



# FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
of SAN DIEGO

JULY 6, 2025 – 9:00 AM



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

## FOURTH 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 the People of the United States,  
in Order to form a more perfect Union,  
establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility,  
provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare,  
and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity,  
do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”  
~ Preamble to the United States Constitution



**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.*

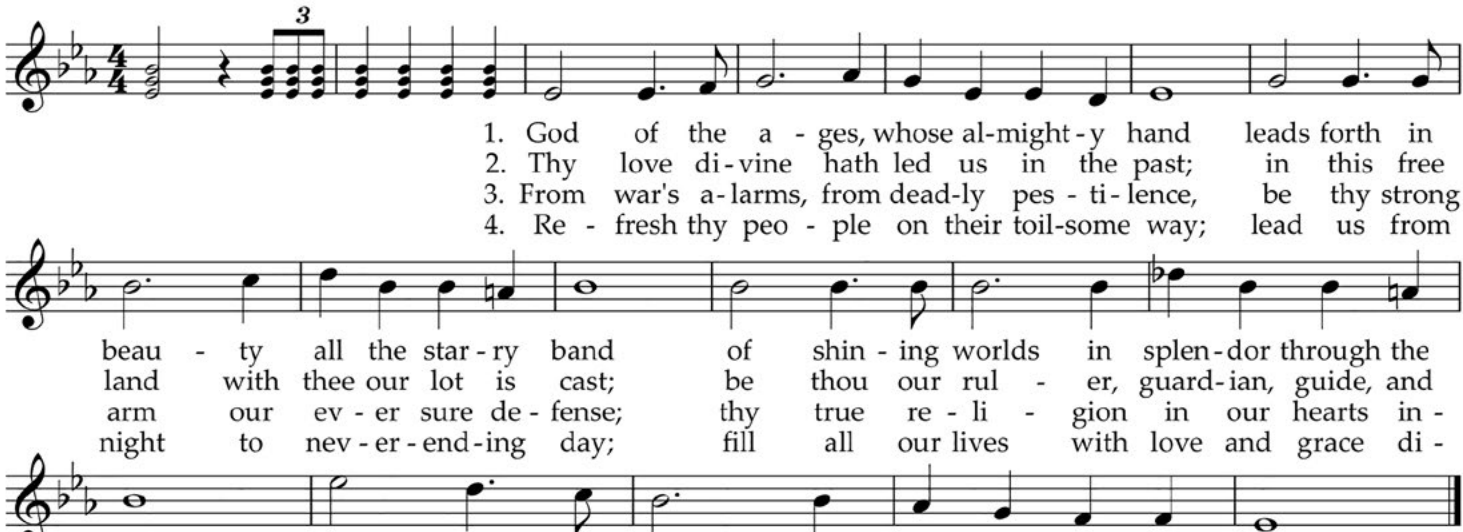
Verset de Procession sur l'Adoro Te

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

• Call to Worship ..... Rebecca Luers, Liturgist

“Two are better than one!” the Teacher of Wisdom says.  
As long as the one we engage with is someone we know, like, and trust.  
The world is full of people, waiting to be known and understood. Just like us.  
People who laugh with friends, weep with grief, carry on doing the best they can. Just like us.  
We must be open to discover who we might know, like, and trust.  
Jesus had reason to be suspicious of those who tried to ensnare him, yet he remained open.  
He never failed to see the image of God at the heart of every human being.  
This is what faith is for. To see things unseen and build right relationships.

