

# 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.

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.

## Thanksgiving Sunday

Sunday, November 24, 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

"When we choose not to focus on what is missing from our lives  
but are grateful for the abundance that's present....  
we experience heaven on earth."  
~ Sarah Breathnach

"In daily life we must see that it is not **happiness** that makes us **grateful**,  
but **gratefulness** that makes us **happy**. The root of happiness is gratefulness."  
~ Brother David Steindl-Rast

"Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass.  
It's about learning how to dance in the rain!"  
~ Vivian Greene.

(\*Please stand if you are able)

**Prelude**

*Now Thank We All Our God*

Marina Thomas

**Bringing in the Light**

**Welcome & the Life of the Church**

Rev. John Song

**\*Greetings** (Wave to your neighbors and exchange greeting of “*Happy Thanksgiving!*”)

**\*Call to Worship**

Allyson Sandoval-West

Leader: Let us gather together in thanksgiving to God.

**People: For God has made us and this earth from His love.**

Leader: Let us gather in gratitude to one another.

**People: For we are the bearers of God’s blessing and love for the earth and its people.**

**All: Let us praise God! Let us join hands! Let us work together in cooperation with what God wants to do for us and for the world so that the goodness and blessings of God may be experienced by all people. Amen.**

**\*Gathering Song**

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

#694

**Children’s Time**

“**Give Thanks in All Circumstances**”

Pastor John

**Epistle Reading**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

Allyson Sandoval-West

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

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

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Choir Anthem**

***Canticle of Thanksgiving***

Words by Herbert Brokering; Music by Dale Wood

based on the Welsh tune: The Ash Grove

Creator of glory, All seasons Thy story. The roses, the rivers, the ridges, Thy mirth.  
The straining of power, of eons each hour, All heavens, o'er meadows, all signs of rebirth.  
The weeping in willows, All children in pillows. All valleys, all oceans. The spaces of birth.  
Thy blossoms unfolding, all angels beholding. With morning and darkness renewing the earth.

In quaking and thunder, when life breaks asunder. In pain and in sorrow, all death is Thy door.  
Thy table of prizes in daily surprises, Our souls only feasting Thy treasure and stone.  
Their silence and wonder our spirits would ponder, A sight of the brightness which saints now adore.

Thy love comes escaping. While watching and waiting, our hearts overflowing adore Thee adore.  
Thy beauty so tender, we live on Thy Splendon, O send us the life of the Lamb on the throne.  
Come visit our tables, our castles and stables, till nothing and no one be ever alone.  
Come father, come mother, come sister, come brother. The cup is o'er flowing, the harvest is done.  
Rise up, O partaker! Give praise to Thy Maker! The banquet is set in the midst of the Son!

**Message**

**THANKSGIVING MANTRA:  
“God, you are so good to me!”**

Rev. John Song

**Hymn**

*Give Thanks*

FWS #2036

## Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

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** *Let All Things Now Living* Marina Thomas  
Arr. V. Labenske

## Presentation of Offering

**\*Doxology** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; #95  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## \*Offertory Prayer (In unison)

God of all generations, as we worship today, we offer our whole selves to you, all that we have and all that we are. We pray that you will help us be bold in our mission and in our witness. We pray this in the name of our Savior and Redeemer, Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*Recessional Song** *We Gather Together* #131

## \*Benediction

[\*This ends 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** *Count Your Blessings* Marina Thomas  
E. Excell

*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

## Worship Leaders

Pastor	Rev. John Song
Pianist	Marina Thomas
Choir Leader	Carmelita Abenoja
Liturgists	Allyson Sandoval-West
Greeters	Harry & Clarice Wiggins, Peter Tele
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

### **TODAY, Nov. 24 is the Christmas Decoration Party**

Help us decorate our Sanctuary & Social Hall for Christmas following the Coffee Hour.  
All hands-on deck!

### **Wednesday Bible Study will be on Winter Break**

It will resume on Wed. Jan. 8 @ 3 pm

### **Candle Sale TODAY During Coffee Hour!**

### **Service of Remembrance for Marti Lundin**

Sunday, Dec. 8, 10 am worship during *Sharing of Joys & Concerns*

### **Service of Remembrance for Larry von Schell**

Sunday, Dec. 15, 10 am worship during *Sharing of Joys & Concerns*

## Calendar for the Week

Sun. Nov. 24	10:00 am	<b>Thanksgiving Service</b>
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:45 am	<b>Christmas Decoration Party</b> , sanctuary & social hall
Wed. Nov. 27		<b>NO Wed. Bible Study</b> (resumes on Jan. 8)
Thu. Nov. 28		<b>OFFICE CLOSED: Happy Thanksgiving!</b>
Fri. Nov. 29		<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>
Sun. Dec. 1	10:00 am	<b>First Sunday of Advent with Holy Communion &amp; United Methodist Student Day</b>
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall

Church Website: [watsonville1stumc.org](http://watsonville1stumc.org)

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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*