



FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

of SAN DIEGO

DECEMBER 14, 2025 – 9:00 AM



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

THIRD 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 Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Words of Inspiration

“At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart?”
~ Mother Teresa

Prelude Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries

Fugue on the Magnificat, BWV 733
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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**.....Fred Hafer, Liturgist
We come from a world of change
Into God’s world of purpose.
We come from a world of expectation
Into Christ’s grace and love.
We come from an unjust world
Into the Spirit’s stirring and our souls awaken.
- **Hymn of Celebration, UMH #203: *Hail to the Lord’s Anointed***

TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

Lighting the Advent Candle of Love. Nicole Hadler, Cali Hadler, and Edwin James

Unison Prayer

Holy God, we stand in awe of your overwhelming love.
It is frightening to welcome it,
to allow ourselves to be fully loved just as we are,
to say yes to your love without knowing where it will lead us.
By your grace, fill us with love and drive out all the darkness in our hearts,
that we might say yes to you and bring your love to others. Amen.

Response, TFWS #2090: *Advent Song (v. 3)*

Anthem Combined Choir; Genevieve Renovales, Solo; Dana Zimbric, Director

Go Tell It On the Mountain

arr. Victor C. Johnson (b. 1978)

While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night, Behold, throughout the heavens, there shone a holy light. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.	Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.
The shepherds feared and trembled when lo above the earth, Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth, Oh!	Down in a lowly manger, the humble Christ was born. And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born. Jesus Christ is born!

A Time with Children

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

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.

Anthem Chancel Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director;
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange, soprano

Magnificat from San Diego Service

Joanna Forbes L'Estrange

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with his arm. He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.	He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things. And the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel as he promised to our forefathers Abraham, and his seed forever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (Luke 1:46-55)
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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 1:46-55***

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: Mary's Magnificat* Rev. Dr. Hannah Ka

• **Hymn of Faith, UMH #198: *My Soul Gives Glory to My God***

TO RENEW COMMITMENT

Faith in Action

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



Offertory

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” from *Six Carol Settings*
Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

• **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
 God of Advent, who brings love into this world,
 be the love that dwells between us, in us, and through us.
 May this intent and these gifts bring love to all the world. Amen

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

- Hymn of Consecration, UMH #210: *All Earth Is Waiting*
- Benediction Rev. Dr. Hannah Ka

Postlude

Carillon on “Besançon”
 Rebecca Groom te Velde (b. 1956)



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