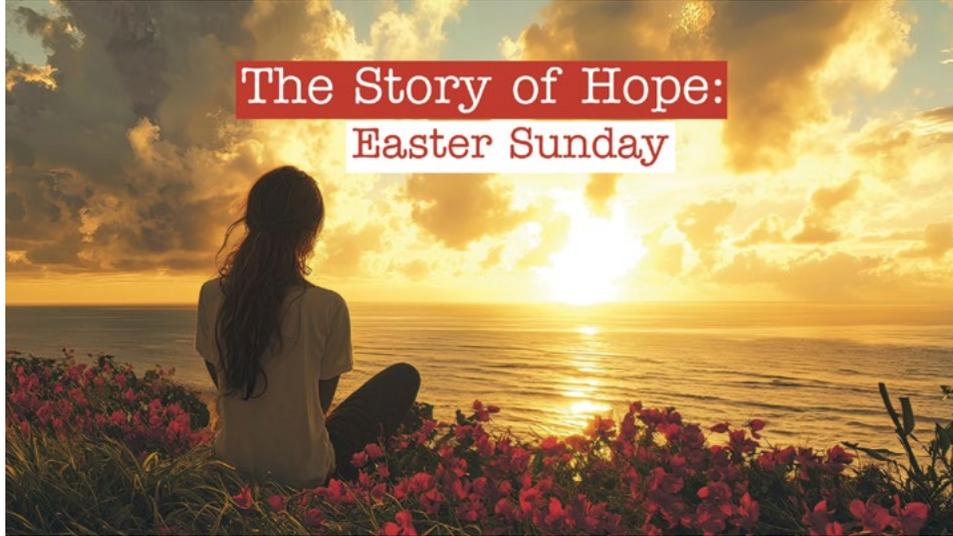




FIRST CHURCH
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SAN DIEGO

APRIL 20, 2025 – 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM



The Story of Hope:
Easter Sunday

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

EASTER SUNDAY

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

Words of Inspiration

“We must accept finite disappointment but never lose infinite hope.”
~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

Preludes. Easter Brass; Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries

Grand Choeur Dialogue

Eugene Gigout (1844-1925), arr. Daniel J. Leavitt

An Easter Celebration

Joel Raney (b. 1956)

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.*

- **Call to Worship** Harper Gamache (9 AM), Liturgist
Tobias Crislip (11 AM), Liturgist

Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed!
 The story of an empty tomb,
 after the betrayal of friends,
 the violence of the powerful, the despair of the cross,
 awakens within us a spark of hope.
The stories of Jesus are stories of life.

Life for those who know that the stories
 are not just about another time and place.
They are about us.
So today, let us enter the story,
find its truth and live into its hope.
 For Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

- **Hymn of Celebration #302: *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* (vs. 1-4)**

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Earth and heaven in
 2. Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia! Fought the fight, the
 3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Where, O death, is
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Fol - lowing our ex -

cho-rus say, Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
 bat - tle won, Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le -
 now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia! Once he died our souls to save,
 alt - ed Head, Made like him, like him we rise,

lu - ia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply,
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where's thy vic - tory, boast - ing grave?
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739
 Music: EASTER HYMN, *Lyræ Davidica*, 1708
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- **A Time with Children** Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

- **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.

Anthem Combined Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director

To the Lamb on the Throne

Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

“Worthy the Lamb!”
Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad His wonderful name;
The name all victorious of Jesus extol;
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.
“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!”
Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

God rules in the height, almighty to save;
Though hid from our sight, His presence we have,
The great congregation His triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.
Then let us adore and give Him his right,
All glory and pow’r, all wisdom and might;
All honor and blessing with angels above,
And thanks never ceasing and infinite love.
(Charles Wesley)

TO HEAR THE WORD

• **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 20:1-16***

The Word of God for the People of God: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: “*The Stories That Save Us: The Story of Hope*” Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Anthem Combined Choir

Christ is Alive!

