

# Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

## *Open Mind, Open Heart, Open Door*

We are a publicly declared **Reconciling Congregation** and a member of the Reconciling Ministries Network that advocates and works for a truly all-inclusive church. As a Christian community, we lean in on radical inclusion welcoming to humans of all races, genders, and sexual orientations who are affirmed and accepted as a full participant in the life and work of this United Methodist congregation.

## **Second Sunday of Lent With Holy Communion**

Sunday, March 5, 2023, 10 am

**This Sunday is the *In-Person Lego Sunday!***

First, children will be in worship. Following the Special Music, the teacher, Joan Culbertson, will lead our children to the Nursery Room.

Today's altar flowers are dedicated by Marieta Flores.

**We welcome all visitors today!** Thank you for being here and gracing us with your presence. Please fill out the "**Visitation Card**" found in the pew and either place it in the offering plate or deposit into the *Suggestion Box* back in the narthex.

**Prayer Candles** are located back at the narthex for anyone who wants to light a candle for someone or something and offer it to God in prayer.

**Children** are invited to enjoy the resources in the **Children Learning Center** located at the back of the sanctuary during worship. Children are welcome to check out books and activity items to take home by signing the simple "*Check-out Sheet*" on clipboard there.

*Today's altar flowers are dedicated by Marieta Flores.*

### **Words of Meditation**

#### Prayer of Mother Mary at the Cross

Come, and let us sing the praises of him who was crucified for us.

For Mary said, when she beheld him on the tree,

*"Though you must endure the cross, you are my son and my God."*

~ Sung on Good Friday

*(\*Please stand if you are able)*

**Prelude**

*A Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

Marina Thomas

**Bringing in the Light**

**Welcome & the Life of the Church**

Rev. John Song

**\*Passing of Peace** (Wave to your neighbors near you with "**Peace of Christ be with you.**")

**\*Centering Breath**

The practice of Chanting the **Names of Jesus Christ** is invoking the **indwelling Presence of Christ** within you and within all of us.

Jesus Christ  
You are my Lord  
You abide in me (v. 2) I abide in you

**\*Call to Worship (Responsive)**

Leader: Come to Christ, that living stone,  
rejected by the world, but in God's sight chosen and precious.

**People: We have responded to Christ's call,  
to follow the Way of Christ,  
to be Christ's presence on earth.**

Leader: Once we were lost people, but now we are God's people,  
called out of the darkness into God's marvelous light.  
Therefore we sing in praise the Church in all ages:

**People: Blessed be your name, O God, our Redeemer.  
By your mercy we have been born anew to a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ into new life.**

**\*Gathering Song**

*Awesome God*

FWS #2040 (2X)

*Children may now leave for Lego Sunday School  
with the teacher, Joan Culbertson.*

**\*Gospel Reading**

**Matthew 7:13-14**

<sup>13</sup> "Enter through the narrow gate, for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. <sup>14</sup> For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

**Epistle Reading**

**1 Corinthians 1:18-31** (*The Message*)

<sup>18-21</sup> The Message that points to Christ on the Cross seems like sheer silliness to those hellbent on destruction, but for those on the way of salvation it makes perfect sense. This is the way God works, and most powerfully as it turns out. It's written,

*I'll turn conventional wisdom on its head,  
I'll expose so-called experts as shams.*

So where can you find someone truly wise, truly educated, truly intelligent in this day and age? Hasn't God exposed it all as pretentious nonsense? Since the world in all its fancy wisdom never had a clue when it came to knowing God, God in his wisdom took delight in using what the world considered stupid—*preaching*, of all things!—to bring those who trust him into the way of salvation.

<sup>22-25</sup> While Jews clamor for miraculous demonstrations and Greeks go in for philosophical wisdom, we go right on proclaiming Christ, the Crucified. Jews treat this like an *anti*-miracle—and Greeks pass it off as absurd. But to us who are personally called by God himself—both Jews and Greeks—Christ is God's ultimate miracle and wisdom all

wrapped up in one. Human wisdom is so shallow, so impotent, next to the seeming absurdity of God. Human strength can't begin to compete with God's "weakness."

<sup>26-31</sup> Take a good look, friends, at who you were when you got called into this life. I don't see many of "the brightest and the best" among you, not many influential, not many from high-society families. Isn't it obvious that God deliberately chose men and women that the culture overlooks and exploits and abuses, chose these "nobodies" to expose the hollow pretensions of the "somebodies"? That makes it quite clear that none of you can get by with blowing your own horn before God. Everything that we have—right thinking and right living, a clean slate and a fresh start—comes from God by way of Jesus Christ. That's why we have the saying, "If you're going to blow a horn, blow a trumpet for God."

