FIRST CHURCH IS A COMMUNITY THAT IS GROWING IN GRACE AND REACHING OUT WITH LOVE.

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

With joy we welcome your presence today, wherever you are.
Please join us as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship together.

Register Your Attendance

Welcome In-Person and Online Community .................................................. Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Words of Inspiration ................................................................. Kids First Reader

“A little child,  
A shining star,  
A stable rude,  
The door ajar.  
Yet in that place,  
So crude, forlorn,  
The Hope of all  
The world was born.”

~ Anonymous

Prelude ................................................................. Youth Chime Ensemble

Reverie

Sandra Eithun (b. 1963)
Glory to God in the highest!
**And hope to every discouraged heart.**
Glory to God in the highest!
**And peace to every conflicted soul.**
Glory to God in the highest!
**And joy to every downcast spirit.**
Glory to God in the highest!
**And love to everyone.**
Let us sing praises to our God.
**Let us offer this light against the darkness.**

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**THE BEST OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER**

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**• Processional Hymn #238: Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains.
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

*Gloria! In excelsis Deo!*

Shepherds why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

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**Interlude/Reading**

**Anthem**

Shepherds Arise! Listen to the angels sing!
Good news, great joy!
Tidings of the newborn King.
Fear not! Behold these glad tidings,
Come unto you on this day;
Jesus, the promised Messiah,
Sleeps in a manger of hay.

Shepherds Arise! Listen to the angels sing!
Good news, great joy!
Tidings of the newborn King.
Fear not! Behold these glad tidings,
Come unto you on this day;
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Come unto you on this day;
Jesus, the promised Messiah,
Sleeps in a manger of hay.

---

**The Friendly Beasts**

Jesus our brother, kind and good
Was humbly born in a stable rude;
And the friendly beasts around him stood,
Jesus our brother kind and good.

I said the donkey, shaggy and brown;
I carried His mother uphill and down;
I carried his mother to Bethlehem town;
I said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

I said the cow, all white and red;
I gave him a manger for His bed;
I gave him my hay to pillow His head;
I said the cow all white and red.

I said the sheep with curly horn;
I gave him my wool for a blanket warm;
He wore my coat on Christmas morn;
I said the sheep with curly horn.
I said the dove from the rafter high;  
Thus ev’ry beast by some good spell,  
I cooed Him to sleep with a lullaby:  
In a stable dark was there to tell  
We cooed Him to sleep, my mate and I,  
Of the gift he gave Immanuel,  
I said the dove from the rafter high.  
of the gift he gave Immanuel.  
(French carol, 12th century)

Interlude/Reading

• Hymn #219: What Child is This?

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Interlude/Reading

• Hymn #234: O Come, All Ye Faithful

O Come, All Ye Faithful, Joyful and triumphant,  
O Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

TO HEAR THE WORD

Anthem

Sing a Glad Noel  
Mary Lynn Lightfoot (b. 1952)

Sing a glad noel! Sing Joyfully!  
Angels sang out joyfully while shepherds  
Sing a glad noel for Christ is born.  
gathered ’round to see.  
In a manger bed in Bethlehem.  
Shining brightly down to earth,  
Sing a glad noel! Sing a glad noel for Christ is born!  
the star proclaimed the Savior’s birth.
  
Let us rejoice, be glad and sing,  
for peace and good will to all he brings.  
Angels sang out joyfully while shepherds  
Shout glad tidings, Sing noel,  
gathered ’round to see.  
for we have joysous news to tell!  
(Mary Lynn Lightfoot)


Christmas Greeting ...................................................... Kenton Reaves Hundley

THE RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING OF GIFTS

Offering ............................................................... Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

Offertory Meditation ......................................................... Dr. Jaebon Hwang

Cantique de Noël  
Adolphe Adam (1803-1856)

JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Reading: Isaiah 9:2, 6
Anthem

Go Tell it on the Mountain
arr. Victor Johnson (b. 1978)

While shepherds kept their watching, O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens There shown a holy light.
Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere.
Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!
The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.
Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.
(John W. Work, Jr.)

