



FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SAN DIEGO

MAY 11, 2025 – 9:00 AM



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

FOURTH 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

“Even if you never have the chance to see or touch the ocean, the ocean touches you
with every breath you take, every drop of water you drink, every bite you consume.
Everyone, everywhere is inextricably connected to and utterly dependent
upon the existence of the sea.” ~ Sylvia Earle

Prelude Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries

Chorale Prelude on a melody by Melchior Vulpius

Healey Willan (1880-1968)



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 Epiphany LiveScript.*

- **Call to Worship** Amy Moberly, Liturgist

Creation reflects the glory of God and the rhythm of life reveals God's wisdom.
 Christ provides proper perspective and God has provided sufficient sustenance for all.
Even so, the creation is reactive and humanity is greedy.
 Yet, the Resurrection reframes our priorities and invites us to live different lives.
 The wonders of God are limitless and the hope 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 AND PRAYERS

- **Hymn of Celebration #303: *The Day of Resurrection***

1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad; the pass - o - ver of
 2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right the Lord in rays e -
 3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful! Let earth the song be - gin! Let the round world keep
 glad - ness, the pass-o-ver of God. From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the
 ter - nal of res-ur-rec-tion light; and lis-tening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and
 tri - umph, and all that is there - in! Let all things seen and un - seen their notes in glad - ness
 sky, our Christ hath brought us o - ver, with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 plain, his own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
 blend, for Christ the Lord hath ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

Words: John of Damascus; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1862
 Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1835
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Pastoral Prayer Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

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 Primary Choir & Secondary Voices; Dana Zimbric, director
Jill Herbold, piano

Can You Count the Stars
Robert J. Powell (1932-2025)

Can you count the stars that brightly Twinkle in the midnight sky? Can you count the clouds, so brightly O'er the meadows floating by? God, the Lord, does mark their number, With His eyes that never slumber; He has made them every one, He has made them every one. Can you count the loving measure Of a Mother's heart, and mild, Nurturing the wondrous treasure Found in each and every child?	Like a mother, God enfolds us, Gently, in His arms, will hold us. And will comfort every one, And will comfort every one. Do you know how many children Rise each morning on their way? Can you count their happy voices, Singing sweetly on this day? God hears all the happy voice, In their merry songs rejoices, And He loves them, every one. And He loves them, every one.
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A Time with Children Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

TO HEAR THE WORD

Anthem Chancel Choir, Brian Woods-Lustig, director

The Wisdom of God
Roland Martin (b. 1955)

Resurrected Christ, you have died and yet risen, gone and yet you never leave us.
Who we are becoming, what is happening around us,
and what needs to be done is no secret to you.
May we chase after you and your hope for the earth,
all of our days and in every possible way.
And in doing so, may we experience the deep and irreplaceable hope
that allows us to make all things new. In your name, we pray. Amen.
(Orthodox Liturgy)

- **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: Psalm 104:24-25; John 21:4-6**

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

Sermon: “Creation Care – Life after Death: The Need to Know” Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

• Hymn of Faith #369: *Blessed Assurance*

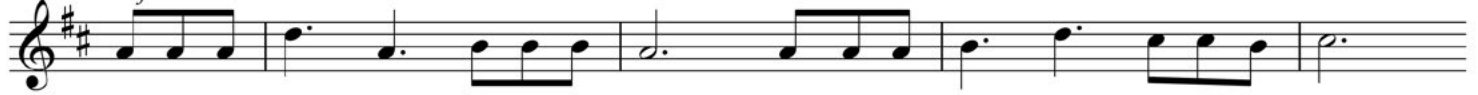


1. Bless-ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine!
 2. Per-fect sub - mis - sion, per-fect de - light, vi-sions of rap - ture now burst on my sight;
 3. Per-fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav - ior am hap - py and blest,



Heir of sal - va - tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long;



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873
 Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873
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TO RENEW COMMITMENT

[Faith in Action](#)

Offertory Anthem

Meditation on "Easter Hymn"

Michael Bedford (b. 1949)



• Doxology

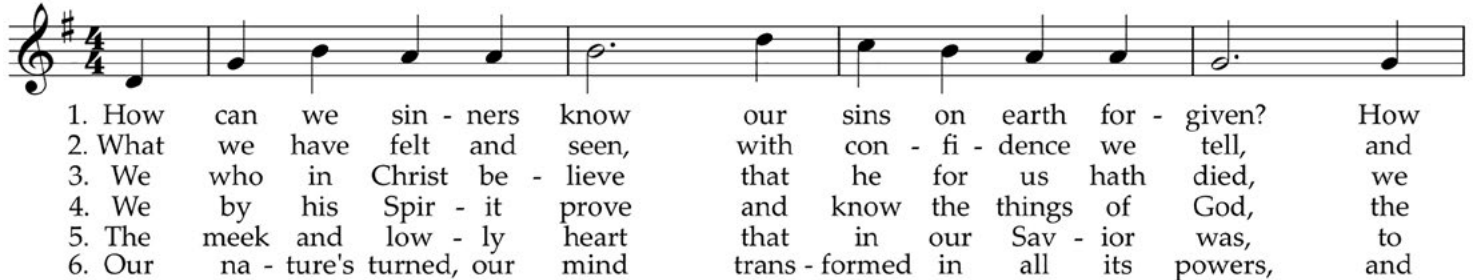
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
 Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

• Prayer of Thanksgiving

Resurrected Christ, you have died and yet risen, gone and yet you never leave us.
 Who we are becoming, what is happening around us,
 and what needs to be done is no secret to you.
 May we chase after you and your hope for the earth,
 all of our days and in every possible way.
 And in doing so, may we experience the deep and irreplaceable hope
 that allows us to make all things new. In your name, we pray. Amen.

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

• Hymn of Consecration #372: *How Can We Sinners Know*



1. How can we sin - ners know our sins on earth for - given? How
 2. What we have felt and seen, with con - fi - dence we tell, and
 3. We who in Christ be - lieve that he for us hath died, we
 4. We by his Spir - it prove and know the things of God, the
 5. The meek and low - ly heart that in our Sav - ior was, to
 6. Our na - ture's turned, our mind trans - formed in all its powers, and

can my gra - cious Sav - ior show my name in - scribed in heaven?
 pub - lish to the ends of earth the signs in - fal - li - ble.
 all his un - known peace re - ceive and feel his blood ap - plied.
 things which free - ly of his love he hath on us be - stowed.
 us that Spir - it doth im - part and signs us with his cross.
 both the wit - ness - es are joined, the Spirit of God with ours.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1749
 Music: German Psalter, 1551
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• Benediction Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Postlude

“Introduction-Choral” and “Minuet Gothique” from Suite Gothique

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

VBS 2025 Sundays: July 13, 20, 27 & Aug 3 | 12-3 PM



Calling all kids ages 4 - 11!

Explore new places, discover how to
 live out God's love in your life, and
 feel God's presence wherever you go.
 Enjoy music, crafts, games, and more!

Register by 6/29:



fumcsd.org/vbs



We also need volunteers! Sign up to help:

Scan QR code to left or visit fumcsd.org/vbs-volunteer

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

2111 CAMINO DEL RIO SOUTH • SAN DIEGO, CA 92108

REV. TRUDY D. ROBINSON, REV. BRITTANY JULIETTE HANLIN, REV. DR. HANNAH KA

619-297-4366 • fumcsd.org • MAIL@FUMCSD.ORG

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