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Message**

**Rendezvous with God**  
Part 2) "**Sign of the Cross 2.0**"

Rev. John Song

**Hymn**

*In the Garden*

#314

**The Apostles' Creed** (in unison)

[The Apostles' Creed is a summary of what the Church teaches, and of what Christians together believe, rather than a detailed statement of individual and personal belief. Saying the Creed binds Christians together as a believing community, across different traditions and practices. As we say the Creed, we join Christians past and present, and from all over the world, in proclaiming our common faith.]

***The Apostles' Creed***

#881

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Universal Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## **Celebration of Holy Communion / Celebración de la Santa Comunión**

The Lord be with you. / *El Señor sea con ustedes.*

**And also with you. / *Y también contigo.***

Lift up your hearts. / *Eleveemos los corazones.*

**We lift them up to the Lord. / *Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. / *Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.*

**It is right to give our thanks and praise. / *Es justo darle gracias y alabanza.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you. As disciples of the Lord Jesus we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love help us return to that love. I invite you, therefore, to commit yourselves to this struggle and confess your sins, asking God for strength to persevere in your Lenten journey and discipline.

*Como discípulos de Jesús nuestro Señor hemos sido llamados a luchar contra todo lo que nos aparte del amor de Dios y nuestro prójimo. El arrepentimiento, el ayuno, la oración y las obras de caridad nos ayudan a regresar el amor. Los invito, por lo tanto, a entregarse de lleno a esta lucha y a confesar sus pecados, implorando de nuestro Dios la fortaleza para perseverar en la disciplina cuaresmal.*

Most holy and merciful God: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

*Dios santísimo y misericordioso: Confesamos a ti y los unos a los otros y delante de toda la comunión de los santos en el cielo y en la tierra, que hemos pecado por nuestra propia culpa en pensamientos, palabras y obras; por lo que hemos hecho y por lo que hemos dejado de hacer.*

**(The Faith we Sing #2007, “HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”)**

**(The Faith We Sing #2007, “SANTO, SANTO, SANTO”)**

**Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!**

**My heart knows how to say to you: You are holy, Lord!**

***Santo, santo, santo, mi corazón te adora!***

***Mi corazón te sabe decir: ¡Santo eres, Señor!***

Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus Christ. *Santo eres Tú, y bendito sea Jesucristo.*

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

*No te hemos amado con todo nuestro corazón, mente y fuerza. No hemos amado a nuestros prójimos como a nosotros mismos. No hemos perdonado a otros, como hemos sido perdonados. Dios, ten piedad de nosotros.*

We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

*Hemos permanecido sordos a tu llamado de servir como Cristo nos sirvió. No hemos sido fieles a la voluntad de Cristo. Hemos ofendido a tu Espíritu Santo. Dios, ten piedad de nosotros.*

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives, our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

*Te confesamos, Señor, toda nuestra infidelidad pasada. El orgullo, la hipocresía y la impaciencia en nuestras vidas, nuestros apetitos y costumbres de auto-satisfacción y nuestra explotación de otras personas. Dios, ten piedad de nosotros.*

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

*Nuestro desenfrenado apego por los bienes y las comodidades materiales y nuestra falta de honradez en nuestra vida y el trabajo diario. Dios, ten piedad de nosotros.*

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to live our faith.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

*Nuestra negligencia en la oración y la adoración y nuestra falta de propagar la fe que tenemos. Dios, ten piedad de nosotros.*

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty.

**Accept our repentance, O God.**

*Acepta, Señor, nuestro arrepentimiento, por el mal que hemos hecho. Por nuestra ceguera ante la necesidad y el sufrimiento humano y nuestra indiferencia ante la injusticia y la crueldad, acepta nuestro arrepentimiento, Señor.*

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us.

**Accept our repentance, O God.**

*Por todos los juicios falsos, por pensamientos carentes de amor hacia nuestros prójimos y por nuestro prejuicio y desprecio de aquellos que son diferentes, acepta nuestro arrepentimiento, Señor.*

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us.

**Accept our repentance, O God.**

*Por nuestro desperdicio y la contaminación de tu creación que hemos causado y nuestra falta de preocupación por los que han de venir después, acepta nuestro arrepentimiento, Señor.*

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

**Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great. Amen.**

*Restáuranos, buen Señor, y deja que tu ira se aparte de nosotros. Escúchanos, Señor, porque tu misericordia es grande. Amén.*

As your Word became flesh, born of Mary, on that night long ago so, on the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

*Como tu Palabra se hizo carne, nació de María, en esa noche hace mucho tiempo, en la noche que se entregó por nosotros, tomó pan, dio gracias, lo partió y lo dio a sus discípulos diciendo:*

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

*“Tomen, coman; esto es mi cuerpo dado por ustedes. Hagan esto en memoria de mí”.*

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to his disciples, and said:

*Después de la cena, tomó la copa, y después de haber dado gracias, la dio a sus discípulos, diciendo:*

“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

*“Beban de ella, todos ustedes; ésta es mi sangre del nuevo pacto, derramada por ustedes y por muchos para el perdón de los pecados. Hagan esto todas las veces que la beben, en memoria de mí”.*

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

*Y así, recordando tus actos poderosos en Cristo Jesús, nos ofrecemos en alabanza y agradecimiento como un sacrificio santo y vivo, en unión con la ofrenda de Cristo por nosotros, mientras proclamamos el misterio de la fe.*

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

***Cristo ha muerto; Cristo ha resucitado; Cristo vendrá de nuevo.***

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Creator, now and forever. Amen.

