

of SAN DIEGO

NOVEMBER 23, 2025 - 9:00 AM



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

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

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 keep on waiting. Waiting on the world to change." ~ John Mayer

Prelude on "Nun danket alle Gott"

Karl Piutti (1846-1902)

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 LiveScrypt. Friends, we hear what God cares about: Expansive love, holy action, beloved community. Thanksgiving is a time to give thanks for these things. We gather this morning to remember the hopes the ancestors carried, the yearning for peace and safety, and the promise God gives to all. Now is the time for trust and patience. So with thankful hearts, we remember, hope, and wait. TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

• Hymn of Celebration, UMH #131: We Gather Together

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.

My Soul, There is a Country

C.H.H. Parry (1848-1918)

My soul, there is a country Far beyond the stars, Where stands a winged sentry All skilful in the wars:

There, above noise and danger, Sweet Peace sits crown'd with smiles, And One born in a manger

Commands the beauteous files.

He is thy gracious Friend, And—O my soul, awake!— Did in pure love descend To die here for thy sake.

If thou canst get but thither, There grows the flower of Peace, The Rose that cannot wither, Thy fortress, and thy ease.

Leave then thy foolish ranges; For none can thee secure But One who never changes— Thy God, thy life, thy cure.

(Henry Vaughan)

A Time with Children

TO HEAR THE WORD

And I Saw a New Heaven

Edgar Bainton (1880-1956)

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth:

For the first heaven and the first earth were passed away;

And there was no more sea.

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, Coming down from God out of heaven, Prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of Heaven, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,

And he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, And God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;

And there shall be no more death,

Neither sorrow, nor crying,

Neither shall there be any more pain: For the former things are passed away.

(Revelation 11:1-4)

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: Isaiah 65:17-25

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

• Hymn of Faith, UMH #710: Faith of Our Fathers

TO RENEW COMMITMENT

Reception of New Members Jesús Ayala-Candia, Cortland Berlin, Laura Berlin, Larry Faulkner, Lisa Holiman

Faith in Action

Offertory, scan QR code or visit fumcsd.org/egive to give online

Offertory

Prelude on "Kremser"

Matthew H. Corl (b. 1965)

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

Generous God, giver of every good gift.

Teach us to be thankful

for our imaginations that allow us to dream,

for Your visionaries who set goals for peace,

for the hope that never leaves us.

Then, let us generously wait for your promise. Amen.

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

• Hymn of Consecration, UMH #102: Now Thank We All Our God

Postlude

Nun danket alle Gott [Marche triomphale]

Sigrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

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 at <u>fumcsd.org/welcome!</u>

Worship online: Each week at <u>fumcsd.org/watch-live</u> or subscribe to our YouTube channel: <u>fumcsd.org/youtube</u>.

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. Subscribe: <u>fumcsd.org/enews</u>



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