

March 17, 2019
2nd Sunday of Lent
10:45 a.m. Worship Celebration

Good Morning! Malo e lava mai! Nisa bula vinaka!
In this Reconciling Congregation, all people are welcome, safe and cherished.
www.RMNetwork.org

Presiding in worship: Rev. Dr. Debra Murray
Lay liturgist: Pamela Cutkosky

*With the sounding of the chimes, we are gathered as a family of faith.
Please stand as you are able where indicated by an asterisk (*).
Children's activity packets are available in the entry way.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude / Concerto (Allegro, Largo, Allegro) A. Vivaldi
Fiume di Musica

The Ushers distribute the Attendance Registers during the prelude.

Lighting the Candles

Welcome / Rev Dr. Debra Murray

WE SPEAK TO GOD

Musical Call to Worship / *Help Thy Servants* / G. F. Handel

Katie Bartholomew, flute

We believe that Thou shalt come to be our judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants:

Whom you have numbered with thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy saints: In glory everlasting.

O Lord save thy people: and bless thine heritage.

Govern them: and lift them up forever.

*Opening Hymn / *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee* / No. 142

*Call to Worship / Pamela Cutkosky

Leader: As pilgrims, we are invited to journey through this season of Lent towards the One who calls us each by a new name.

People: As disciples, we walk with Jesus wherever he leads us, pulling our fears, our doubts, our longings behind us.

All: As believers, who seek to trust the God who always surprises us, whose promises take on flesh and blood in the good news called Jesus. Amen.

The Children in Our Midst

Life of the Community / Pamela Cutkosky

Pastoral Prayer / Rev. Dr. Debra Murray

*The Lord's Prayer / No. 895

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.

*The Peace of Christ Be With You / stand and greet your neighbor

*Sung Response / *Shalom to You* / No. 666
Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Anthem / *A Lenten Meditation* / Douglas E. Wagner

Jesus, in thy dying woes, even while Thy lifeblood flows,
craving pardon for thy foes: Hear us, Holy Jesus.

May our hearts to Thee incline, looking from our cross to Thine;
cheer our souls with hope divine: Hear us, Holy Jesus.

When we seem in vain to pray, and our hope seems far away; In the
darkness be our stay: Hear us, Holy Jesus.

May we thirst Thy love to know; Lead us in our sin and woe where the
healing waters flow: Hear us, Holy Jesus.

Brighten all our heav'nward way with an ever holier ray till we pass to
perfect day: Hear us, Holy Jesus.

May Thy life and death supply grace to live and grace to die, grace to
reach our home on high: Hear us, Holy Jesus.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Scripture Reading / *Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18* / Sandra Wilson

Old Testament 11; large print p. 14

*Hymn / *Be Thou My Vision* / No. 451, v. 1-2

Sermon / *Power to Possess God's Promises*

Rev. Dr. Debra Murray

Opportunity to Join the Family of God

Sung Response / *Be Thou My Vision* / No. 451, v. 3

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Invitation to the Offering / Pamela Cutkosky

Offertory / *Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten* / J.S. Bach

*Doxology / *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* / No. 94

*Prayer of Dedication of Gifts & Self / Pamela Cutkosky / Unison

May the gifts we share now be given out of the deep knowledge that we are loved and blessed by you. We are obedient to you Lord, knowing that you will distribute our reward, as we distribute your love to those in need. Thank you for allowing us to stand for people instead of politics. We pray that you will multiply these tithes and gifts to meet the needs of our church, our community and our world. Amen.

