

February 16, 2020
6th Sunday After Epiphany

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

Presiding in worship: Reverend Dr. Debra Murray
Lay Liturgist: Sumith Kalas

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 entryway.

10:45 a.m. Worship Celebration

Prelude

Meditation on "Peace Like A River" Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

Welcome

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Opening Hymn*

Lift High the Cross

UMH 159

Call to Worship*

Sumith Kalas

Leader: Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

People: Blessed are those who observe God's commandments.

Leader: Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on righteousness.

People: Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with praise.

Leader: Come, let us love the Lord our God.

All: We come to worship the One who leads us in the ways of life.

Children's Hymn

Where Children Belong

FWS No. 2233

This, this is where children belong,

Welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.

Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:

This is where children belong.

Children's Moment

Reverend Ann Duncan

Life of the Community

Sumith Kalas

Reflection on Scouting Sunday

Tim Breen

Hymn in Honor of Black History Month

I'm Goin' a Sing When the Spirit Says Sing UMH 333, v. 1, 3, 4

Pastoral Prayer

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

The Lord's Prayer

adapted / UMH 895

Our Creator, 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*

Please stand and greet your neighbor

Sung Response*

Shalom to You

UMH 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

When All the Stars are Gone

Henry Mollicone (b. 1946)

The stars shine over the mountains,
The stars shine over the sea,
The stars look up to the mighty God,
The stars look down on me;
The stars shall last for a million years,
A million years and a day,
But God and I will live and love,
When the stars have passed.
When the stars are gone.

(Robert Louis Stephenson)

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Jeff King

New Testament p. 156; large print p. 202

Hymn*

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593, v. 1-2

Sermon

The Power of Knowing Our Ancestors

Rev. Annanda Barclay

Sung Response

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593, v. 3

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Invitation to the Offering

Sumith Kalas

Offertory

Holy Manna

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

Doxology*

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

No. 94

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts & Self*

Sumith Kalas

Gracious God, we present these offerings and are reminded of the many blessings you have shared with us. You have nurtured us with a love that knows no limits or boundaries. May our sharing this day reveal our priorities and our promises, for we belong to you and offer you our gifts that they may be used in mission and ministry to bring glory to you. Amen.

Closing Hymn*

God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

UMH 150

Benediction*

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Alleluia*

UMH 186

Postlude

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Richard Elliott (b. 1957)

✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦

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

Enjoy cake with Sandra Florstedt and Bill Davidson, who are celebrating eleven years of marriage and fifty years since their first date!

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Andrew Birrell by Brenda Birrell.



FEBRUARY SERMON SERIES:

FEAR VS. FAITH

✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦

Our Vision:

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

Rev. Dr. Debra Murray, Senior Pastor
Rev. Ann Duncan, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries
Diane Keller, Organist
Mark Shaull, Director of Music

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 10:45 a.m. worship service are available to borrow in the library or to purchase by contacting the church office.

Our electronic giving page is open! Whether you are a long time member, or just joined us, you can give with just a few clicks at www.firstpaloalto.com/give. As always, your generosity makes our mission possible! Thank you!

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NOTEWORTHY NEWS.....

Sunday Announcement Guidelines: If you have an announcement you want to make on a Sunday or place in the Sunday bulletin, please email Charlotte at charlotte@firstpaloalto.com with your request.

Great Decisions 2020 runs Sundays through March 29 at 7 PM in Kohlstedt Hall. Contact Tom Fingar at (tom.fingar@gmail.com) with questions. Books are \$25, contact Lou Bellardo (lou@bellardo.com) if you would like one. Additional materials and information are available here: <https://tinyurl.com/greatdec2020>.

TODAY IS THE FINAL DAY for the Library Valentine's Day Guessing Game! Be sure to enter your final guesses. Winners will be chosen in children, youth and adult categories. A food item will be donated to the Downtown Streets Food Closet for every individual person who enters!

Presentation on the Patio: "What is the Wild World of Medicare and Open Enrollment Period?" Find the answers on the Patio after service! Estrella Kawczynski will have an informational booth.

Couples Group meets every 1st & 3rd Sunday. Next meeting: **TODAY.**

Ash Wednesday is Feb 26. We will start with a pancake supper at 6 PM followed by Ash Wednesday Service at 7 PM, all in Kohlstedt Hall. Please bring your favorite pancake toppings to share!

Small Group Kick-off Event: Sunday, March 1 at 12:30 PM in Kohlstedt Hall. Meet your group members, select your team facilitator, and meeting date & time. Food and fun provided. New attendees always welcome.

Lenten Bible Study: You are invited to join Pastor Debra and Pastor Ann for a Lenten Bible study each Thursday at 12 PM March 5 through April 2. We'll read and discuss Rev. John Ortberg's book "Who Is This Man?" Books are \$10 each and payable to the church office. We'll meet in Kohlstedt Hall and you're welcome to bring your lunch. Please RSVP.

Word of Comfort: On the last Sunday of each month there will be a UMW table in the Narthex with greeting cards addressed to home bound members of our church who have asked for prayer. If you know the person addressed, please add a personal note. If you don't know the person, please sign your name to let them know they are in our thoughts. There will also be cards for women prisoners that Pastor Debra visits monthly. Please join in this act of Mission before or after the morning service.



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, Joanne Perry, Mehri Namdarian, Robin Snyder, Orin & Jo Zimmerman, Kitty Baggott, Diane Mazuera's father, Tom Cousar (Patty & Lou Bellardo's nephew), Major Ross (Pastor Debra's brother), Marilyn Davis (Michele Conway's aunt), Merribeth May Munyon, Janni Yuen, Kathy Kemp, Lou Ecoll

We lift the names of those who have passed away: B.J. Coleman, Richard Pike, Frankie Campos

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.

Fall Survey Results: An Uplifting Read

Copies are available at the hospitality desk, the main office and in the library. You can still comment if you missed the opportunity. We also apologize if your comment is not listed, please re-submit it. Some surveys were inadvertently misplaced as they were transferred from editor to editor. Your opinion is important to us. Reading the comments may spark additional comments for you. Please feel free to submit them as well. We will have an opportunity to discuss them together as a church during a Town Hall Meeting. Thank you so much for participating! The responses are so encouraging and insightful.

Upcoming Concerts:

2/22 7:30 PM San Francisco Chamber Orchestra, "Classical With a Twist": Featuring works by Mozart, Hayden, Schubert and more. Free admission, supporting members get priority seating.

3/7 8:00 PM Bay Choral Guild, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*: Romantic oratorio with featured soloists, tickets available at the door and baychoralguild.org.

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 February 16

11:45 AM **Snack-n-Chat**, Patio Room
12:00 PM **Medicare Booth**, Patio
7:00 PM **Great Decisions**, Kohlstedt Hall

Monday February 17

Church Office Closed
7:00 PM **Fiume di Musica Rehearsal**, Wesley Room

Tuesday February 18

7:30 PM **Finance Committee**, Patio Room

Wednesday February 19

10:00 AM **Bible Study**, Channing House
6:00 PM **Community Soup Supper**, Patio Room
7:00 PM **Contemporary Service**, