Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

Mother's Day Sunday

Sunday, May 14, 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.

Flowers for mothers are arranged by Marieta Flores.

(*Please stand if you are able)

Words of Meditation

The Mother

By Kahlil Gibran from "The Broken Wings", a poetic novel set in Beirut

The most beautiful word on the lips of mankind is the word "Mother," and the most beautiful call is the call of "My mother."

It is a word full of hope and love,

a sweet and kind word coming from the depths of the heart.

The mother is everything –

she is our consolation in sorrow,

our hope in misery, and our strength in weakness.

She is the source of love, mercy, sympathy, and forgiveness....

Everything in nature bespeaks the mother.

The sun is the mother of earth and gives it its nourishment of heart;

it never leaves the universe at night until it has put the earth to sleep to the song of the sea and the hymn of birds and brooks.

And this earth is the mother of trees and flowers.

It produces them, nurses them, and weans them.

The trees and flowers become kind mothers of their great fruits and seeds.

And the mother, the prototype of all existence, is the eternal spirit, full of beauty and love.

Prelude What a Friend We Have in Jesus Marina Thomas

Bringing in the Light

Welcome & the Life of the Church Rev. John Song

*Greet One Another! (Wave to your neighbors near you with "Happy Mother's Day!")

*Centering Breath

Lay Your Heart On My Soul

Lay your head on my pillow, um – uhm. Lay your heart on my soul.

[A song from the African-American slaves. A mother grieving over her child when they were separated from the slave trade.]

*Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Be present in this place. Bring your body, mind and spirit.

People: Listen to the words of welcome to the gracious invitation to worship.

Leader: Know that this gathering is a gift where God's presence can meet you.

People: And to gather together in love.

Leader: To honor and show reverence to our mothers who have given us life and love.

People: For mothers who have nurtured and cared for us.

Leader: Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.

People: Let our love for one another reflects the true and compassionate love

of God shown to us through the gift of His son.

All: We come together unafraid, for we know that perfect love casts out fear.

*Gathering Song The Gift of Love #408

Children's Time "How Is God Like a Mother?" Pastor John

Psalm Reading Psalm 131:2 (God as a Mother)

"But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me."

Hebrew Reading Deuteronomy 32:11-12

God described as a Mother Eagle

"Like the eagle that stirs up its nest, and hovers over its young, God spreads wings to catch you, lifting them into the air, teaching them to fly."

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Choir Anthem

Thank you, Lord, for Mother's Dear
Words & Music by Joe E. Parks

Message "Motherhood and Womanhood" Rev. John Song

Hymn in Response HOW COULD ANYONE (3X)

How could anyone ever tell you, you are anything less than beautiful?

How could anyone ever tell you, you are less than whole?

How could anyone fail to notice that your loving is a miracle?

How deeply you're connected to my soul!

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 We Gather Together Marina Thomas

*Doxology Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; #95

Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Tune: Finlandia #437

Presentation of Offering

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

We come before you, O Lord, dedicating our gifts and our lives in your service. In gratefulness for calling us as your own, we offer you our thanks and praise. Receive our pledges and the gifts of our hands, and use them to bring light to the darkness and hope to places of despair and suffering, through our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Recessional Song

A Christian Home Words by Barbara B. Hart

- O, give us homes built firm upon the Savior,
 Where Christ is Head and Counselor and Guide;
 Where every child is taught His love and favor
 And gives his heart to Christ, the Crucified:
 How sweet to know that though his footsteps waver
 His faithful Lord is walking by his side.
- 2. O, give us homes with godly fathers, mothers, Who always place their hope and trust in Him; Whose tender patience turmoil never bothers, Whose calm and courage trouble cannot dim; A home where each finds joy in serving others, And love still shines, tho' days be dark and grim.
- 3. O, Lord, our God, our homes are Thine forever!
 We trust to Thee their problems, toil and care:
 Their bonds of love no enemy can sever
 If Thou art always Lord and Master there:
 Be Thou the center of our least endeavor —
 Be Thou our guest our hearts and homes to share.
 Amen

Prayers of the People

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

^{*}Benediction [*This ends the Live Streaming]

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.

Postlude Doxology Marina Thomas

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 |
| Choir Leader | Carmelita Abenoja |
| Liturgiata | Tobio Morting Fobo Arritus Mor |

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., May 14 | 10:00 am | Mother's Day |
|--------------|----------------------|--|
| | 11:10 am 11:30 am | Coffee Hour, Social Hall 30 Minute Conversation with Pastor, St. Stephen's room |
| Mon., May 15 | 1-3 pm | Sewing Group, St. Stephen's room |
| Sat., May 20 | 5:00 pm | COPA 20 th Ann. Convention, Golden State Theatre (417 Alvarado St., Monterey, CA 93940) |
| Sun., May 21 | 10:00 am | LEGO Sunday |
| | 11:10 am 11:30 am | Coffee Hour, Social Hall 30 Minute Conversation with Pastor. St. Stephen's room |

Opportunities

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