• Hymn of Celebration #698: God of the Ages



1. God of the a - ges, whose al-might-y hand leads forth in  
2. Thy love di-vine hath led us in the past; in this free  
3. From war's a-larms, from dead-ly pes - ti-lence, be thy strong  
4. Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil-some way; lead us from

beau - ty all the star - ry band of shin - ing worlds in splen-dor through the  
land with thee our lot is cast; be thou our rul - er, guard-ian, guide, and  
arm our ev - er sure de - fense; thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in -  
night to nev - er - end - ing day; fill all our lives with love and grace di -

skies, our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.  
stay, thy Word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.  
crease; thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
vine, and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

Words: Daniel C. Roberts, 1876  
Music: George W. Warren, 1894  
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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. Dr. Hannah Ka

**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.

**Old Testament Lesson: *Ecclesiastes 4:7-12***

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

**Sermon: “*Bridging Faith: Suspicion Quieted by Relationship*”** ..... Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

**TO RENEW COMMITMENT**

[Faith in Action](#)



**Offertory Anthem** ..... Summer Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director

*The Family of God*  
Gene Grier (1942-2009)

My love of God is in all I do everyday when I pray.  
And with this love I reach out to you;  
take my hand and hear the words that I say.  
**Refrain:** One God, one world, we are all the family of God.  
God’s love for me is so very strong: perfect love from above.  
And with this strength I am safe from harm;  
take my hand and feel the wonder of love.  
**Refrain**  
(Gene Grier)

• **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 power and might might

Heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words: From *Deutsche Messe* by Franz Schubert  
Music: From *Deutsche Messe* by Franz Schubert  
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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 ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain.

Words: From *Deutsche Messe* by Franz Schubert  
Music: From *Deutsche Messe* by Franz Schubert  
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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.

Music: 1976 Oxford University Press  
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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 #437: *This Is My Song*

1. This is my song, O God of all the na - tions, a song of peace for  
2. My coun-try's skies are blu-er than the o - cean, and sun-light beams on  
3. This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king- doms: Thy king-dom come; on  
lands a - far and mine. This is my home, the coun-try where my heart is; here are my  
clo - ver-leaf and pine; but oth - er lands have sun-light too, and clo - ver, and skies are  
earth thy will be done. Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him, and hearts u -  
hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine; but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are  
ev - ery - where as blue as mine. O hear my song, thou God of all the  
nit - ed learn to live as one. O hear my prayer, thou God of all the  
beat - ing with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
na - tions, a song of peace for their land and for mine.  
na - tions; my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.

Words: Sts. 1,2 Lloyd Stone, 1934  
Music: Jean Sibelius, 1899  
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### Prayer After Holy Communion

Gracious God of right relationships.

Help us be grateful for Your reception of us,  
with all of our foibles and misperceptions.

Then help us offer that grace to others.

Help us and our gifts be used to welcome everyone,  
build community, and create right relationships all across the globe.

Amen.



## TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

### • Hymn of Consecration #547: *O Church of God, United*



1. O church of God, u - nit - ed to serve one com-mon Lord, pro - claim to all one  
 2. From ev - ery land and na - tion the or - dered ranks ap - pear; to serve one val-iant  
 3. Though creeds and tongues may dif - fer, they speak, O Christ, of thee; and in thy lov-ing  
 4. May thy great prayer be an - swered that we may all be one, close bound, by love u -

mes - sage, with hearts in glad ac - cord. Christ ev - er goes be - fore us; we  
 lead - er they come from far and near. They chant their one con - fes - sion, they  
 spir - it we shall one peo - ple be. Lord, may our faith-ful ser - vice and  
 nit - ed in thee, God's bless-ed Son: to bring a sin - gle wit - ness, to

fol - low day by day with strong and ea - ger foot - steps a - long the up - ward way.  
 praise one liv - ing Lord, and place their sure de - pen - dence up - on his sav - ing word.  
 sin - gle-ness of aim pro - claim to all the pow - er of thy re-deem-ing name.  
 make the path-way bright, that souls which grope in dark - ness may find the one true light.

Words: Frederick B. Morley © 1954, renewed 1982 The Hymn Society of America  
 Music: ELLACOMBE, *Gesangbuch der H. W. k. Hofkapelle*, 1784, alt.  
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### • Benediction . . . . . Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

### Postlude

#### *Praeludium in C Major, BuxWV 137*

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)



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