



FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

of SAN DIEGO

AUGUST 31, 2025 – 9:00 AM



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

TWELFTH 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

“The simple act of caring is heroic.”
~ Edward Albert

Prelude Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries

Fanfare from La Péri

Paul Dukas (1865-1935)



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** Nathan Stowe, Liturgist

God calls us to walk in the way of love,
love that reaches beyond comfort,
love that welcomes the stranger
and remembers the forgotten.
So, we can say with confidence,
The Lord is our helper; we will not be afraid.

Faith is not a feeling,
but a practice of mercy and an extension of grace.
The Lord is our helper; we will not be afraid.
The path is not easy, but we walk it with courage
for we walk the path with You.
The Lord is our helper; we will not be afraid.
God is near, and we are not alone.

TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

• **Hymn of Celebration #185: *When Morning Gilds the Skies***

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.

A Time with Children Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

TO HEAR THE WORD

Anthem Summer Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director

I Want To Walk As A Child of the Light

Kathleen Armstrong Thomerson (b. 1934)

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.

Refrain

I’m looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain

• **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.

New Testament Lesson: *Hebrews 13:1-3, 5-6, 15-16*

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

Sermon: *“The Confidence to Care: Small Acts, Holy Impact”* Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

- Hymn of Faith #434: *When the Poor Ones*

TO RENEW COMMITMENT

Faith in Action



Offertory

Prelude on “Laudes Domini”
Chelsea Chen (b. 1983)

- 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
Gracious God, we thank you for being our ever-present guide.
You call us into love that is lived, not just spoken,
and into mercy that transforms both giver and receiver.
Give us the confidence and courage to do what love requires,
even when it is inconvenient. Amen.

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

- Hymn of Consecration #557: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*
- Benediction Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

Postlude

“Allegro” from Symphony in D
William Boyce (1711-1779) arr. Robert Gower

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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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

A RECONCILING CONGREGATION