WE SPEAK TO THE WORLD

*Closing Hymn / *O Worship the King* / No. 73, v. 1-4

*Benediction / Rev. Dr. Debra Murray

*Alleluia / No. 186, vs. 1

*Postlude / *Toccata* / Gaston Belier



*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and
in memory of John Kumer.*

*All are invited to a time of refreshment and conversation
on the patio following worship.*

Lenten Sermon Themes & Scriptures

March 10 — "God's Generous Heart"

Romans 10:8-13

March 17 — "Imitating"

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

March 24 — "Repenting"

Isaiah 55:1-9

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

March 31 — "Coming Together"

Joshua 5:9-12

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

April 7 — "Making a New Thing"

Isaiah 43:16-21

Philippians 3:4-14

April 14 — "Preparing"

Isaiah: 50:4-9

Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 19:28-40



Our Vision:

The Children in Our Midst
The Mission at Our Doorstep
A Place of Hospitality and Grace

Rev. Dr. Debra Murray, Senior Pastor
Mark Shaull, Director of Music
Diane Keller, Organist
Peni Savou, Lay Leader, Fijian Language Ministry

The worship service is webcast live every Sunday. To view it, go to www.firstpaloalto.com/live. DVD's of the 10:45am worship service are available to borrow in the library or to purchase by contacting the church office.

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NOTEWORTHY NEWS.....

Great Decisions Foreign Policy Discussion Series:
7 PM-8:30 PM in Kohlstedt Hall, March 17, 24, 31.

Upcoming topics:

3/17—Refugees and Global Migration (speaker: Tom Fingar)

3/24—The United States and Mexico: Partnership Tested
(speaker: Alberto Diaz-Cayeros)



Wednesday Nights During Lent: Join us for 1 hr on Wednesday nights during Lent. Soup will be served from **6:30-7 PM** in the Patio Room. Following the meal we will have a community time with Bible study, prayer and singing. Rev. Dr. Debra Murray will lead a Bible study based on the Sunday sermon scriptures. An alternative Bible activity will be offered for children.


Don't forget! Help yourself to five "invitation cards" to welcome members of our local community to join us for Lent. Find some special guests to welcome to our services. Cards are available in the Narthex.

Abracadabra! Turn an Old Vase into a Smile! Blossom Buddies, is collecting vases. Blossom Buddies re-purposes our discarded worship and event flowers, arranging the flowers in donated vases and delivering the bouquets to residents in health care facilities who need a little extra cheer. More than 300 bouquets are delivered each month and a vase is needed for each one. The best vases for Blossom Buddies' use are: Small and medium sized (up to 12 inches tall), clear or colored, plain or fancy. Mason jars are great too! Please place vases in the bin in the narthex on Sundays or in the bin outside the office on weekdays through **March 31**. For more information, see Michele Conway or visit BlossomBuddies.org.

FUMCPA organist emeritus John Walker has been awarded the American Guild of Organists' Endowment Fund Distinguished Artist Award and will be honored by a recital and gala reception on Friday, April 16 at the Shadyside Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, PA. Congratulations, John!

Food Collection: Please bring a non-perishable food item each week for the Downtown Streets Team Food Closet. Place your food item in one of the baskets in the Narthex. The food is delivered to the Food Closet. Items of particular need include: Vienna sausages, corn beef, microwaveable popcorn, instant coffee, apple cider and hot chocolate packets, baby food and formula, and any "open and eat" packages.

Noonday Prayer is now held from **12:00-12:30** in the Sanctuary or Chapel every weekday, featuring prayer, anointing and communion.

 **We lift the names of those asking for prayer, with thanksgiving for the healing already being received:** Artemas, Don and Jennifer (Janet Nicholls' friends), Emilie Sweet, Danielle Martell, Keith Perry, Frankie Campos, Jimmy Winston (Paula McKinney's cousin), June Nielson, Mehri Namdarian, Ruthie Waters, Sheila Gholson
We lift the names of those who have passed away: Pat Lubman on 3/6.

To add your name to the prayer list, fill out a Prayer Request Card and place in the offering plate. Our "on-going prayer list" (for persons who are homebound, battling long-term illness, or serving overseas) may be found on our website.

Chancel Choir rehearses Thursdays at 8 PM. Contact Mark Shaull: markshaull@gmail.com.



THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Check our online calendar at www.FirstPaloAlto.com for the latest schedule information.
Church Office Hours are Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed weekends.

