

Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

Open Mind, Open Heart, Open Door

We believe that God's vision for human community include people of all races, ethnicities, national origins, religions, genders, sexual orientations, abilities, and ages. We believe that a wider spectrum of genders, sexual orientations, cultural origins, social classes, races/ethnicities, and ages will help create a more vibrant community to serve God and the world.

Sixth Sunday of Easter with Holy Communion

Sunday, May 5, 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

I am alone. I've built walls
A fortress deep and mighty
That none may penetrate
I have no need of friendship,
friendship causes pains
It's laughter and it's loving I disdain
I am a rock I am an island

~ "*I Am a Rock*" by Simon & Garfunkel, 1966

"We are designed to be interdependent.

Even the most siloed among us are dependent to varying degrees on others."

~ Alara Tiernan

"I am because of WE."

~ African proverb

**(Please stand if you are able)*

Prelude

Mercy Tree

Marina Thomas

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

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

Leader: This the day that the Lord has made.

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Leader: This none other than the house of God,

People: **and this is the gate of heaven.**

*Gathering Song

Shall We Gather at the River

#723

Children's Time

"Meaning of the Hawaiian Greeting *Aloha*"

Pastor John

Journey to Hope Foundation Scholarship Recipient:

Josefina Lopez

Josefina Lopez will be our guest speaker on Sunday, May 5th. She is a member of this church and an active scholarship recipient of the Watsonville Journey to Hope Foundation.

Josefina is on the verge of completing her graduate studies at San Jose State University, set to earn her Master of Social Work degree by May 2024. Throughout her academic journey, she has been driven by a profound commitment to improving underserved students' well-being and academic success. Concurrently, Josefina is actively pursuing a Pupil Personnel Services Credential, a qualification necessary for her post-graduation goal of working in a California Public School.

Looking ahead, Josefina plans to leverage her academic expertise and hands-on experience to support marginalized youth, creating environments conducive to their academic and personal development. She aspires to secure a position as a school social worker or counselor within a local public school, where she hopes to make tangible improvements in students' lives in her community. Josefina's dedication to serving others underscores her determination to make a positive impact in the field of education and social work.

*Gospel Readings

Luke 24:13-16, 28-35

Maira & Allyson Sandoval-West

The Walk to Emmaus

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them,¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how **he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.**

Gospel Reading

John 21:12-14

Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. (vs. 12-14)

Matthew 18:20

"Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I, in the midst of them."

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Message

Darkness and Light:

Rev. John Song

Part 4) "What the Story of Emmaus Reveals to Us"

Hymn

Many Gifts, One Spirit

#114

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

Take My Life

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Proclamation (in unison)

Christ lives among us.

Christ lives within us.

Christ lives around us.

Prayer of Preparation

Institution of the Elements

*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.)

*Recessional Song

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

FWS #2223 (vs. 1-3)

*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

Gather Us In

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: Marieta Flores

*If you want to bring Refreshments in the future you can sign up on the clipboard in the narthex or contact the office.

Worship Leaders

Ministers	Each one of us
Pastor	Rev. John Song
Pianist	Marina Thomas
Choir Leader	Carmelita Abenoja
Liturgist	Maira & Allyson 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	Marieta Flores

Calendar for the Week

Sun.	May 5	10:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
		11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
		11:40 am	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Mon.	May 6	1-3 pm	Sewing Group , St. Stephen's room
Wed.	May 8	3:30 pm	VBS Planning Meeting , St. Stephen's room
Thu.	May 9	12:00 pm	UMW Meeting , St. Stephen's room
		4:30 pm	Thur. Bible Study with BBQ Dinner following, St. Stephen's
Sun.	May 12	10:00 am	Mother's Day Celebration
		11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
		11:40 am	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Opportunities!

Thur. Bible Study resumes on May 9th at 4:30 pm in St. Stephen's

There will be a **Potluck Dinner** immediately following the study.

Special **BBQ ribs** will be prepared by Oscar Lomeli.

All are welcome!

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