

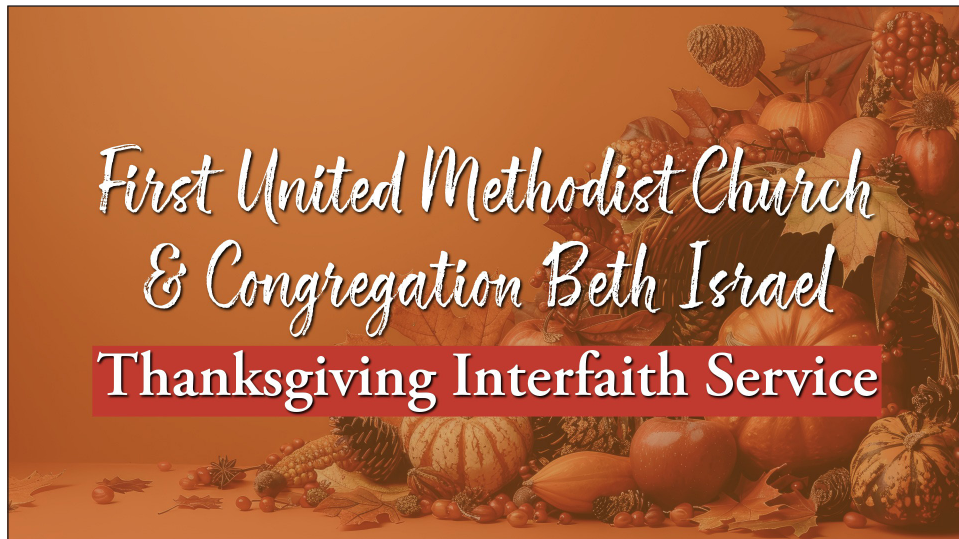


# FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

of SAN DIEGO

NOVEMBER 16, 2025 – 4:00 PM



First Church is a community growing  
in grace and reaching out with love.

## FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GATHERING

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

Prelude . . . . . Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries

### *Chorale on “Give Thanks”*

James Biery (b. 1956)

Greeting . . . . . Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

### Words of Inspiration

“Nothing makes a blessing feel more sacred than knowing how much you sacrificed to receive it.”  
~ Motive Mastery

• A Directional Prayer . . . . . John Lefter, CBI Board of Directors President

Ray Buckley, Tlingit/Lakota

• Processional Hymn, UMH #131: *We Gather Together*

**Worship Guide Notes:** • is an invitation to rise in body or spirit; **bold words** indicate congregational response



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

A Thanksgiving Proclamation for Today . . . . . Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

**Anthem** . . . . . Jubilee Singers; Zimriyah Chorale; Brian Woods-Lustig, Organist;  
Judy Krefting, Soloist; Carmela Harkins, Flutist; Sarah Amos, Conductor

*O Lord Hear My Prayer*  
Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer.  
When I call answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer.  
Come and listen to me.  
(Psalm 102:1-2)

A Petition for Renewed Hope . . . . . Rabbi Arlene Bernstein, Cantor Emerita  
Sabbath and Festival Prayer Book, Rabbinical Assembly of America

We hold these truths to be self evident, that all people are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

**Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brothers and sisters to dwell together in unity.**

With firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

**Let justice well up as the waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.**

In the future days which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms: freedom of speech and expression—everywhere in the world; freedom to worship God in one’s own way—everywhere in the world; freedom from want which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants—everywhere in the world; freedom from fear, which means a worldwide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbor — everywhere in the world.

**And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks, nation shall not lift up sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war any more, but they shall sit every one under their vines and under their fig trees; and none shall make them afraid.**

**Anthem** . . . . . Combined Youth and Adult Choirs; Dana Zimbric, Conductor  
*Peace for the Children*  
arr. Jason Locke

Peace for the children, peace. Peace for the children we pray. Following the path of one of peace, We work for healing, we work for peace; Peace for our families today.	Peace for all creatures, peace. Peace for all creatures we pray. Following the path of one of peace, We work for healing, we work for peace; Peace for all creatures today.	Peace in the cosmos, peace. Peace in the cosmos we pray. Following the path of one of peace, We work for healing, we work for peace, Peace in the cosmos today.
Peace for the nations, peace. Peace for the nations we pray. Following the path of one of peace, We work for healing, we work for peace; Peace for the nations today.  Dona nobis pacem.	Peace for our planet, peace. Peace for our planet we pray. Following the path of one of peace, We work for healing, we work for peace; Peace for our planet today.	(Doreen Lankshear-Smith)

**Litany of Thanksgiving** . . . . . Assistant Rabbi Elana Ackerman Hirsch  
Inspired by the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address

Response of the People: **Now our minds are one.**

**Anthem** . . . . . Combined Youth Choirs

*Olam Chesed*

Rabbi Menachem Creditor (b. 1976)

*Refrain*

Olam chesed yibaneh... yai lai lai  
*I will build this world with kindness*

I will build this world from love... yai lai lai  
And you must build this world from love... yai lai lai  
And if we build this world from love... yai lai lai  
Then God will build this world from love... yai lai lai

*Refrain*

**Poetry Reading** . . . . . Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

*What Is Broken Is What God Blesses*

Jimmy Santiago Baca, 1952

**Introduction of Guest Preacher.** . . . . Rev. Dr. Hannah Ka

**Scripture Reading: Genesis 32:23–32** . . . . . Rabbi Cantor Jeremy Gimbel

**Thanksgiving Address** . . . . . Senior Rabbi Jason Nevarez

**Anthem** . . . . . Combined Adult Choirs; Rabbi Jeremy Gimbel, Cantor;  
Dr. Aaron Humble, Conductor

*Sim Shalom*

Michael Isaacson (b. 1946)

Sim shalom tova uverachah chen vachessed verachamim  
Aleinu ve'al kol Yisra'el ammecha  
Barechenu avinu kullanu ke'echad be'or paneicha  
Ki ve'or paneicha natatta lanu adonai eloknu  
Torat chayyim ve'ahavat chesed utzedakah uverachah  
verachamim vechayyim veshalom  
Vetov be'eineicha levarech et ammecha Yisra'el bechol et  
uvechol sha'ah bishlomecha  
Baruch attah Adonai hamvarech et ammo Yisra'el bashalom

*Grant peace, goodness, blessing, grace, loving kindness,  
and mercy  
To us and to all of Israel your people  
Bless us, our Father, all of us as one with the light of your face  
For by the light of your face you have given us,  
Hashem our God,  
The Torah of life, and love of kindness, and righteousness  
and blessing and mercy and life and peace  
And may it be good in your eyes to bless Your people Israel  
at all times and in every hour with your peace  
Blessed are you, Hashem, who blesses his people Israel  
with peace.*

**Unison Prayer of Gratitude**

For the laughter of the children, for my own life breath, for the abundance of food on this table,  
for the ones who prepared this sumptuous feast, for the roof over our heads, the clothes on our  
backs, for our health, and our wealth of blessings, for this opportunity to celebrate with family  
and friends, for the freedom to pray these words without fear, in any language, in any faith, in  
this great country, whose landscape is as vast and beautiful as her inhabitants, Thank you, God,  
for giving us all these. Amen.

- Hymn, UMH #519: *Lift Every Voice and Sing*
- Benediction . . . . . Rabbi Jason Nevarez

**Postlude**

*Allegro maestoso from Organ Sonata No. 2*

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SAN DIEGO

Radical Grace, Extravagant Love  
& Divine Justice *for All*



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REV. DR. HANNAH KA, PASTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

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