



FIRST CHURCH
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SAN DIEGO

MARCH 7, 2026 – 6:00 PM



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

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

*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



Preludes Dr. Emma Whitten, Guest Organist

The Tree of Peace

Judith Weir (b. 1954)

Light in Darkness

Kerensa Briggs (b. 1991)

“To the thirsty I will give water without price from the fountain of life” from Trinitas

Eleanor Daley (b. 1955)

Mixolydiance

Ghislaine Reece-Trapp (b. 1992)

• Silent Processional

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.

• **Opening Sentences** Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

• **Preces.** Chamber Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director
Helena Abney-McPeck, Cantor

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips.
Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
Cantor O God, make speed to save us.
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.
Cantor Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
Choir As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
Cantor Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's Name be praised.

• **Hymn, UMH #274: *Woman in the Night***

Welcome

Psalter Chant: Psalm 63

O God you are my God; eagerly I seek you
My soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary
Beholding your pow'r and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life
My lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live
I will lift up my hands and call on your name
My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be
World without end. Amen.

First Lesson: *John 4:5-15* Meghan Claussen

Mary's Song: Magnificat (Luke 1:45-55)

San Diego Service

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth all generations
shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud
in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Second Lesson: *Women of Grace by Catherine Dickson* Sarah Amos

Simeon's Song: Nunc dimittis (World Premiere)

San Diego Service

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

I believe in God who created woman and man in God's own image,
 who created the world and asked all humanity to care for the earth.
 I believe in Jesus, born of the woman Mary, child of God, Rabbi and Savior
 who listened to women and discussed the reign of God with them,
 who was followed and financed by women disciples,
 who confided in them and called them to ministry,
 I believe in Jesus who discussed theology with a woman at a well
 I believe in Jesus who received anointing from a woman at Simon's house,
 despite the men's rebuke and scorn.
 I believe in Jesus who rejected the blood taboo of ancient societies
 and healed the audacious woman who touched him.
 I believe in Jesus who invited a bent over woman to stand tall
 and acknowledged her as a precious daughter of God.
 I believe in Jesus, crucified and risen, who appeared to the women first
 and sent them, bursting with good news, to go and tell.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit as She moves over the waters of creation and over the earth now.
 I believe in the wholeness of the God in whom there is neither Jew nor Greek,
 slave nor free, male nor female, only beloved children.

(edited from Rachel Conrad Wahlberg 1978)

Responses

Cantor The Lord be with you.
Choir And with thy spirit.
Cantor Let us pray.
Choir Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer (sung by choir)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.	As we forgive those who trespass against us.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.	And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,	

Responses (continued)

<i>Cantor</i> O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.	<i>Choir</i> And bless thine inheritance.
<i>Choir</i> And grant us thy salvation.	<i>Cantor</i> Give peace in our time, O Lord.
<i>Cantor</i> O Lord, save the Nation.	<i>Choir</i> Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
<i>Choir</i> And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.	<i>Cantor</i> O God, make clean our hearts within us.
<i>Cantor</i> Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.	<i>Choir</i> And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.
<i>Choir</i> And make thy chosen people joyful.	
<i>Cantor</i> O Lord, save thy people.	

The Collects

Anthem

and the swallow

Caroline Shaw (b. 1982)

how beloved is your dwelling place,
 o lord of hosts
 my soul yearns,
 my heart and my flesh cry
 the sparrow found a house,
 and the swallow her nest,
 where she may raise her young

they pass through the valley of bakka,
 they make it a place of springs
 the autumn rains cover it with pools
 (Psalm 84)

Meditation Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Anthem Sarah Amos, Conductor

Density of Light

Sarah Quartel (b. 1982)

Density of light
that could shatter the cold rock of the moon,
compacted flame
that only the face of holy love could withstand,
may Christ reflect your blaze
to the distant satellite of my heart
and melt the fear
that from the orbit of my days
you would scatter
my dim shards to darkness.

Density of light,
compacted flame,
sudden lightning,
draw me onward through thick darkness
trusting
that light shall spring from the grave
and the coldest rock in space
shall join in a blaze of song:
glory, glory, glory,
glory be to you O God.

(Thomas H. Troeger)

Intercessions Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

The Grace

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

- Hymn, UMH #399: *Take My Life and Let It Be*

Postlude and Recessional

Lucis creator

Dorothy J. Papadakos (b. 1960)

*Preces, Magnificat, Nunc dimittis and Responses are composed by Joanna Forbes L'Estrange (b. 1971)
The composer of the Psalm chant is Margaret Burk (b. 1990)*



The Minnetonka High School Choir from Minnesota will perform a short recital after Evensong.



FIRST CHURCH
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SAN DIEGO
Radical Grace, Extravagant Love
& Divine Justice for All 

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

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REV. TRUDY D. ROBINSON, LEAD PASTOR

REV. DR. HANNAH KA, PASTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

REV. BRITTANY JULIETTE HANLIN, PASTOR OF CONNECTION AND CARE

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