

Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

*Open Mind, Open Heart, Open Door*

## **Graduation Sunday with Holy Communion**

Sunday, June 4, 2023, 10 am

*\*Today children will stay through the entire service.*

**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.

### **Words of Meditation**

*Go to college.*

*Get some knowledge.*

*Stay there till you are through.*

*If they can make penicillin out of moldy bread,  
they can sure make something out of you.*

~ Muhammad Ali

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

(\*Please stand if you are able)

**Prelude**

*“I Need Thee Every Hour”*

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 “*Peace of Christ be with you.*”)

**\*Centering Breath**

**Call to Worship** (inspired by Psalm 119: 1-8)

Happy are those who walk in God’s ways.

**Blessed are those who observe God’s commandments.**

Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on righteousness.

**Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with praise.**

Come, let us love the Lord our God.

**We come to worship the One**

**who leads us in the ways of life.**

**\*Gospel Reading**

**John 15:1-10**

*I am the vine you are the branches*

<sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

<sup>6</sup> Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. <sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love.

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

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Message**

**“A Message to the Graduates”**

Rev. John Song

**Graduation Ceremony**

**Presentation of Graduates**

**2023 List of Graduates**

College Graduates

**Sydney Ota** graduated from Biola University

**Alessa Heredia** graduated from Cabrillo College

High School Graduates

**Febe Avitua** graduating from Aptos High School

**Tyra Martinez** graduating from Watsonville High School

**Adrian Lourenco-Higginbotham** graduated from North High school

**Kaya Lourenco-Higginbotham** graduated from North High school

**Angel Cabello** graduating from Watsonville High School

Middle School Graduates

**Elizabeth Reitano** graduating from Green Valley Christian School

**Allyssa Cabello** graduating from E.A. Hall Middle School

**Kenzie Culbertson** graduating from Mount Madonna Middle School

**Griffin Burkholder** graduating from Webber Middle School

Elementary School Graduate

**Isaiah Gomez-Bernabe** promoted from Castroville Elementary School

**Prayer of Blessing for the Graduates**

(Ephesians 3:16-19)

I pray that out of God's glorious riches  
he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,  
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.  
And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,  
may have power to grasp  
how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,  
and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—  
that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

**Hymn Response**

*Take My Life, and Let It Be*

#399

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

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

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

Lift up your hearts. / *Elevemos 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.

Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. In the fullness of time you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior, and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**(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.*

At his baptism in the Jordan your Spirit descended upon him  
and declared him your beloved Son.

With your Spirit upon him he turned away the temptations of sin.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,  
to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,  
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,  
and to announce that the time had come

when you would save your people.  
He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.  
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection,  
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always,  
baptizing us with the Holy Spirit and with fire, as on the Day of Pentecost.

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:

*La noche en la que Él se entregó por nosotros, tomó pan, y habiendo  
dado gracias, lo partió, lo dio a sus discípulos y dijo:*

“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 Holy 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 are yours, Almighty Creator, now and forever. Amen.

**Sharing of the bread and the cup**

*(The congregation is invited to share in communion of the bread and the cup.)*

**Se comparten el pan y la copa**

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

### **\*Receiving 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.)

### **Offering Our Gifts and Tithes**

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** *“Holy Is the Lord”* Marina Thomas

**\*Hymn to the Trinity** *Gloria Patri* (Glory Be 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.

**\*Offertory Prayer** (In unison)

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. Amen.

**\*Recessional Song** *God of Grace and God of Glory* #577

**\*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** *“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”* 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:

Abigail Avitua for graduation cake, Marieta Flores for chicken sandwiches

\*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
Head Usher	Marieta Flores
Communion Stewards	Marieta Flores, Laura Andrade Sorensen
Tech Team	Antonio Pantaleón, Lucila Pantaleón, Elizabeth Reitano
Nursery Attendants	Tatyana Martinez, Julissa Solis
Coffee Hour	Peter Telc, Holly Battle

## Calendar for the Week

Sun., June 4	10:00 am	<b>Graduation Sunday with Holy Communion</b> Peace with Justice Sunday offering
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:30 am	<b>30 Minute Conversation with Pastor</b> , St. Stephen's room
Mon., June 5	1-3 pm	<b>Sewing Group</b> , St. Stephen's room
Thu., June 8	12:00 pm	<b>UMW Meeting</b> , St. Stephen's room
Sun., June 11	10:00 am	<b>Worship Service/ LEGO Sunday</b> Preaching: AR Pointer
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall

## Opportunities

### **Mural Ribbon Cutting Ceremony & Lunch by Freedom Rotary Tuesday, June 13th at 12:30 pm at the Flodberg Park**

You can see the mural from our church parking lot across the Flodberg Park. We will be joined by the Watsonville First UMC congregation, as well as Friends of Watsonville Parks and Community Services. If you plan to attend please contact the church office (831) 724-4434 so that the Freedom Rotary can plan a picnic lunch for you.

**Free MENTAL HEALTH Workshop in Spanish  
Sat. June 17, 2023, 12 pm – 2 pm @ Wats1st UMC**

**Free MENTAL HEALTH Workshop in English  
Sat. July 29, 2023, 12 pm – 2 pm @ Wats1st UMC**

Facilitated by Dr. Hanna Song, PsyD & Santiago Gallegos, MS, CCC-SLP

### **Holy Walkamolies: Point Lobos State Natural Reserve**

**Saturday, June 24, 9 am – 1 pm**

(All are welcome! Meet at the church parking lot at 9:00 am for carpool.)

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

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