome here.
 All hurt and joy, needs and prayers, dreams and love, are welcome here.
 May this be the place, O God,
 For in this place, You are near. Amen. (adapted from liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are and Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity)

TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

- **Hymn of Celebration: *O Praise the Gracious Power***



1. O praise the gra-cious power that tum - bles walls of fear and gath - ers in one
 2. O praise per - sist - ent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds and eas - es from their
 3. O praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - ery race, ob - liv - i - ous to
 7. O praise the liv - ing Christ with faith's bright song-ful voice! An-nounce the gos - pel



house of faith all stran-gers far and near:
 anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:
 gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place: We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!
 to the world and with these words re - joice:

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- **Pastoral Prayer** Rev. Dr. Hannah Ka

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.

Sacrament of Baptism: Aaron Ash Arellano, Izaiah Axel Cabusao, Emerie Violet Morgan, Mateo Rodriguez

The Profession of Faith by Parents

Congregational Pledge

The pastor addresses the congregation, and the congregation responds:

Do you, as Christ’s body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

With God’s help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

Baptism of Aaron, Izaiah, Emerie & Mateo

Congregational Welcome & Affirmation

When the candidates have been baptized, the pastor invites the congregation to welcome them:

Now it is our joy to welcome our new siblings in Christ.

Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God’s new creation and made to share in Christ’s royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as members of the family of Christ.

Response #611: *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*



1. Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, bap - tized with the Spir - it's sign;
4. Child of God your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.



with this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

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A Time with Children Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

TO HEAR THE WORD

Anthem Summer Choir; Brian Lustig, *director*

Many Gifts, One Spirit

Allen Pote (b. 1945)

Many gifts, one spirit, many songs, one voice
Many reasons, one promise, many questions, one choice.
O, God, we pray for unity, give guidance from above.
In our differences unite us in the circle of your love.
O, God, remind us we are not alone.
Though we move on different pathways,
we are walking to your throne.

Help us learn to love each other, show us ways to understand.
We are members of one family,
growing strong by joining hands.
O, God, remind us we are not alone.
Though we move on different pathways,
we are walking to your throne.
Take our many ways of working,
blend the colors of each soul into the beauty of a rainbow.
Give us life, Lord, make us whole. (Allen Pote)

• **Prayer for Illumination**

Holy God,
In the reading of the scriptures, may Your Word be heard.
In the meditations of our hearts, may Your Word be known.
In the faithfulness of our lives, may Your Word be shown.
Amen.

• **Gospel Lesson: *John 1:43-46***

The word of God for the People of God: **thanks be to God.**

Sermon: “I’ve been meaning to ask...where are you from?” Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

• **Hymn of Faith #2181: *We Need a Faith* (vs. 1-2, 4)**



1. We need a faith so col - or - blind, so free from time - worn lies,
2. We need an eth - ic of re - spect, an hon - est pledge of trust,
4. Come, Chris - tians, look for char - ac - ter and not for shade of skin,



that when we look from face to face we see the eyes of God.
that when we share the deep - est things we feel the warmth of God.
that as we rend the walls of race we live the peace of God.

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TO RENEW COMMITMENT

[Faith in Action](#)

Offertory

There Is a Happy Land
George Shearing (1919-2011)

• **Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

• **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you: **and also with you.**

Let us pray.

God of love, may these gifts build worlds of love where all belong. Amen.

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

• Hymn of Consecration #548: *In Christ There Is No East or West*



1. In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north;
2. In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com - mun - ion find;
3. In Christ is neith - er Jew nor Greek, and neith - er slave nor free;
4. In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one great fel - low - ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man - kind.
both male and fe - male heirs are made, and all are kin to me.
all Christ - ly souls are one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

Words: Sts. 1, 2, 4, John Oxenham, 1913; st. 3, Laurence Hull Stookey © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House
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• Benediction Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Postlude

Toccata

John Weaver (1937-2021)

**Please remain seated so as to enjoy the Postlude.*

FIRST CHURCH WELCOMES YOU IF...

You are single, married, divorced, gay, transgender, filthy rich, dirt poor, o no habla inglés,

You are a crying newborn, skinny as a rail or could afford to lose a few pounds,

You can sing like Aretha Franklin or cannot carry a tune in a bucket,

You're "just browsing", just woke up, or you just got out of jail,

You've been a Methodist your whole life or haven't been in church except for your little niece's baptism years ago,

You've got an AARP card but have yet to grow up, or you're a teenager growing up, too fast.

We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, tree huggers, latte-sippers, vegans, junk-food eaters,

We welcome those who are in recovery or struggling with addiction,

We welcome you if you're having problems or if you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion," this church is for you,

If you blew all your money in Vegas, you're welcome here,

*We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, those who work too hard, those who don't work,
can't spell or found us because Grandma wants you to go to church,*

We welcome all those who are inked, pierced or both,

We welcome you if your ancestors arrived in chains, below the decks, captained those ships, or have been on this land since the beginning of time,

We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now (all of us could use a prayer right now),

We'd also like to welcome you if you had religion shoved down your throat, or you got lost on YouTube somehow and ended up here by mistake.

We welcome tourists, seekers, doubters, bleeding hearts...and you!

May the Peace of Christ, which passes all understanding be with you this day, and all the days going forward.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Connect with the First Church community here!

Worship online: each week via www.fumcsd.org/watch-live or subscribe to our YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/@FirstChurchSanDiego.

Drop in early or stay online late to catch upcoming events in our pre- and post-worship announcements loop.

Stay up to date with all the happenings via the weekly eNEWS. To subscribe visit www.fumcsd.org/enews or text FUMCSDNEWS to 22828.



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Growing in Grace, Reaching Out with Love

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO • IN MISSION SINCE 1869

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A RECONCILING CONGREGATION