

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 Easter

Sunday, April 16, 2023, 10 am

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.

*(*Please stand if you are able)*

Words of Meditation

“What happened in the life of Christ will happen in us.
In our transformed lives, God lives in us
without us losing our own being.”

~ Raimon Panikkar, *Christophany: The Fullness of Man*

Prelude

Jesus Is Lord of All

Marina Thomas

Bringing in the Light

Welcome & the Life of the Church

Rev. John Song

***Passing of Peace** (Wave to your neighbors around you with “**Peace of Christ be with you.**”)

***Centering Breath**

***Call to Worship**

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Crucified and risen Christ, flood our hearts with your light

and our souls with your living presence,
that we may trust the victory of God in Christ Jesus,
the power of forgiveness over vengeance,
the victory of love over violence,
the triumph of life over death.

By your rising, give us courage to know that evil and oppression,
though they seem to reign on earth, have already been defeated.

You who bear us in your heart,
you have raised us up with you,
and set us free from our fear,
free from shame and despair,
free from all that would imprison us,
from all that would keep us from loving perfectly and living in freedom in Christ.

Loving Christ, we have died in you and risen in you.

May we walk with courage into this new life that Christ has won for us. Amen.

***Gathering Song**

Morning Has Broken

#145

Children's Time

Pastor John

***Gospel Reading**

John 20:19-29

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Jesus and Thomas

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Epistle Reading

I Corinthians 15:17-22

¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹ For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²² for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Special Music

Children's Piano Recital

Under the tutelage of piano teacher, Marina Thomas

Message

**All Things RESURRECTION:
"Did Jesus Really Rise from the Dead?"**

Rev. John Song

Hymn in Response

He Lives

#310

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.

Offertory

Jesus Loves Me

Marina Thomas

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#95

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**

Because He Lives

#364

***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)

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.

We warmly invite everyone to a delicious cup of good 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
Liturgists	Tahja Martinez, Febe Avitua, Mark 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., April 16	10:00 am	Second Sunday of Easter
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:30 am	30 Minute Conversation with Pastor , St. Stephen’s room
Mon., April 17	1-3 pm	Sewing Group , St. Stephen’s room
Sun., April 23	10:00 am	Earth Day / Native American Ministries / LEGO Sunday
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:30 am	30 Minute Conversation with Pastor , St. Stephen’s room

Opportunities

Day Retreat Workshop with Dr. Peter Coster

What to do with ANGER: Understanding Our Sacred Emotion

Sat. April 29, 10 am – 3:30

(9:30 am Check-in; 12 pm – 1 pm Lunch provided)

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

The 20th Anniversary COPA Convention: Sat. May 20, 5 pm, Golden State Theatre (417 Alvarado St, Monterey, CA 93940)

Church Website: watsonville1stumc.org

Email: office@watsonville1stumc.org | Phone: (831) 724-4434

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

229 Stanford Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

Baptism, Membership, Wedding, Funeral, and Pastoral Counseling are available