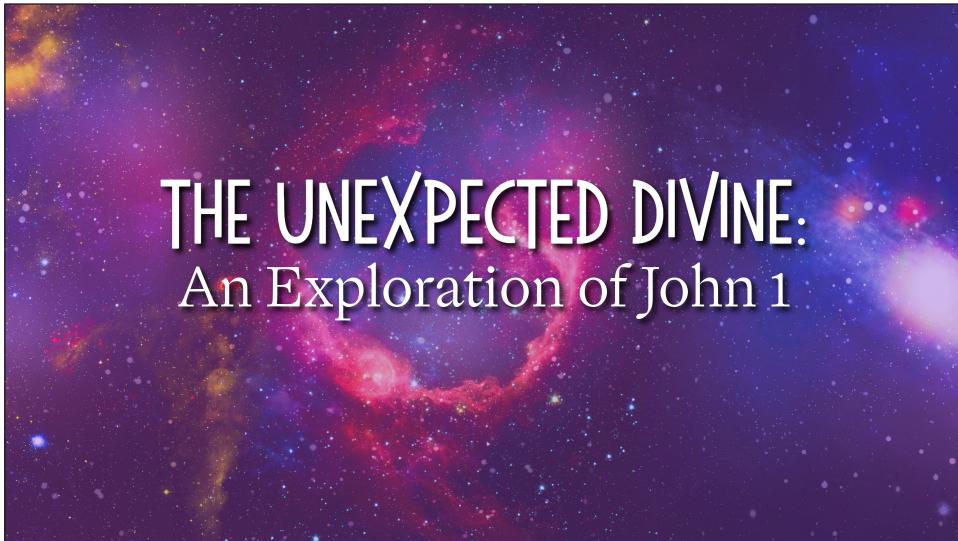




FIRST CHURCH
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SAN DIEGO

JANUARY 25, 2026 – 9:00 AM



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

THIRD 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 Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Words of Inspiration

“Each day holds a surprise. But only if we expect it can we see, hear, or feel it when it comes to us.
Let’s not be afraid to receive each day’s surprise, whether it comes to us as sorrow or as joy.
It will open a new place in our hearts, a place where we can welcome new friends
and celebrate more fully our shared humanity.”
~ Henri Nouwen

Prelude Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries
“*Poco lento*” from *Fantaisie in C Major*
César Franck (1822-1890)

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** David Littleton, Liturgist

We came into being in the twinkle of the eye,
through a mother's womb, in the wonder of life.
God is the twinkle, the womb, the life.
All things come into the world by the imagination of the Creator,
possessing inner beauty, having been affirmed as good.
We come to this moment to seek the good,
to behold the light, to discover the Divine in all life.
Let there be eyes to see and ears to hear.
And let us be called very good.

TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

- Hymn of Celebration, UMH #384: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

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 Jubilee Singers; Sarah Amos, Director; Jill Herbold, piano

In the Beginning Was the Word
César Franck (1822-1890)

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
All things were made by Him,
and without Him was nothing made, that was made.
In Him is life, and the life is the light of all.
It shineth in darkness that that comprehendeth it not.
(John 1:1-5)

A Time with Children

TO HEAR THE WORD

Anthem Chancel Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director

The Word Was God
Rosephanye Powell (b. 1962)

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
The same was in the beginning with God.
All things were made by him.
(John 1:1-3)

- 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 1:3-4*

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

Sermon: *The Unexpected Divine in Surprising Places* Rev. Dr. Hannah Ka

- Hymn of Faith, UMH #328: *Surely the Presence of the Lord*

TO RENEW COMMITMENT

Faith in Action

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



Offertory

“*Andante tranquillo*” from *Sonata No. 3*

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

- 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 creation and life, and for the promise of delight and surprise.
May the gifts we give back reflect our gratitude and be used to bring your light to all. Amen.

TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

- Hymn of Consecration, UMH #122: *God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale*

• Benediction Rev. Dr. Hannah Ka

Postlude

Carillon

Herbert Murrill (1909-1943)

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

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REV. TRUDY D. ROBINSON, LEAD PASTOR

REV. DR. HANNAH KA, PASTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

REV. BRITTANY JULIETTE HANLIN, PASTOR OF CONNECTION AND CARE

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A RECONCILING CONGREGATION