



FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

of SAN DIEGO

DECEMBER 24, 2024 – 5:00 PM



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

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT

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.*

Prelude

Silent Night, Holy Night

arr. Sandra Eithun (b. 1963)

Youth Chime Ensemble, Dana Zimbric, Director of Children's Music

Away in a Manger: Two Traditional Melodies

arr. Craig Duncan

Sofia Mulvaney, cello; Jill Herbold, piano

Register Your Attendance

Welcome

Words of Inspiration

“Christmas is not as much about opening our presents as opening our hearts.”
~ Janice Maeditere



- **Call to Worship.**Amanda Renovaes

Come to the story, with hearts open wide.
 Lean into the mystery. Believe in the miracles.
 Experience the Joy. Feel the love.
The story is ours,
a story wrapped in hope and peace.
 Come to the story, with hearts open wide.
 The angels are singing. The stars are shining.
 The Christ is born for us, for all.
Come to the story, with hearts open wide.
The good news is for you, for all.

- **Processional Hymn #234: O Come, All Ye Faithful** (vs. 1-3, 6)

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| 1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels: | 3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; |
| 2. True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,
lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created; | 6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: |

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Reading.Harper Gamache

Anthem.Children's & Youth Choirs

The Wonder of Advent
 Joseph M. Martin (b. 1959)

This is the story of peace and of love, The promise of glory and light from above. This is a season of hope and of grace, A time for rejoicing and jubilant praise! Come, celebrate Jesus! Rejoice now and sing! Prepare for the King! Come, celebrate Jesus! With great expectation and glad jubilation, rejoice! Make a glorious noise! Arise and shine, your Light will come, For God is sending His Promised One! Arise and shine, your Light will come Declare the works that the Lord has done.	Candles are burning to show the way, Leading us on to Christmas day. So come all ye faithful and follow the Light. Come in from the shadows, come in from the night. The candles are burning with bright golden flame. Messiah is coming, could this be the day? Come, celebrate Jesus! Rejoice now and sing! Prepare for the King! Come, celebrate Jesus! With great expectation and glad jubilation, rejoice! Make a glorious noise!
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HOPE

Reading.Maya Hundley

Hymn #218: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (vs. 1)

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|--|---|
| 1. It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold: | “Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven’s all-gracious King.”
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing. |
|--|---|

Reading. Berkeley Lai

Hymn #230: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (vs. 1)

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in the dark street shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

PEACE

Reading. Harper Gamache

Anthem Jada Hundley, Tobias Crislip, Jaxson Crislip, chimes
El Zimbric, Clarinet; Loki Maki, violin; Sofia Mulvaney, cello

A Prayer of Peace
arr. Joseph M. Martin

Give us peace, O God we pray,	God of mercy, God of grace,
Give us peace today.	You are worthy of praise,
Give us patience and courage to trust in your way.	Come light the candle of peace in this place.
Give us peace, O God we pray,	<i>Dona nobis pacem, pacem.</i>
Give us peace today.	
Give us calmness of spirit in ev'ry way.	

JOY

Reading. Maya Hundley

Anthem Children's & Youth Choirs

Jesus is Born Today
Gene Grier and Dana Mengel

Hear the angels sing, "Halelu, Glory to God in the Highest!" Hear the angels sing, "Halelu, Glory to God on High!" Hear the angels sing, " Halelu, Glory to God in the Highest!" Hear the angels sing, "Halelu, Glory to God on High!"	Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies, With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark, the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!" See the shepherds kneel, as they pray
Jesus is born today! Praise Him! Jesus in born today! Praise Him! Jesus is born today!	Watching the baby with wonder. See the shepherds kneel, as they pray Watching the little child. Jesus is born today! Praise Him!
<i>Congregation:</i> Hark, the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!" Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.	Jesus is born today! Praise Him! Jesus is born today! (Gene Grier)

LOVE

Reading Berkeley Lai

Hymn #254: *We Three Kings* (vs. 1)

We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

CHRIST

Reading Harper Gamache

Anthem Children's & Youth Choirs

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

arr. Victor C. Johnson

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 ev'rywhere.
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! Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.

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 ev'rywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.

Homily: "*What is This Good News?*" Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

GIFTS

Offering Tobias Crislip

Offertory Meditation El Zimbric, clarinet

Christmas Time is Here

Vince Guaraldi (1928 – 1976)

LIGHT

Reading Maya Hundley

Distribution of the Light

Hymn #239: *Silent Night, Holy Night* (vs. 1, 3, 4)

1. Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

3. Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light;
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord at thy birth;
Jesus Lord at thy birth.

(continued next page)

4. Silent night, holy night!
 Wondrous star, lend thy light!
 With the angels let us sing
 Alleluia to our King!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!

Benediction Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

• **Recessional Hymn #246: *Joy to the World* (vs. 1, 2, 4)**

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|--|---|
| <p>1. Joy to the World, the Lord is come!
 Let earth receive her King;
 Let every heart prepare him room,
 And heaven and nature sing,
 And heaven and nature sing,
 And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.</p> | <p>4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
 and makes the nations prove
 The glories of his righteousness,
 And wonders of his love,
 And wonders of his love,
 And wonders, wonders of his love.</p> |
|--|---|
2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
 Let all their songs employ,
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
 Repeat the sounding joy,
 Repeat the sounding joy,
 Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

• **Postlude** Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries and Principal Organist

Carillon on "Antioch"

Mary Beth Bennett (b. 1954)

(Please place your candle in the box at the door as you leave the Sanctuary.)

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART IN THE SERVICE

ACOLYTES
 Amelie Gamache, Xavier Cabusao

ANGEL GABRIEL
 Genevieve Renovales

HOLY FAMILY
 Drake Martin, Alexandra Cabusao

SHEPHERDS
 Zachery Cabusao
 Carter Shatzko
 Preston Clay

SHEEP
 Connor Clay
 Declan Stephenson

MAGI
 Tobias Crislip
 Bennett Gamache
 Jaxson Crislip

YOUTH CHIMES

Jaxson Crislip
 Tobias Crislip
 Jada Hundley
 Loki Maki
 Mila Shatzko
 El Zimbric

CHOIR OF ANGELS

Elsa Claussen
 Adiel Cotton
 Elora Cotton
 Jada Hundley
 Miranda Kral
 Eugene Lee
 Loki Maki
 Emerie Morgan
 Aerelyn Morgan
 Eloise Mulvaney
 Sofia Mulvaney
 Amanda Renovales
 Genevieve Renovales
 Rico Renovales
 Mila Shatzko
 Addie Wilde
 El Zimbric
 Ivy Zimbric

STAGE/TECH SUPPORT
 Griffin Maki

COSTUMES & ASSISTANCE
 Allison Dewes

**CHILDREN'S &
 YOUTH CHOIR ACCOMPANIST**
 Jill Herbold

**DIRECTOR OF
 CHILDREN'S MUSIC &
 PAGEANT COORDINATOR**
 Dana Zimbric

KEEP IN TOUCH

Connect with the First Church community here!

Worship online: each week via www.fumcsd.org/watch-live or subscribe to our YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/@FirstChurchSanDiego.

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. To subscribe visit www.fumcsd.org/enews or text FUMCSDNEWS to 22828.

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,

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!

May the Peace of Christ, which passes all understanding be with you this day, and all the days going forward.



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of SAN DIEGO

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

2111 CAMINO DEL RIO SOUTH • SAN DIEGO, CA 92108

REV. TRUDY ROBINSON, REV. BRITTANY JULIETTE HANLIN, REV. DR. HANNAH KA

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A RECONCILING CONGREGATION