

Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

*Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors*

## **Third Sunday after Epiphany**

### **The Service Dedication of Icon**

Sunday, January 26, 2025, 10 am

Today 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**

“Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side;  
my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right.”  
~ Bishop Mariann E. Budde delivering a sermon at a prayer service at Washington National  
Cathedral on Jan. 21, 2025 with President Trump in attendance

First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a socialist.  
Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a trade  
unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew.  
Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.

~ Martin Niemöller

“The time is always right to do what is right.”  
~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

(\*Please stand if you are able)

**Prelude**

*We Worship and Adore You*

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 (Responsive)**

Leader: Come to Christ, that living stone,  
rejected by the world, but in God's sight chosen and precious.

**People: We have responded to Christ's call,  
to follow the Way of Christ,  
to be Christ's presence on earth.**

Leader: Once we were lost people, but now we are God's people,  
called out of the darkness into God's marvelous light.  
Therefore we sing in praise the Church in all ages:

**People: Blessed be your name, O God, our Redeemer.  
By your mercy we have been born anew to a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ into new life.**

<b>*Gathering Song</b>	<i>O God, Our Help in Ages Past</i>	#117 (vs. 1, 3-6)
<b>Children's Time</b>	"Jesus Walking on Water"	Pastor John
<b>*Gospel Reading</b>	<b>Matthew 14: 22-33</b> <i>Jesus Walks on the Water</i>	Allyson Sandoval-West

<sup>22</sup> Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,

<sup>24</sup> but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

<sup>28</sup> Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup> He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Choir Anthem** *Down From His Glory*

Words by William Booth-Clibborn, Music by E. Di Capua, Arr. By Ted Silva

1. Down from His glory ever living story. My God and Saviour came, and Jesus was His name. Born in a manger, to His own a stranger, A man of sorrows, tears and agony.
2. What condescension, Bringing us redemption, that in the dead of night, not one faint hope in sight. God, gracious, tender, laid aside His splendor. Stooping, to woo, to win, to save my soul.

3. Without reluctance, flesh and blood His substance, He took the form of man, revealed His hidden plan. Oh! Glorious myst'ry, sacrifice of Calv'ry, And now I know Thou wert the great "I Am."

Chorus: Oh! How I love Him! How I adore Him! My breath, my sunshine! My all in all! The great Creator became my Saviour, And all God's fullness dwelleth in Him!

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

**Message** "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" Rev. John Song

### **Responsive Prayer in Unison**

Dear God, may we find calm within ourselves, grounding our hearts in your love and peace. Help us trust that wherever we go, we carry the power of faith and the courage to walk through life with love, peace, and purpose. Amen.

**Responsive Hymn** *Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus* #349 (2X)

### **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** *More Precious Than Silver* 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**

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.

**\*Recessional Song** *Bless Thou the Gifts* #587 (2X)

\*Please take up all your belongings and gather around the breezeway in the narthex.

**Postlude** *Be Still, My Soul* Marina Thomas

## **The Dedication of Icon**

Lay Leader: Marieta Flores

I present the icon "*Jesus Walking on Water*" to be consecrated to the glory of almighty God and for service to the community.

Dan Tyner, Chair of the Board of Trustees

We accept this gift of the icon “*Jesus Walking on Water*” in dedication to God for the house of God for all people to gather and worship to inspire our life together in service.

Congregational Response

**Most loving God, without you no words or works of ours have meaning. Accept the gift as a symbol of our devotion. Grant us your blessing, as we have consecrated this gift to your glory, that it may be an enduring witness before all your people. This sacred icon is to inspire all those who come in its presence to draw us closer to Christ and entrust our lives in Christ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*Benediction**

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

Today’s refreshments are provided by Lynne & Nathaniel. They will provide spaghetti and cake for Ethan’s birthday.

**Worship Leaders**

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

**Weekly Wednesday Bible Study**

Every Wednesday from 3 pm – 4 pm, St. Stephen’s room

*All are welcome!*

**Calendar for the Week**

Sun., Jan. 26	10:00 am	<b>Worship Service / Dedication of Icon</b>
		<b>Sunday School</b>
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
Wed., Jan. 29	3:00 pm	<b>Wed. Bible Study</b> , St. Stephen’s
Sun., Feb. 2	10:00 am	<b>Worship Service with Holy Communion</b>
	11:10 am	Monthly Potluck, Social Hall

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

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

229 Stanford Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

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