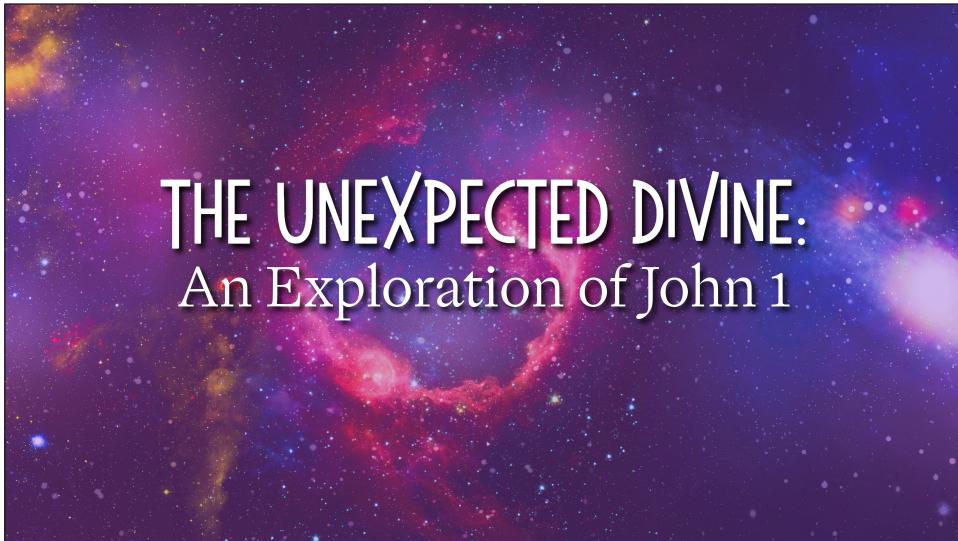




FIRST CHURCH
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SAN DIEGO

JANUARY 18, 2026 – 9:00 AM



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

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

“Beauty is the only thing that time cannot harm.
Philosophies fall away like sand, creeds follow one another,
but what is beautiful is a joy for all seasons, a possession for all eternity.”
~ Oscar Wilde



Prelude Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries

Swing Five on “Erhalt Uns Herr”

Johannes Matthias Michel (b. 1962)

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** Sharmon Davis, Liturgist

At the beginning of the year, the start of the week,
the early hours of the morning, we come.
God is in the beginning. God is here now. God is always.
In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was Light. Creation. Good. Love.
We come in this moment to consider eternity
and to hear the Word today.
Be still. Listen. Trust. Love.
And Love will never end.

TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

- **Hymn of Celebration, UMH #117: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past***

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

TO HEAR THE WORD

Anthem Chancel Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director

Eternal Light

Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts.
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil.
Eternal Power, be our support.
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance.
Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
(St. Alcuin)

- **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: *John 1:1***

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

Sermon: *The Unexpected Divine, God in the Eternal Now* Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

- **Hymn of Faith, UMH #182: *Word of God, Come Down on Earth***

TO RENEW COMMITMENT

Faith in Action

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



Offertory

A Second Light

David Ashley White (b. 1944)

- 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

O Gracious God,
We thank you for the gift of time and presence,
and for the promise of hope and love.
May the gifts we give back reflect our gratitude
and be used to serve your purposes. Amen.

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

- Hymn of Consecration, UMH #525: *We'll Understand It Better By and By*

- Benediction Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Postlude

Chorale Prelude on "St. Anne"

Mark Fax (1911-1974)

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 [fumcsd.org/welcome!](http://fumcsd.org/welcome)

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

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: fumcsd.org/enews



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

2111 CAMINO DEL RIO SOUTH • SAN DIEGO, CA 92108

REV. TRUDY D. ROBINSON, LEAD PASTOR

REV. DR. HANNAH KA, PASTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

REV. BRITTANY JULIETTE HANLIN, PASTOR OF CONNECTION AND CARE

619-297-4366 • fumcsd.org • MAIL@FUMCSD.ORG

A RECONCILING CONGREGATION