



FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

of SAN DIEGO

DECEMBER 7, 2025 – 9:00 AM



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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

“It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us
memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.”
~ Pope Benedict XVI

Prelude Handbell Choir; Sarah Amos, Director

The Coventry Carol
arr. Noel A. Piercy



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** Garrett Ganucheau, Liturgist
 We come from a world of sorrow
Into God’s world of promise.
 We come from a cynical world
Into Christ’s vision and hope.
 We come from a divided world
Into the Spirit’s stirring and our souls awaken.

- **Hymn of Celebration, UMH #213: *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates***

TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope Lisa, Adam, and Abigail Thompson

Unison Prayer
 Eternal God, you are the source of our hope and the One we hope for.
 May the hope we find in you surround us and lift us, driving out fear and inspiring us to love.
 And may this lively hope lead us into new birth through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Response, TFWS #2090: *Advent Song* (v. 2)

A Time with Children

- **Prayer of Confession** Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin
 Merciful God, in this season of waiting and watching,
 we confess that we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves,
 we have belittled our enemies, sent away the stranger, not cared for the children;
 we have not been good stewards of your creation,
 nor have we loved You with our heart, mind and soul;
 Forgive us, we pray.
 In our waiting and watching, prepare us to welcome the Christ.
 Amen.

- **Words of Assurance**
 Hear the good news:
 The Word became flesh to be with us and within all that makes us human.
 Jesus knows our fears, our failures, our ache for peace.
 And still he comes, bringing grace that cannot be undone.
 Through him, we are forgiven and restored.
 Thanks be to God.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

- **Gloria Patri, UMH #70**

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.

Scripture Lesson: *Isaiah 12:2-6*

Receive what the Spirit is speaking this Advent:
May this word of hope and joy, love and peace, be born in us today. Amen.

Sermon: *Lesser-Known Songs of Christmas: Isaiah's Prophecy* Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

TO RENEW COMMITMENT

Faith in Action

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



Offertory Anthem Chancel Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director

The First Song of Isaiah
Jack Noble White (1938-2019)

<i>Refrain:</i> Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior <i>Refrain</i> Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing	from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say, give thanks to the Lord, and call upon his name. <i>Refrain</i> Make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his Name is exalted.	Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world. <i>Refrain</i> Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. <i>Refrain</i>
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- **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, UMH pg. 23: *Musical Setting D*

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, UMH #216: *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*

Duet Patricia McAfee, mezzo-soprano; Timmy Simpson, tenor

Panis Angelicus

César Franck (1822-1890)

Panis angelicus fit panis hominum
Dat panis coelicus figuris terminum:
O res mirabilis! Manducat Dominum
Pauper, pauper, servus, et humilis.

*Angelic bread becomes the bread of men
The heavenly bread gives a limit to the figures;
O miraculous thing!
The poor, the servile, and the humble eat the Lord.*

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

Prayer After Holy Communion

God of Advent, who brings hope into this world
be the hope that counters resignation, fear, and anger.
May our time at this table allow hope to flourish and overcome. Amen.

- Hymn of Consecration, UMH #196: *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*
- Benediction Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Postlude

Postlude on “Truro”
Michael Bedford (b. 1949)



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