

Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

## Fourth Sunday after Epiphany With Holy Communion

Sunday, February 2, 2025, 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.

**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

“Now is the season of our fading light  
Made shadowed gloom by one man’s towering might;  
And all the hopes that brightened up our past  
Lie in the murky shroud of darkness cast.”

~ The opening of Act I of Shakespeare’s play “*Richard III*”

“This time, like all times, is a very good one  
if we but know what to do with it.”

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Everything will be all right in the end.  
If it’s not all right, it is not yet the end.”

~ Richard Rohr in his new book *The Universal Christ*

(*Please stand if you are able*)

**Prelude**

*Think About His Love*

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.**

**\*Gathering Song**                      *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*                      #430

**Children's Time**                      "Homer's *The Odyssey*"                      Pastor John

**\*Gospel Reading**                      **Matthew 14: 22-33**                      Allyson Sandoval-West  
*Jesus Walks on the Water*

<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."

**Matthew 7:13-14**

<sup>13</sup> "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it.

<sup>14</sup> For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it."

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

**People: Thanks be to God! .**

**Message**                      Part 2) "**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

1. O soul, are you weary and troubled?  
No light in the darkness you see?  
There's light for a look at the Savior,  
And life more abundant and free!

*Refrain:*

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,  
In the light of His glory and grace.

2. Through death into life everlasting  
He passed, and we follow Him there;  
O'er us sin no more hath dominion—  
For more than conqu'rors we are!

*Refrain*

3. His Word shall not fail you—He promised;  
Believe Him, and all will be well:  
Then go to a world that is dying,  
His perfect salvation to tell!

*Refrain*

### **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 and Let It Be*

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.

### **Celebration of Holy Communion / Celebración de la Santa Comunión**

The Lord be with you. / *El Señor sea con ustedes.*

**And also with you. / *Y también contigo.***

Lift up your hearts. / *Elevemos los corazones.*

**We lift them up to the Lord. / *Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. / *Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.*

**It is right to give our thanks and praise. / *Es justo darle gracias y alabanza.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you.

Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth,

from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God.  
You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth.  
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.  
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us  
from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

*Antes que los montes fueran engendrados, o que habías formado la tierra,  
desde todos los siglos, tú solo eres Dios.*

*Creaste la luz de las tinieblas y sacaste la vida en la tierra.*

*Tú nos formaste a tu imagen y soplaste en nosotros el aliento de la vida.*

*Cuando nos alejamos, y nuestro amor fracasó, tu amor se mantuvo firme.*

*Tu nos has librado de la cautividad, hiciste pacto para ser nuestro Dios soberano, y hablaste  
con nosotros por medio de tus profetas.*

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**(The Faith we Sing #2007, “HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”)**

**(The Faith We Sing #2007, “SANTO, SANTO, SANTO”)**

**Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!**

**My heart knows how to say to you: You are holy, Lord!**

***Santo, santo, santo, mi corazón te adora!***

***Mi corazón te sabe decir: ¡Santo eres, Señor!***

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our  
light and our salvation.

You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born;  
and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world,  
you have led your people from far places to his light.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and  
the Spirit.

*Por el bautismo de su sufrimiento, muerte y resurrección diste a luz a tu Iglesia, nos liberaste  
de la esclavitud del pecado y de la muerte, y has hecho con nosotros un nuevo pacto por el agua  
y el Espíritu.*

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave  
thanks, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”

*En la noche que se entregó por nosotros, tomó pan, dio gracias,  
lo partió y lo dio a sus discípulos diciendo:*

*“Tomen, coman; esto es mi cuerpo dado por ustedes.  
Hagan esto en memoria de mí.”*

When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

*Después de la cena, tomó la copa,*

*y después de haber dado gracias, la dio a sus discípulos, diciendo:*

*“Beban de ella, todos ustedes; ésta es mi sangre del nuevo pacto,  
derramada por ustedes y por muchos para el perdón de los pecados.  
Hagan esto todas las veces que la beben, en memoria de mí.”*

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

***Cristo ha muerto; Cristo ha resucitado; Cristo vendrá de nuevo.***

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Creator, now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*Sharing of the bread and the cup**

(The congregation is invited to come forward to share in communion 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.)

**\*Se comparten el pan y la copa**

*(Se invita a la congregación compartir la comunión del pan y de la copa.)*

**\*Recessional Song**

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*  
African American Spiritual; arr. by Wendell Whalum

FWS #2153

1. I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

2. I'm gonna work so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

3. I'm gonna pray so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

4. I'm gonna sing so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna sing so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

**\*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)

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.

### **Postlude**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

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 are provided by Abigail Avitua in celebration of Febe Avitua's birthday.

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor	Rev. John Song
Pianist	Marina Thomas
Choir Leader	Carmelita Abenoja
Liturgist	Allyson Sandoval-West
Spanish Reader	Laura Andrade Sorensen
Greeters	Harry & Clarice Wiggins, Peter Telc
Head Usher	Marieta Flores
Communion Stewards	Marieta Flores, Laura Andrade Sorensen
Tech Team	Antonio Pantaleón, Lucila Pantaleón, Elizabeth Reitano
Nursery Attendants	Tatyana Martinez, Julissa Solis
Coffee Hour	Marieta Flores, Tatyana Martinez

### **Calendar for the Week**

Sun., Feb. 2	10:00 am	<b>Worship Service with Holy Communion</b>
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
Wed., Feb. 5	3:00 pm	<b>Wed. Bible Study</b> , St. Stephen's
Thu., Feb. 6	4:00 pm	<b>Food for Children</b> , Back Parking Lot
Sun., Feb. 9	10:00 am	<b>Valentine's Sunday</b>
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall

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