

Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

Ordinary Time

Sunday, August 20, 2023, 10 am

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.

Words of Meditation

“Whenever God asks me, I will not say ‘NO.’”

~ St. Therese of Lisieux, the 19th century of Carmelite nun in France

Everything is Waiting for You by David Whyte

Your great mistake is to act the drama
as if you were alone. As if life
were a progressive and cunning crime
with no witness to the tiny hidden transgressions.

To feel abandoned is to deny
the intimacy of your surroundings.
Surely, even you, at times, have felt the grand array;
the swelling presence, and the chorus,
crowding out your solo voice.
You must note the way the soap dish enables you,
or the window latch grants you freedom.

Alertness is the hidden discipline of familiarity.
The stairs are your mentor of things to come,
the doors have always been there
to frighten you and invite you,
and the tiny speaker in the phone
is your dream-ladder to divinity.

Put down the weight of your aloneness
and ease into the conversation.
The kettle is singing
even as it pours you a drink,
the cooking pots have left their arrogant aloofness
and seen the good in you at last.
All the birds and creatures of the world are unutterably themselves.
Everything is waiting for you

(*Please stand if you are able)

Prelude *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* Holly Ota

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**

***Opening Prayer** (In unison)

Lord, may we know the presence of the Holy Spirit here with us today.

May we be open to your leading, sensitive to you speaking and alert to your calling.

Living God, we invite the same power that was at work

when Jesus was raised from the grave to be present with us here now. Amen

***Gathering Song** *Awesome God* FWS #2040 (2X)

Children’s Time “House Built on a Sand” Pastor John

Hebrew Reading **Exodus 14:5-15**
Hebrew Slaves Crossing the Red Sea

When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the minds of Pharaoh and his officials were changed toward the people, and they said, “What have we done, letting Israel leave our service?” ⁶ So he had his chariot made ready and took his army with him; ⁷ he took six hundred elite chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them. ⁸ The Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the Israelites, who were going out boldly. ⁹ The Egyptians pursued them, all Pharaoh’s horses and chariots, his chariot drivers and his army; they overtook them camped by the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.

¹⁰ As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. ¹¹ They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, ‘Let us alone so that we can serve the Egyptians?’ For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” ¹³ But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today, for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. ¹⁴ The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.” ¹⁵ Then the Lord said to Moses, “**Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward!**”

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Special Music *I Have Dreamt* Vanessa Yearsley, Soprano

Composer, Bernard Herrmann
from Emily Brontë’s noble, *Wuthering Heights*, Act 2:

In this opera by Bernard Herrmann, the character Cathy sings of her feeling of transformation as she transitions between the realm of the living and that of the spirit or dream world due to a tragic love affair with Mr. Heathcliff.

*I have dreamt in my life dreams that have stayed with me forever
and have gone through and through me like wine through water.
And have altered the color of my mind.*

*I dreamt once that I was in heaven and that heaven did not seem to be my home.
And I broke my heart with weeping to see the heath again.
And the angels flung me back to earth.
And wuthering heights where I awoke sobbing, sobbing for joy.*

Message **Breath Work:** Rev. John Song
Part 4) **“Discovering Your Deepest YES!”**

Hymn *Spirit of the Living God* #393 (2X)

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

To donate, please make a check out to “Watsonville First UMC” or cash in the envelope with a note “UMCOR Maui” and drop in the Sunday offering plate or mail to the office. [Our church will send the total amount to **UMCOR** (the United Methodist Committee on Relief) Disaster Response and Recovery, **Advance project number #901670** to help rebuild after the wildfires in Maui, Hawaii.]

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 *Vocalise* Holly Ota
Timothy Brown

***Doxology** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow #95

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** *Pass It On* #572

***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)

Postlude

O Happy Day
Edward R. Kimbault, Arr. Putnam

Holly Ota

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

Today's refreshments: Holly Battle & Friends

*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	Holly Ota
Guest Soloist	Vanessa Yearsley
Choir Leader	Carmelita Abenoja
Liturgist	Tahja Martinez, Febe Avitua
Greeters	Richard & Carol Parker
Usher	Laura Andrade
Tech Team	Antonio Pantaleón, Lucila Pantaleón, Elizabeth Reitano
Nursery Attendants	Tatyana Martinez, Julissa Solis
Coffee Hour	Holly Battle & Friends

Calendar for the Week

Sun., Aug. 20	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:30 am	30 min Q&A with the Pastor on Sermon , St. Stephen's room
	11:40 am	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Mon., Aug. 21	1-3 pm	Sewing Group , St. Stephen's room
Sun., Aug. 27	10:00 am	LEGO Sunday
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:30 am	30 min Q&A with the Pastor on Sermon , St. Stephen's room
	11:40 am	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Opportunities

Meals for Pajaro Flood Recovery Volunteers

The volunteer team from our Conference to help with the recovery effort for the flood victims in Pajaro will be staying with us again this month on **Friday, August 25** and **Saturday 26**. They will return again in September on the following days as well, **Friday, September 8** and **Saturday 9**; then again on **Friday, September 22** and **Saturday 23**.

If you would like to prepare breakfast, lunch or dinner for a group of 6 workers please contact Carol Parker at [\(831\) 728-3852](tel:8317283852) or lomasslough@gmail.com.

30 min Q&A with the Pastor on Sermon during the Summer
(Every Sunday from 11:30 am – 12 noon, St. Stephen's room)

Church Website: watsonville1stumc.org

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