



FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SAN DIEGO

AUGUST 3, 2025 – 9:00 AM



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

EIGHTH 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

“Some stranger, somewhere, still remembers you
because you were kind to them when no one else was.”
~ Unknown

Prelude Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries

Prelude on “Land of Rest”

Pamela Decker (b. 1955)



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** Garrett Ganucheau, Liturgist

“Come and follow me,” Jesus said.

“What were they expecting?” we might wonder.

Jesus was unlike any other. Jesus did things differently. Jesus walked a difficult road.

He knew that what was needed was something new, creative, and costly.

“Come and follow me,” Jesus still says.

We know, now, what to expect, because we know what happened to Jesus.

He relied on strangers who sometimes brought peace and sometimes made trouble.

Jesus saw humanity in every stranger. Let us also see strangers as Jesus does.

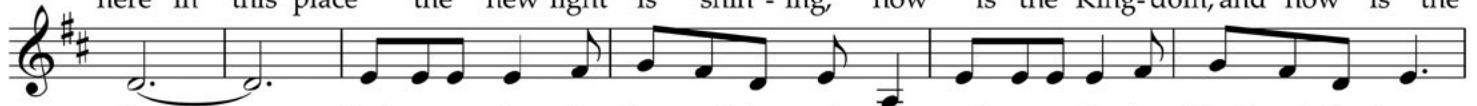
• **Hymn of Celebration: *Gather Us In***



1. Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness van - ished a - way,
 2. We are the young— our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old— who yearn for your face,
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the bread of new birth,
 4. Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en, light-years a - way:



see in this space our fears and our dream-ings, brought here to you in the light of this
 we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry, called to be light to the whole hu-man
 here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters, call us a - new to be salt for the
 here in this place the new light is shin - ing, now is the King-dom, and now is the



day. Gath-er us in— the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in the blind and the lame;
 race. Gath-er us in— the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in the proud and the strong;
 earth. Give us to drink the wine of com - pas-sion, give us to eat the bread that is you;
 day. Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and make us your own;



call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en, we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us a heart so meek and so low - ly, give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
 nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 gath-er us in— all peo-ples to-geth-er, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Words: Marty Haugen © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.
 Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.
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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 ChildrenRev. 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.

• Gospel Lesson: *Luke 10:38-42*

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

Sermon: *“The Christ-Like Journey: Jesus Relied Upon Strangers”*.....Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

TO RENEW COMMITMENT

[Faith in Action](#)



Offertory Anthem Summer Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director

We Are Called to Welcome Strangers
Simon Hancock (b. 1957)

We are called to welcome strangers, offer shelter, food and rest; heal the wounds of mind and body, showing love with true respect. Those who flee from war-torn homelands or fear death for their beliefs, those who run from flood or famine: will we meet them in their grief?	Here we see our brothers, sisters, each the image of our God. If we turn our faces from them, we deny his living word. He would have us feed the hungry, free the captive, tend the weak, care for all who now are helpless, offer respite to the meek.	If we fail to challenge falsehood, if we bow to unjust laws, then the stranger’s eyes will show us God’s own eyes which weep for us. Let us pray as Jesus taught us, “Father, let your kingdom come,” and with Christ-like loving kindness we will welcome strangers home.
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(Sheena Evans)

• 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.

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.

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, a - - men.

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

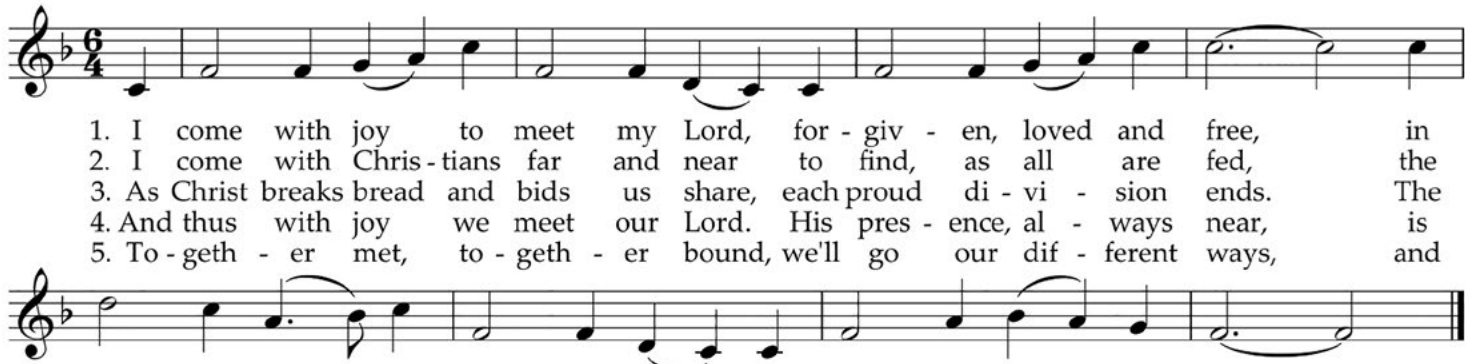
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

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: *I Come with Joy*



1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, for - giv - en, loved and free, in
2. I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are fed, the
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion ends. The
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His pres - ence, al - ways near, is
5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll go our dif - ferent ways, and

awe and won - der to re - call his life laid down for me.
new com - mun - i - ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
love that made us makes us one, and strang - ers now are friends.
in such friend - ship bet - ter known; we see and praise him here.
as his peo - ple in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian Wren, 1968
Music: USA folk melody
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Prayer After Holy Communion

God of Unexpected Encounters,
You call us to follow you on this life's journey.
To trust in your presence to guide us,
in your Spirit to comfort us,
and in your love to sustain us when the road is uncertain.
Take us from this table, raised and restored,
ready not only to be served but to serve.
Open our hearts to receive grace from strangers that they may soon become friends,
and give us the courage to extend that same grace in return. Amen.

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

• Hymn of Consecration #430: *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*



1. O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee in low - ly paths of ser - vice free;
2. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, win - ning word of love;
3. Teach me thy pa - tience; still with thee in clos - er, dear - er com - pa - ny,
4. In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the fu - ture's broad - ening way,

tell me thy se - cret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
teach me the way - ward feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong;
in peace that on - ly thou canst give, with thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Words: Washington Gladden, 1879
Music: H. Percy Smith, 1874
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• Benediction Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

Postlude

Festival Voluntary

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

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!

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.



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of SAN DIEGO

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

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

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A RECONCILING CONGREGATION