



FIRST CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

of SAN DIEGO

DECEMBER 24, 2025 – 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.*



Register Your Attendance

Welcome Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Words of Inspiration

“Good news from heaven the angels bring, glad tidings to the earth they sing:
To us this day a child is given, to crown us with the joy of heaven.”
~ Martin Luther

Prelude Youth Chime Ensemble; Dana Zimbric, Director of Children’s Music

Away in a Manger

arr. Anna Laura Page (b. 1943)

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

arr. Cathy Moglebust (b. 1958)

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** Bella Paguyo

We come from a world of night
 into God’s eternal light.
 We come from a world of noise
 to experience a peaceful silence.
 We come from our families and homes
 to listen for the baby born in a stable.

THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS

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

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:	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:
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest;	<i>Refrain:</i> <i>O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.</i>

Reading: The Advent Candles.Carter Shatzko

Hymn, UMH #238: *Angels We Have Heard on High* (v. 1)

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| 1. Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains. | <i>Refrain:</i>
<i>Gloria in excelsis Deo.</i>
<i>Gloria in excelsis Deo.</i> |
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HOPE

Reading: First CandleHarper Gamache

AnthemAngel Choir; Jill Herbold, piano

Hope is Like a Candle
 Joseph M. Martin (b. 1959)

O come, O come, Emmanuel. Hope is like a candle burning bright. Hope paints every shadow with its light. Hope soothes the broken heart. Hope helps the healing start. Hope is like a candle in the night. Hope is like a love song, pure and strong. Hope sings to your heart when nights are long. Hope sings a cheerful tune, “That dawn is coming soon.” Hope is like a love song, pure and strong.	Hope is like a flower in the snow. Hope can warm us when the night is cold. Alleluia. Hope dries the falling tear. Hope calms our doubts and fears. Hope is like a flower in the snow. Hope is like a flower. Hope is like a love song. Hope is like a candle in the night.
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Reading: *Luke 1:28-32*Alexzandria Cabusao

Hymn, UMH #215: *To a Maid Engaged to Joseph* (v. 1)

- 1. To a maid engaged to Joseph, the angel Gabriel came.
 “Fear not,” the angel told her, “I come to bring good news,
 good news I come to tell you, good news, I say, good news.”

PEACE

Reading: Second Candle Bella Paguyo

Anthem

Peace for the Children

Doreen Lankshear-Smith (1932-2025), arr. Jason Locke

Peace for the children, peace, peace.
Peace for the children we pray.
Following the path of One of peace,
We work for healing, we work for peace;
Peace for the children today.

Peace for all people, peace, peace.
Peace for all people we pray.
Following the path of One of peace,
We work for healing, we work for peace;

Peace for all people today.
Peace in our families, peace, peace.
Peace in our families we pray.
Following the path of One of peace,
We work for healing, we work for peace;
Peace in our families today.

Peace for our planet, peace, peace.
Peace for our planet, we pray.

Following the path of One of peace,
We work for healing, we work for peace;
Peace for our planet today.

Peace in the cosmos, peace, peace.
Peace in the cosmos we pray.
Following the path of One of peace,
We work for healing, we work for peace;
Peace in the cosmos today.

Reading: *Luke 2:4-5* Carter Shatzko

Hymn, UMH #218: *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* (v. 1)

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.

JOY

Reading: Third Candle Harper Gamache

Anthem

Dance and Sing!

Nancy Gifford (b. 1952)

Sang the rooster on that morn’,
“Hey, the Prince of Peace is born.
Lift your head, get out of bed,
Singin’ a song of joy!”

Dance and sing, dance and sing
Praises to the newborn King.
Dance and sing, dance and sing,
To the holy boy.

Sang the chickadee on that morn’,
“Hey, the Prince of Peace is born.
Lift your head, get out of bed,
Singin’ a song of joy!”

Dance and sing, dance and sing
Praises to the newborn King.
Dance and sing, dance and sing,
To the holy boy.

Sang the white dove on that morn’,
“Christ, the Prince of Peace is born.
Lift your head, get out of bed,
Singin’ a song of joy!”

Dance and sing, dance and sing
Praises to the newborn King.
Dance and sing, dance and sing,
To the holy boy.

Each and ev’ry Christmas morn’,
Christ the Prince of Peace is born!
Lift your head, get out of bed,
Singin’ a song of joy!

Dance and sing, dance and sing
Praises to the newborn King.
Dance and sing, dance and sing,
To the holy boy.

Christ is born! Christ is born!
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas,
Merry Christmas joy!

Reading: *Luke 2:6-12* Alexzandria Cabusao

Hymn, UMH #219: *What Child is This* (v. 1)

1. What child is this who, laid to rest,
on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

LOVE

Reading: Fourth Candle Bella Paguyo

Hymn, UMH #245: *The First Noel* (v. 1, 2, 5)

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| 1. The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep. | 5. Then entered in those Wise Men three,
full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. |
| 2. They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. | <i>Refrain:</i>
<i>Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,</i>
<i>born is the King of Israel.</i> |

CHRISTMAS

Reading: Christ Candle Carter Shatzko

Anthem Genevieve Renovales, Solo

Go Tell it on the Mountain

arr. Victor Johnson (b. 1978)

While shepherds kept their watching, O'er silent flocks by night, Behold, throughout the heavens There shown 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. Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born, And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn.
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Homily: *Lesser-Known Songs of Christmas—The Christmas Improv* Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

GIFTS

Christmas Offering Harper Gamache

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



Offertory El Zimbric, clarinet

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

arr. Chris Lawry (b. 1978) & Kerri Degg (b.1975)

Distribution of the Light

Hymn, UMH #239: *Silent Night, Holy Night*

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| <p>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.</p> <p>2. Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!</p> | <p>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.</p> <p>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!</p> |
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Benediction Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

• Recessional Hymn, UMH #246: *Joy to the World*

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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>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.</p> | <p>3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.</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> |
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• Postlude Sarah Amos, Director of Music Ministries

Postlude on "Mendelssohn"

David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Coming This January

Thank you for sharing your family with us tonight!

We invite you to join us in January for our **free music programming** and **Social & Emotional Wellness workshops** for kids, teens, and parents.

Kids, Teens & Parents



Social & Emotional Wellness: fumcsd.org/family-event

Sunday School for Kids & Teens (K-12th)

Jan. 11-25 at 9:15-10 AM | Start in Sanctuary; End in The Cove
K-5 & 6-12 will meet with licensed counselors from New Life Counseling Center (NLCC) to discuss social and emotional wellness for a healthy start to the new year.

January Parents Forum

Sun. Jan. 11 at 10:10-10:40 AM | High School Room in The Cove
Parents: Come hear from Director of NLCC Sheilah Cameron, LMFT as she discusses social and emotional wellness.

Free Kids & Teen Music



Sundays Starting January 11:

fumcsd.org/children-youth-music

All experience and skill levels welcome!

Primary Choir (K-5th)

10-10:45 AM | Middle School Room in The Cove

Secondary Voices (6th-12th)

10-10:45 AM | Children's Choir Room in Lower Sanctuary

Youth Chime Ensemble (5th-12th)

11-11:45 AM | Children's Choir Room in Lower Sanctuary



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. BRITTANY JULIETTE HANLIN, PASTOR OF CONNECTION AND CARE

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A RECONCILING CONGREGATION