

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SAN DIEGO

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 - 9:00 AM



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

SEVENTEENTH 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

"We release our hearts to God. First, we remove the pressure, for release requires the freedom to be moved. Then we allow our hearts to return to their original resting position—in sync with God, with the rhythm of summer cicadas and this whole wild creation. So like the mockingbird releases her song, we release our hearts to God." ~ Rev. Sarah Are

Prelude Glenn Ward, Interim Organist

Fairest Lord Jesus

arr. Janet Linker



THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

• Call to Worship. Todd Vollstedt, Liturgist

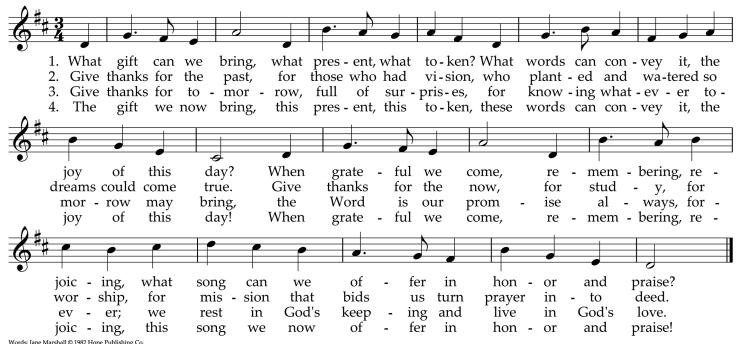
Faith has always involved letting go, releasing, setting free, dropping our nets, giving to others, and following. So in this hour of worship, may we release that which binds us.

May we worship with open, untamed, and porous hearts, so that we can be freely with God. Let it be so.

Amen.

TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

• Hymn of Celebration #87: What Gift Can We Bring



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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.

There came a man

J. Jerome Williams

There came a man of wealth and position;
There came a man to ask of the Christ.
"What must I do to inherit Thy kingdom?
What deed so good for eternal life?"
"Why ask thou me the things that are good?
Keep the commandments of thy God.
If you would enter life eternal,
Keep the commandments of thy God.
Thou shalt not kill, nor bear false witness.

Thou shalt not steal nor adult'ry commit. Honor thy father and thy mother, And love thy neighbor as thy self."

"All these I've kept, what still am I lacking?"

"Go sell thy good and give to the poor."

He went away, his heart filled with sorrow.

Many great riches did he possess.

(Matthew 19:16-22)

TO HEAR THE WORD

Treasures in Heaven

Joseph Clokey (1890-1960)

Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth, Where moth and rust doth corrupt, And where thieves break through and steal, But lay up for yourselves treasures in heav'n, For where your treasure is, There will your heart be also.

Ask, and it shall be given you; Seek, and ye shall find; Knock, and it shall be opened unto you, For ev'ry one that asketh receiveth, And he that seeketh findeth, And to him that knocketh it shall be opened. (Matthew 6:19-21, 7:7-8)

• Prayer for Illumination

Holy God,

In the reading of the scriptures, may Your Word be heard.

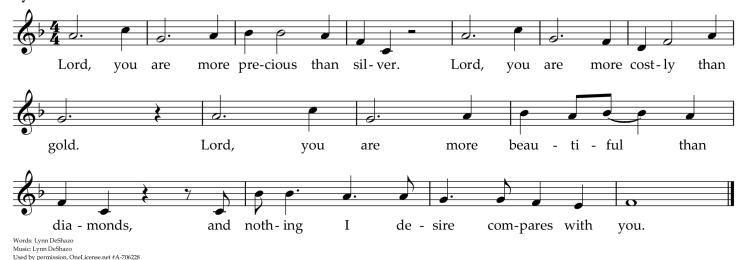
In the meditations of our hearts, may Your Word be known.

In the faithfulness of our lives, may Your Word be shown. Amen.

• Gospel Lesson: Matthew 19:16-22

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

• Hymn of Faith: More Precious than Silver



TO RENEW COMMITMENT

Reception of New Members: Karl & Brenda Martin

Faith in Action

Offertory

Finale from Sonata No. 6

Felix Mendelssoh

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

Holy God,

It is not always easy to give what we have. It can take work for us to practice release. And yet, we can trust that You can take these gifts, however freely or reluctantly given, And use them to build a more beautiful world. For that is who You are.
You are forever building new life out of cautious gifts.

Amen.

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

• Hymn of Consecration #399: Take my life and let it be



Postlude

Chromatic Fugue

Johann Pachelbel



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO \circ IN MISSION SINCE 1869

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rev. trudy robinson, rev. brittany hanlin, rev. dr. hannah ka