

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.

Our Vision

*Tipping the world toward love and justice
in alignment with God's deepest desire
for our lives and all God's creation.*

Kingdomtide

Sunday, October 15, 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.

This Sunday is *Sunday School with Joan*

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.

Words of Meditation

"The chief source of man's inhumanity to man seems to be the tribal limits of his sense of obligation to the other man."

~ Reinhold Niebuhr, *Moral Man and Immoral Society: A Study in Ethics and Politics*, 1932

"Violence begets violence; hate begets hate... It is all a descending spiral, and the end is destruction — for everybody. Along the way of life, someone must have enough sense and morality to cut off the chain of hate."

~ Martin Luther King Jr.

"Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

~ Martin Luther King Jr.

"Motive is love and instrument is justice."

~ Reinhold Niebuhr

(*Please stand if you are able)

Prelude *I Know Whom I Have Believed* Marina Thomas
J. McGranahan

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** *May God Bless Us with Discomfort*
[by Judy Newton, United Methodist Missionary, Peace Educator & Activist]

Leader: May God bless us with discomfort at easy answers,
half-truths and superficial relationships

People: so that we may live deep within your heart.

Leader: May God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression of people,
and exploitation of the earth.

People: so that we may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader: May God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain,
rejection, starvation, and war

**People: so that we may reach out your hand to comfort them
and to turn their pain into joy.**

Leader: And may God bless us with enough foolishness to believe
that you can make a difference in this world

People: so that we can do what others claim cannot be done. Amen.

***Gathering Song** *Sanctuary* FWS #2164 (2x)

Children’s Time “**I Come with Peace**” Pastor John

Psalm Readings **Psalm 34:14**
“Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.”
Psalm 37:37
“Consider the blameless, observe the upright; a future awaits those who seek peace.”
Leader: The word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God!

Choir Anthem *Hymn Of Promise*
Words & Music by Nathalie Sleeth

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

Message **A Moment of Moral Clarity:** Rev. John Song
“Trying to Make a Sense of the War in the Middle East”

***Hymn** *This Is My Song* #437

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 *Interlude* Marina Thomas
M. Hayes

***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.

***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 Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Recessional Song** *Let There Be Peace on Earth* #431

***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 *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* Marina Thomas
W. Moore

*We warmly invite everyone to a delicious cup of 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

Ministers	Each one of us
Pastor	Rev. John Song
Pianist	Marina Thomas
Choir Leader	Carmelita Abenoja
Liturgist	Bob Culbertson
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., Oct. 15	10:00 am	Worship & Sunday School with Joan
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:15 am	Youth & Parents meeting, St. Stephen's room
	11:30 am	30 Min. Conversation with Pastor, St. Stephen's room
	11:40 am	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Mon., Oct. 16	1-3 pm	Sewing Group , St. Stephen's room
Sat., Oct. 21	10am-12pm	Free Mental Health Workshop , St. Stephen's room
Sun., Oct. 22	10:00 am	Blessing of Animals Sunday
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:30 am	30 Min. Conversation with Pastor, St. Stephen's room
	11:40 am	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Upcoming Opportunities!

30 Minute Conversation with Pastor

TODAY from 11:30 am – 12 noon, St. Stephen's room

Mental Health Workshop: Trauma & Relationships

Dr. Hanna Song & Mayra Bernabe

Sat. Oct 21, 10 am – 12 pm, St Stephen's room

FREE: All are welcome!

Blessing of Animals Sunday: Oct. 22, 10 am Worship Service

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)

229 Stanford Street, Watsonville, CA 95076