



FIRST CHURCH  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
of SAN DIEGO

MAY 17, 2026 – 9:00 AM



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

ASCENSION 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

“Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are.”  
~ Benjamin Franklin



Prelude . . . . . Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries

*Chorale Prelude on “Heut’ triumphieret Gottes Sohn”*

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 transcript service.*

- **Call to Worship** . . . . . Rebecca Luers, Liturgist  
 We come to be loved by God who calls us to cherish kindness.  
**God, here we are. Love us so that we may know mercy.**  
 We come to listen to God who calls us to do justice.  
**God, here we are. Speak to us so that we may speak on behalf of others.**  
 We come to journey with God who calls us to walk humbly.  
**God, here we are. Guide us so that we may move toward You, always.**

**TO OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS**

- **Hymn of Celebration, UMH #185: *When Morning Gilds the Skies***

**Pastoral Prayer** . . . . . Rev. Dr. 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; Rayna Shafter, piano

***Justice Will Rise!***  
 Mark Miller (b. 1967)

<p>Here is the fast the Lord has required:          lift up the burdens that crush people down.          Share of our bread with those who have none.          This is the way, this is the way          God’s blessing is found.</p> <p>Break every yoke that burdens the suffering,          justice will rise, a light at its dawning.          Turn and reach out, let love find a way,          God’s people will shine like the sun at noon day.</p>	<p>Take heart and join the great amen,          justice will rise again,          justice will rise, justice will rise, justice will rise!</p> <p>Come, our strength and consolation,          mend division that keeps us apart.          Fill us with longing to offer compassion,          bring God’s peace to every heart.          Justice will rise, justice will rise,          justice will rise!</p>
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**A Time with Children: Presentation of Bibles and Celebration of Graduates** . . . . .

<p>Preston Clay, Cali Hadler,          Grayson Julian, Anna Justiss,          Samantha Justiss, Nolan Lents,          Lucas Naidu, Roberto (Rico) Renovales,          Remington Roy</p>	<p>Tamara Cunningham, Doctor of Education          Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin, Doctor of Ministry          Zach Larson Adams, B.A. in History          Nathaniel Bender, B.S. in Environmental Science and Management          RJ Parry, Bachelor of Business Administration in Real Estate          High School: Matthew Bender, David William Burke-Ellet,          Malaika Michelle Castor, Tobias Crislip, Sydney Horton, Nataleigh Veith</p>
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**TO HEAR THE WORD**

**Anthem** . . . . . Combined Jubilee Singers and Chancel Choir; Brian Woods-Lustig, Director

***Like a Mighty Stream***  
 arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

<p>Lift every voice and let us sing.          In every song let freedom ring.          From every soul comes a noble dream          Let justice roll like a mighty stream.          Like a mighty stream, like a mighty stream,          Let justice roll like a mighty stream.</p>	<p>Oh every trial we’ ll overcome.          When every child beneath the sun,          And every soul shall live as one.          The noble dream has just begun.</p> <p>Like a mighty stream, like a mighty stream, let justice roll          Like a mighty stream.</p>
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**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: *Micah 6:6-8***

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

**Sermon: *The Do's and Don'ts of Times Like These—Do Justice* . . . . . Rev. Trudy D. Robinson**

• **Hymn of Faith, UMH #441: *What Does the Lord Require***

**TO RENEW COMMITMENT**

**Renewal of Baptism . . . . . Benicio Casillas**

**Reception of New Members, UMH pg. 38. . . . . Azantia Limón, Benicio Casillas, Shaila Zamora**

**Faith in Action**



**Offertory, scan QR code or visit [fumcsd.org/egive](http://fumcsd.org/egive) to give online**

**Offertory . . . . . Patricia McAfee, mezzo-soprano**

***Acquaint Now Thyself with Him***

Michael Head (1900-1976)

Acquaint now thyself with Him and be at peace;  
Thereby good shall come unto thee.  
Acquaint now thyself with Him and be at peace.  
Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His holy hill,  
For the Lord our God is holy.  
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.  
Fear before Him all the earth.  
Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name.  
Bring an offering, and come unto His courts.

Wherewith shall I come before the Lord,  
And bow myself before the most high God?  
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings?  
He hath showed thee O man what is good  
And what doth the Lord require of thee,  
But to do justly, and to love mercy,  
And to walk humbly with thy God.  
Acquaint now thyself with Him and be at peace;  
Thereby good shall come unto thee.  
Acquaint now thyself with Him and be at peace.

• **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**

**Great God of kindness, justice and mercy,  
You promised us that your yoke is easy and your burden light,  
not because the path you lead us down is never hard,  
but because you bear every burden with us.  
Open our hearts, to give generously to the work of kindness and compassion.  
Open our lives, to sacrifice our comfort for your call to humbly love with justice.  
Amen.**

## TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

- Hymn of Commitment, UMH #584: *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* (v. 1, 4, 5)
- Benediction . . . . . Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

### Postlude

### *“Grand Chœur pour l’Ascension” from L’orgue triomphal*

Adolphe Marty (1865-1942)

### 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!*



FIRST CHURCH  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SAN DIEGO

Radical Grace, Extravagant Love  
& Divine Justice for All



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. DR. BRITTANY JULIETTE HANLIN, PASTOR OF CONNECTION AND CARE

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