THE LIGHT FROM THE CHRIST CANDLE IS GIVEN TO THE PEOPLE

Distribution of the Light

Hymn #239: Silent Night, Holy Night

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, Son of God,
love's pure light;
Radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn
of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Benediction ............................................................ Rev. Trudy D. Robinson

• Hymn #246: Joy to the World

Joy to the World, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

(Please place your candle in the box at the door as you leave the Sanctuary.)
PARTICIPATING IN THIS SERVICE

Ministerial Staff
Rev. Trudy D. Robinson
Rev. Tamara Walker
Rev. Dr. Hannah Ka
Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin

Director of Discipleship for Children & Youth
Kenton Reaves Hundley

Director of Children’s Music
Dana Zimbric

Children & Youth Choir Accompanist
Jill Herbold

Director of Music Ministries and Organist
Dr. Jaebon Hwang

Director of Choral Activities
Brian Lustig

Director A/V Media & Technology
Kevin Miller

A/V Techs
Jason Vick
Samuel Bilby

Guest Chimes Ringers
Jill Herbold, Wendy Young

Holy Family
Tim, Meggie & Andrew Harris

Magi
Iris Thompson
Paul Thompson
Michael Zimbric

Angels
Paityn Dreas
Carter Flemming
Katie Flemming

Children and Youth
Ryker Ambrosio, London Cameron, Olivia Cameron, Malaika Castor, Mashena Castor, Masherano Castor,
Eliora Cotton, Jaxson Crislip, Tobias Crislip, Amelie Gamache, Bennett Gamache, Harper Gamache,
Jada Hundley, Maya Hundley, Drake Martin, Amanda Renovales, Genevieve Renovales, Rico Renovales, Remington Roy,
Carter Shatzko, Mila Shatzko, Nadia Terrell, Grace Tuuholoaki, Adalynn Wilde,
Elsa Zimbric, Ivy Zimbric
Keep in Touch

Connect with the First Church community here!

Worship online: each week via www.fumcsd.org/watch-live or subscribe to our YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/c/FirstChurchSanDiego.

Drop in early or stay online late to catch upcoming events in our pre- and post-worship announcements loop.

Stay up to date with all the happenings via the weekly eNEWS. To subscribe visit www.fumcsd.org/enews or text FUMCSDNEWS to 22828.

First Church welcomes you if…

You are single, married, divorced, gay, transgender, filthy rich, dirt poor, o no habla inglés,

You are a crying newborn, skinny as a rail or could afford to lose a few pounds,

You can sing like Aretha Franklin or cannot carry a tune in a bucket,

You’re “just browsing”, just woke up, or you just got out of jail,

You’ve been a Methodist your whole life or haven’t been in church except for your little niece’s baptism years ago,

You’ve got an AARP card but have yet to grow up, or you’re a teenager growing up, too fast.

We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, tree huggers, latte-sippers, vegans, junk-food eaters,

We welcome those who are in recovery or struggling with addiction,

We welcome you if you’re having problems or if you’re down in the dumps or if you don’t like “organized religion,” this church is for you,

If you blew all your money in Vegas, you’re welcome here,

We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, those who work too hard, those who don’t work, can’t spell or found us because Grandma wants you to go to church,

We welcome all those who are inked, pierced or both,

We welcome you if your ancestors arrived in chains, below the decks, captained those ships, or have been on this land since the beginning of time,

We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now (all of us could use a prayer right now),

We’d also like to welcome you if you had religion shoved down your throat, or you got lost on YouTube somehow and ended up here by mistake.

We welcome tourists, seekers, doubters, bleeding hearts… and you!

May the Peace of Christ, which passes all understanding be with you this day, and all the days going forward.

First Church of San Diego

Growing in Grace, Reaching Out with Love

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A Reconciling Congregation