### **Sharing of the bread and the cup**

(The congregation is invited to come forward to share in communion of the bread and the cup.

The United Methodist Church practices open Communion. All are invited, including children,

to come forward in the middle aisle in two lines to receive the Communion. If you wish to receive the Communion at your seat, please raise your hand or ask one of the ushers.)

**Se comparten el pan y la copa**

*(Se invita a la congregación compartir la comunión del pan y de la copa.)*

**Offertory**

*Nothing but the Blood of Jesus*

Marina Thomas

**Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings**

Leader: Let us respond to this word of grace and hope by the giving of our tithes and offerings, which support the varied ministries of the Watsonville First United Methodist Church, mission at home and throughout the world.

**\*Hymn to the Trinity**

*Gloria Patri* (Glory to the Father)

#70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.

**Presentation of Offering**

**\*Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Accept our gifts from our hearts, O God, and dedicating our lives in tipping the world toward love and justice by following the Way of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Amen.

**\*Recessional Song**

*Bind Us Together*

FWS 2226

**\*Benediction** [\*This ends the Live Streaming]

**Prayers of the People**

- a. Sharing of Joys & Concerns (Please raise your hand & mic will be given to you)
- b. Pastoral Prayer

**The Lord's Prayer/Padre Nuestro** (You are invited to pray in the language of your choice)

- a. 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.
- b. Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre; venga tu reino; hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbanos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo el poder y la gloria por siempre. Amen.

**Postlude**

*In Heavenly Love Abiding*

Marina Thomas

*We warmly invite everyone to a delicious cup of quality coffee, refreshments and fellowship in the Social Hall following worship.*

Today's refreshments: Marjorie Martinez & Marieta Flores

\*If you want to bring Refreshments in the future you can sign up on the clipboard in the narthex or see Marjorie Martinez.

## Worship Leaders

Pastor	Rev. John Song
Pianist	Marina Thomas
Choir Leader	Carmelita Abenoja
Liturgists	Tahja Martinez, Febe Avitua, Mark Sorensen
Spanish Reader	Laura Andrade Sorensen
Communion Stewards	Marieta Flores, Laura Andrade Sorensen
Greeters	Harry & Clarice Wiggins
Head Usher	Marieta Flores
Tech Team	Antonio Pantaleón, Lucila Pantaleón, Elizabeth Reitano
Nursery Attendants	Tatyana Martinez, Julissa Solis
Coffee Hour	Marjorie Martinez, Marieta Flores

## Calendar for the Week

Sun., March 5	10:00 am	<b>Second Sunday of Lent with Holy Communion</b> LEGO Sunday School
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:30 am	<b>30 Minute Conversation with Pastor</b> , St. Stephen's room
Sun., March 12	10:00 am	<b>Third Sunday of Lent Service</b> <b>*Spring Forward:</b> Daylight Saving Time begins!
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:45 am	<b>Leadership Council Meeting</b> , St. Stephen's room

## Opportunities

**Lenten Day Retreat** with Dr. Peter Coster

**What to do with ANGER: Understanding Our Sacred Emotion**

**Sat. March 18, 10 am – 3:30 pm**

(9:30 am Pre-registration; 12 pm – 1 pm Lunch provided)

Cost for members & friends of the church: \$10 Students, Staff & anyone under 30: FREE

**30 Minute Conversation with Pastor on All Things Faith & Christian Life**  
(Every Sunday, 11:30 am – 12 pm, during Coffee Hour, St. Stephen's room)

**Leadership Council meeting:** Sunday, March 12, 11:45 am, St. Stephen's room  
(There will be no *30 min Conversation with the Pastor* that Sunday.)

**Winter Dinner Program @ Salvation Army: Fri. March 24, 5 pm**

**COPA Housing Civic Academy:** Saturday, March 25, 3:00 pm @ Wats1st UMC

Church Website: [watsonville1stumc.org](http://watsonville1stumc.org)

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Office Hours: Tue-Thu 9 am – 5 pm, Fri 9 am – 12 pm (Closed for lunch 12-1 pm)

Pastor Office Hours: Tue – Thu 10 am – 12 pm, 3 pm – 5 pm

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