

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.

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 21, 2024, 10 am

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

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

“Hope will never be silent.”

~ Harvey Milk

“Love is never wrong.”

~ Melissa Etheridge

“It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are.”

~ E.E. Cummings

“When all Americans are treated as equal,
no matter who they are or whom they love, we are all more free.”

~ Barack Obama

**(Please stand if you are able)*

Prelude

I am Loved

Marina Thomas

Bringing in the Light

Welcome & the Life of the Church

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

***Centering Breath**

***Call to Worship**

Allyson & Maira Sandoval West

Leader: Lord, open our lips and we will proclaim your praise.

People: We arise today, through God's strength to power us:

Leader: God's way to set us on the right path,

People: God's loving gaze to affirm us,

Leader: God's ear to hear us,

People: God's wisdom to guide us,

Leader: God's shield to protect us.

People: God's hand to lift us when we fall,

Leader: God's grace to sustain us,

All: **God's embrace to gather us as ONE. Amen.**

***Gathering Song**

Morning Has Broken

#145

Children's Time

"God Loves You Just the Way You Are"

Dr. Haley

Hymn

Jesus Love Me

#191

***Gospel Reading**

John 4:4-41

Dr. Haley Feuerbacher

Samaritan Woman at the Well

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Special Music

If You Want to Sing Out, Sing Out
music by Cat Stevens

Eden Edell

Human After All
music by Eden Edell

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

Message

Holy Disunity: What Separates Us Can Save Us

Dr. Haley

Part 2) **"Bad Christians and Good Christ-Followers: Queering Our Christianity"**

Litany to Our Social Creed

God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ,
calls us by grace

**to be renewed in the image of our Creator,
that we may be one
in divine love for the world.**

Today is the day

God embraces all hues of humanity,
delights in diversity and difference,

favors solidarity transforming strangers into friends.

And so shall we.

Today is the day
God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace,
celebrates where justice and mercy embrace,
exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb.

And so shall we.

Today is the day
God brings good news to the poor,
proclaims release to the captives,
gives sight to the blind, and
sets the oppressed free.

And so shall we.

Hymn

Sweet. Sweet Spirit

#334

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

In Times Like These

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.

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Accept our gifts from our hearts, O God, and dedicating our lives in tipping the world toward love by following the Way of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Recessional Song**

We Are the Church

#558 (vs 1-4)

***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.

Postlude

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Marina Thomas

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

Worship Leaders

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Ministers | Each one of us |
| Pastor | Rev. John Song |
| Guest Preacher | Dr. Haley Feuerbacher |
| Pianist | Marina Thomas |
| Soloist | Eden Edell |
| Choir Leader | Carmelita Abenoja |
| Liturgists | Allyson & Maira Sandoval West |
| 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

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|---------------|----------|--|
| Sun., Jan. 21 | 10:00 am | Worship Service / Sunday School with Joan |
| | 11:10 am | Coffee Hour, Social Hall |
| | 11:40 am | Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary |
| Mon., Jan. 22 | 1-3 pm | Sewing Group , St. Stephen's room |
| Wed., Jan. 24 | 4:30 pm | Wed. Bible Study , St. Stephen's room |
| Sun., Jan. 28 | 10:00 am | Worship Service / Sunday School with Joan |
| | 11:10 am | Coffee Hour, Social Hall |
| | 11:40 am | Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary |

Opportunities!

2024 Pledge Cards Are Now Available!

Your 2024 pledge cards are available for pick up in the back of the church narthex area or the church office. We can also mail it to you at your request!

Please fill out your card and mail or drop it off at the church office.

Thank you for your pledge and continued support for the ministry
of the Watsonville First United Methodist Church!

Weekly Wed. Bible Study!

Every Wed. from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm, St. Stephen's room

We are studying the Gospel of Luke led by Pastor John.

Bring your Bible. Don't have one? We'll provide you.

All are welcome!

Church Website: watsonville1stumc.org

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

229 Stanford Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

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