

Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

Open Mind, Open Heart, Open Door

Let us all be good humans on earth and be good neighbors to one another. Be the reason why someone feels included, welcomed, valued, listened to, supported, and loved.

Easter Celebration

Sunday, March 31, 2024, 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.

Words of Meditation

Love is recklessness, not reason.
Reason seeks a profit.
Loves comes on strong, consuming herself, unabashed.

Yet in the midst of suffering,
Love proceeds like a millstone,
hard-surfaced and straight forward.

Having died to self-interest,
she risks everything and asks for nothing.
Love gambles away every gift God bestows.
~ Rumi, a 13th-century Persian poet and a Sufi mystic

**(Please stand if you are able)*

Prelude *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* Marina Thomas

Bringing in the Light

Welcome & the Life of the Church Rev. John Song

***Easter Greetings** (Wave to your neighbors around you with “**Happy Easter!**”)

***Centering Breath**

***Call to Worship**

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen!

humbled himself, obedient unto death,
even death on the cross.

For this, God raised him on high
and bestowed on him the name
which is above every other name.

So that at the name of Jesus,
every knee should bend
in heaven and on earth and under the earth.

And so every tongue should proclaim
“Jesus Christ is Lord!”
to God the Father’s glory.

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Choir Anthem

The Glory of Easter
Words & Music by John W. Peterson

Message

Kenotic Path of Jesus:
Part 2) “**The Paradox of Kenosis**”

Rev. John Song

Hymn in Response

Because He Lives

#364

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

O Praise the Name

Marina Thomas

***Hymn to the Trinity**

Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father)

#70

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

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 for the transformation of the world.
Amen.

***Recessional Song**

Up from the Grave He Arose

#322

***Benediction** [*This ends the Live Streaming]

Prayers of the People

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

The Lord’s Prayer/Padre Nuestro (You are invited to pray in the language of your choice)

Postlude

Christ Arose

Marina Thomas

Today's refreshments: Marjorie Martinez, Marieta Flores

Worship Leaders

Pastor	Rev. John Song
Pianist	Marina Thomas
Choir Leader	Carmelita Abenoja
Liturgist	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.	Mar. 31	10:00 am	Easter Celebration
		11:10 am	Easter Family Potluck
		11:45 am	Easter Egg Hunt , Front Lawn
Mon.	Apr. 1	1-3 pm	Sewing Group , St. Stephen's room
Wed.	Apr. 3	4:30 pm	Wed. Bible Study , St. Stephen's room
Thu.	Apr. 4	4:00 pm	Food for Children , Back Parking Lot
Sun.	April 7	10:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion on Second Sunday of Easter
		11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
		11:40 am	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
		4:00 pm	Don Mathews Celebration of Life
			Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula 4590 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923

Opportunities!

Coffee Hour Hosts and Volunteers Needed

For the past 2 and a half years we have enjoyed the Coffee Hour following worship to connect with one another over refreshment under the leadership of Marjorie Martinez. Today is Marjorie's last day hosting the Coffee Hour. It's going to take collective effort on our part to fill her shoes.

Here are 3 ways you can help:

- Host a Sunday to provide refreshments and prepare, set up, and clean up.
- Volunteer to help clean up afterwards.
- You may donate towards the *Coffee Hour Fund* by making your cash or check donation payable to the church and labeling it "Coffee Hour"

Signup sheet located in the narthex area.

Thank you for helping us continue Coffee Hour Ministry.

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