Sunday March 17

11:45 AM **Snack-n-Chat**, Patio
12:15 PM **Couples Group**, Wesley Room
2:00 PM **Fijian Fellowship Worship Service**, Chapel
3:00 PM **Fijian Fellowship Meal**, Wesley Room
7:00 PM **Great Decisions**, Kohlstedt Hall

Monday March 18

11:30 AM **UMW Reading Group**, Off-site
12:00 PM **Noonday Prayer**, Sanctuary
5:00 PM **Breaking Bread**, Kohlstedt Hall
7:00 PM **Fiume di Musica Rehearsal**, Sanctuary

Tuesday March 20

9:30 AM **UMW Needleworkers**, Off-site
10:00 AM **Tuesday Trekkers**, Off-site
12:00 PM **Noonday Prayer**, Sanctuary
7:30 PM **Finance Committee**, Patio Room

Wednesday March 21

9:00 AM **First School Soccer Class**, Fellowship Hall
10:00 AM **Bible Study**, Channing House
12:00 PM **Noonday Prayer**, Sanctuary
6:30 PM **Wednesday Nights During Lent Soup Meal**, Patio Room
7:00 PM **Wednesday Service**, Sanctuary
7:00 PM **Kundalini Yoga**, Wesley Room

Thursday March 22

12:00 PM **Noonday Prayer**, Sanctuary
6:45 PM **Handbells Rehearsal**, Sanctuary
8:00 PM **Chancel Choir Rehearsal**, Kohlstedt Hall
8:00 PM **Community Band Practice**, Chapel

Sunday March 24

9:45 AM **Children's Sunday School**
 Infants & Toddlers, Noah's Ark Nursery
 Preschool-K, Butterfly Room (1st floor)
 1st-5th Grade, Rainbow Room (2nd floor)
9:45 AM **Adult Bible Study**, Wesley Room
10:45 AM **Sanctuary Worship Celebration**

For questions regarding Children & Youth Ministries contact Pastor Debra, debra@firstpaloalto.com.

Nursery Care for children ages up to 3 years old is available every Sunday from 8:00 a.m. until 12 noon in Noah's Ark Nursery, located next to the Library on the 1st floor.

Children's Sunday School for kids age 3 through 5th grade:

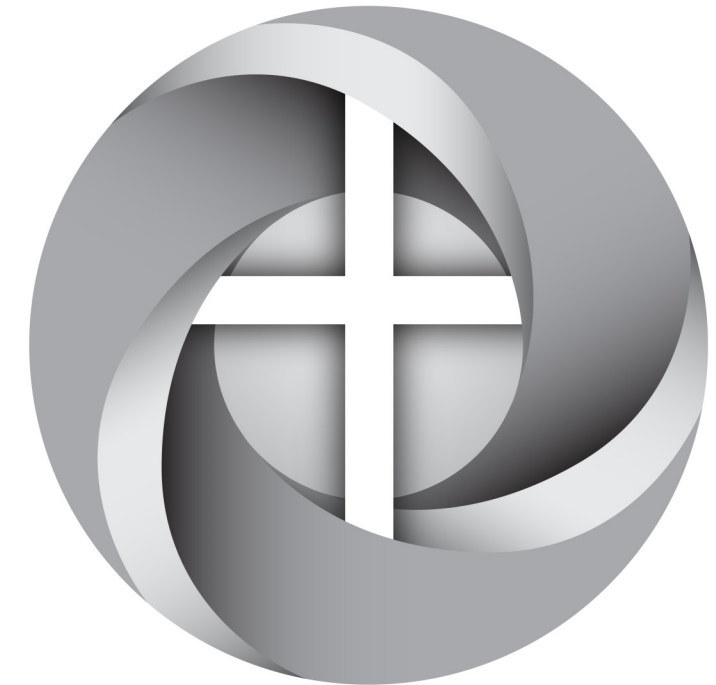
Sunday School is from 9:45 to 10:40 a.m. in the First School room (ages 3 through Kinder) and the Rainbow Room (grades 1 through 5).

YOOPA (Youth of First Palo Alto) for 6th-12th graders: Contact Pastor Debra for meeting details.

WELCOME

March 17, 2019

Second Sunday of Lent



FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS

8:45 AM and 10:45 AM

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