



FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SAN DIEGO

MAY 4, 2025 – 9:00 AM



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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

“Twenty-five years ago people could be excused for not knowing much,
or doing much, about climate change. Today we have no excuse.” ~ Desmond Tutu

Prelude Brenda Martin, piano; Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring,

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750); arr. Myra Hess (1890-1965)



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



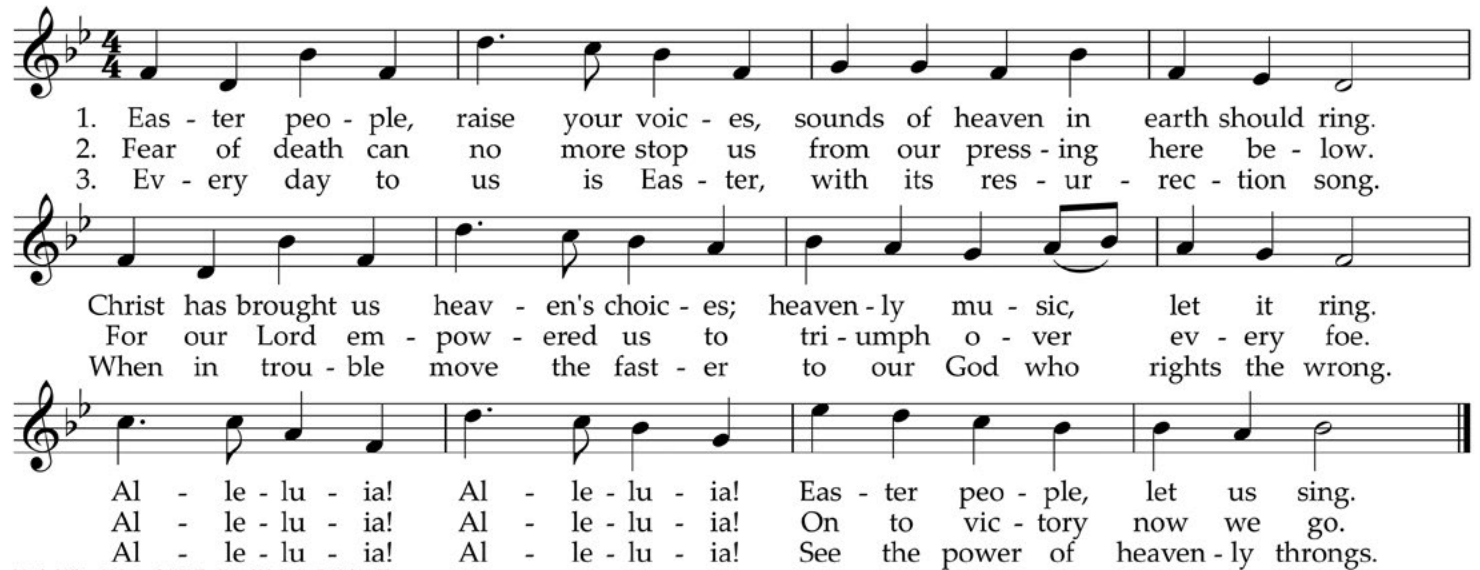
*Assistive listening and transcription available in First Church Sanctuary.
See pew card or usher to connect to Listen EVERYWHERE or Epiphan LiveScript.*

- **Call to Worship**Dione Taylor, Liturgist

All of nature reflects the glory of God and unveils God's presence!
 Christ appears in wondrous moments and brings peace to our fears.
Even so, we ignore God's presence and doubt Christ's peace.
 Yet, the Resurrection is full of hope and the foundation of belief.
 The wonders of God are limitless, and the truth of our faith is clear.
Our God is an awesome God. Death is not Final. Christ lives in us and through us.

TO OFFER OUR PRAISE

- **Hymn of Celebration #304: *Easter People, Raise Your Voices***



1. Eas - ter peo - ple, raise your voic - es, sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
 2. Fear of death can no more stop us from our press - ing here be - low.
 3. Ev - every day to us is Eas - ter, with its res - ur - rec - tion song.

Christ has brought us heav - en's choic - es; heaven - ly mu - sic, let it ring.
 For our Lord em - pow - ered us to tri - umph o - ver ev - every foe.
 When in trou - ble move the fast - er to our God who rights the wrong.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Eas - ter peo - ple, let us sing.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! On to vic - tory now we go.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! See the power of heaven - ly throngs.

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INVITATION TO CONFESSION

- **Invitation**Rev. Dr. Hannah Ka
- **Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
 We have failed to be an obedient church.
 We have not done your will, we have broken your law,
 we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors,
 and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
 Forgive us, we pray.
 Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

- **Words of Assurance**

Hear the good news:
 Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.
 In the Name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the Name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
 Glory to God. Amen.

• Gloria Patri

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.

A Time with Children Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

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.

Scripture Lesson: *Romans 1:20-23; John 20:19, 24-25*

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

Sermon: “*Creation Care – Life After Death: The Need to Believe*” Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

TO RENEW COMMITMENT

[Faith in Action](#)



Offertory Anthem Chancel Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director

Grant Unto Us Thy Peace
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Grant us Thy peace, Almighty Lord
O Source of ev’ry blessing!
We cannot keep Thy saving Word
Unless Thy peace possessing.
Thy peace O give
By which we live.
(Martin Luther)

• 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!

