

Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

Open Mind, Open Heart, Open Door

Welcoming to humans of all races, genders, and sexual orientations. We invite, respect, and support all people who speak to love, dignity, and justice. You are affirmed and accepted as a full participant in the life and work of this United Methodist congregation.

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

Whoever you are...
whatever you've done,
whoever you love,
and **wherever you are in your journey of faith...**
whatever you believe
or whatever you don't believe,
You are welcome here!

Blessing of the Animals Sunday

Sunday, October 13, 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.

Today's altar flowers are dedicated by Marieta Flores.

Words of Meditation

What is dog spelled backward? God.

"I am trying to be what my dog thinks that I am."
~ Car Bumper Sticker

"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole."
~ Roger A. Caras, author

*(*Please stand if you are able)*

Prelude *For the Beauty of the Earth* Marina Thomas

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**

***Responsive Prayer**

God created us and placed us on the earth
to be stewards of all living things,
therefore let us proclaim the glory of our Creator, saying:

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

Blessed are you, O Lord of the Universe; you create the animals
and give us the ability to train them to help us in our work.

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

Blessed are you, O Lord of the Universe; for the sake of our comfort
you give us domestic animals as companions.

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

Blessed are you, O Lord of the Universe; you care for us
even as you care for the birds of the air.

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands. Amen.

***Gathering Song** *All Creatures of Our God and King* #62 (vs 1-4)

Children’s Time “Showing Love to Our Pets” Christine Hyde

Reading from the Prophet **Isaiah 11: 6-9**

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed^[a] together,
and a little child shall lead them.
⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den.
⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

Hebrew Reading **Job 12:7-10**

⁷ “But ask the animals, and they will teach you,
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;

⁸ ask the plants of the earth,^[a] and they will teach you,
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.

⁹ Who among all these does not know
that the hand of the Lord has done this?

¹⁰ In his hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being.

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Special Music

Who Let the Dogs Out
By Bahamian Junkanoo Band

Message

“My Pets, My Partners”

Christine Hyde

Hymn

The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young

#118

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

How Great Thou Art

Marina Thomas

***Hymn to the Trinity**

Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father)

#70

***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.

Blessing of the Animals

You are invited at this time to come forward with your animal companions or pet symbols to receive a blessing.

***Recessional Song**

God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale

#122

***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

All Things Bright and Beautiful

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 |
| Preaching | Christine Hyde |
| Pianist | Marina Thomas |
| Choir Leader | Carmelita Abenoja |
| Liturgist | 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, Tatyana Martinez |

Opportunities

Membership Invitation

Anyone who is interested in becoming a member at Watsonville First UMC, please see or contact our pastor at johnsongmc@gmail.com or (650) 722-1277.

Our **Church Conference** will be held on **Sat. Nov. 23 @ 10 am**

Calendar for the Week

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| Sun. | Oct. 13 | 10:00 am | Blessing of Animals Sunday Preaching: Christine Hyde |
| | | 11:10 am | Coffee Hour, Social Hall |
| Wed. | Oct. 16 | | NO Wed. Bible Study |
| Sun. | Oct. 20 | 10:00 am | Laity Sunday Preaching: Marieta Flores |
| | | 11:10 am | Coffee Hour, Social Hall |

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

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