Hal Hopson (b. 1933)

Congregation:
Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.

Choir:
Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
he comes to claim the here and now
and dwell in every place and time.

Congregation:
Not throned afar, remotely high,
untouched, unmoved by human pains,
but daily, in the midst of life,
our Savior in the Godhead reigns.
Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and all creation ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.
(Brian Wren)

TO RENEW COMMITMENT

[Faith in Action](#)

Easter

Roland Martin (b. 1955)

Rise heart; thy lord is risen. Sing his praise
 Without delays,
 Who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise
 With him mayst rise:
 That, as his death calcinèd thee to dust,
 His life may make thee gold, and much more just.
 Awake, my lute, and struggle for thy part
 With all thy art,
 The crosse taught all wood to resound his name
 Who bore the same.

His stretchèd sinews taught all strings, what key
 Is best to celebrate this most high day.
 Consort, both heart and lute, and twist a song
 Pleasant and long;
 Or since all musick is but three parts vied,
 And multiplied;
 O let thy blessèd Spirit bear a part,
 And make up our defects with his sweet art.
 (George Herbert)

• **Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
 Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

• **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God of hope,
 Give us Your story of life, death, and life beyond death.
 May our lives reveal a deep understanding of You in this day,
 so that we may share Your hope with our families and friends,
 our community and our world. Amen.

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

• **Hymn of Consecration #308: *Thine Be the Glory***

1. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quer-ing Son; end - less is the vic - tory
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly he greets thee,
 3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is naught with - out thee;

thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a -
 scat - ters fear and gloom. Let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph
 aid us in our strife. Make us more than con - querors, through thy death - less

way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes where thy bod - y lay.
 sing, for our Lord now liv - eth; death hath lost its sting.
 love; bring us safe through Jor - dan to thy home a - bove.

Refrain

Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quer-ing Son; end-less is the vic-tory thou o'er death hast won.

Words: Edmond L. Budry, 1901
 Music: *Harmonia Sacra*, ca. 1753
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• **Benediction** Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Benediction Response Combined Choir

Hallelujah Chorus

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
The Kingdom of this world is become
the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ;

And He shall reign forever and ever.
King of kings! and Lord of lords!

(Revelation 19:6; 11:15; 19:16)

Postlude

Toccata from Symphonie V

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

THANK YOU TO OUR EASTER BRASS

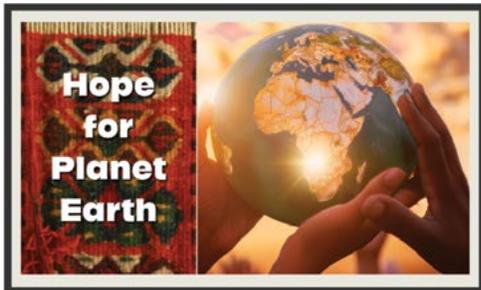
John Wilds, trumpet; Rachel Allen, trumpet; Tricia Skye, horn;
Eric Starr, trombone; Joseph Mora, tuba; David Whitman, timpani



Traditional Worship

Progressive message with moving music
Sundays at 9 AM | In-Person (Sanctuary) & Online
Learn more: fumcsd.org/traditional

New series starting April 27
Creation Care: Life After Death



Tapestry Service

Interactive, reflective, and creative worship
Sundays at 11 AM | In-Person in Trotter Chapel
Learn more: fumcsd.org/tapestry

New series starting April 27
Hope For Planet Earth



Perspectives Pastors Podcast

A digital Bible study connecting our ancient texts to modern life

New Episodes Weekly
Sundays on our website and popular podcast platforms
Learn more: fumcsd.org/podcast

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.

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, we've all been there.

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!



FIRST CHURCH

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of SAN DIEGO

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

2111 CAMINO DEL RIO SOUTH • SAN DIEGO, CA 92108

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A RECONCILING CONGREGATION