TO GIVE THANKS

• The Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

Lift up your hearts: **we lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God: **it is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The pastor gives thanks appropriate to the occasion, remembering God's act of salvation and concludes:

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.
Bless-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

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The pastor concludes with:

...in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain!

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The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding:

All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

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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.

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Communion Hymn: *We Walk by Faith*



1. We walk by faith, and not by sight: No gra - cious words we hear of
 2. We may not touch his hands and side, nor fol - low where he trod; yet
 3. Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief, and may our faith a - bound; to
 4. That when our life of faith is done in realms of clear - er light we
 5. We walk by faith, and not by sight: No gra - cious words we hear of

him who spoke as none e'er spoke, but we be - lieve him near.
 in his prom - ise we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 call on you when you are near, and seek where you are found:
 may be - hold you as you are in full and end - less sight.
 him who spoke as none e'er spoke, but we be - lieve him near.

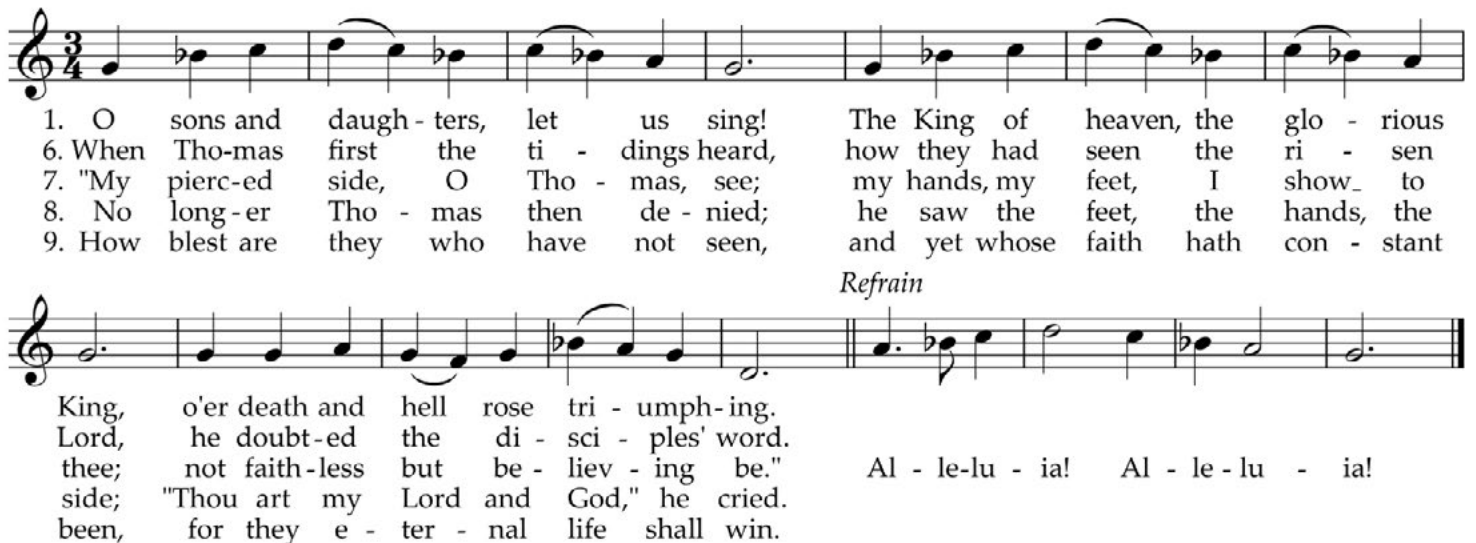
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 Music: Attr. to Hugh Wilson
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Prayer After Holy Communion

Resurrected Christ, you have set the table before us and feed us with your grace.
 Who we have been, what we have done, and how we have failed is no secret to you.
 Yet you welcome us with your body, hear our prayers with your love,
 and answer our confessions with your grace.
 We thank you for your deep and irreplaceable hope.
 May we use the gift of this meal and the presence of your love
 to make all things new. Amen.

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

• Hymn of Consecration #317: *O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing* (vs. 1, 6-9)



1. O sons and daugh - ters, let us sing! The King of heaven, the glo - rious
 6. When Tho-mas first the ti - dings heard, how they had seen the ri - sen
 7. "My pierc-ed side, O Tho - mas, see; my hands, my feet, I show_ to
 8. No long - er Tho - mas then de - nied; he saw the feet, the hands, the
 9. How blest are they who have not seen, and yet whose faith hath con - stant

Refrain

King, o'er death and hell rose tri - umph-ing.
 Lord, he doubt-ed the di - sci - ples' word.
 thee; not faith-less but be - liev - ing be." Al - le-lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 side; "Thou art my Lord and God," he cried.
 been, for they e - ter - nal life shall win.

Words: Jean Tisserand, 15th cent.
 Music: 15th cent. French carol
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• Benediction Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Postlude

Toccata Giocosa
 Gilbert Martin (b. 1941)

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!



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

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A RECONCILING CONGREGATION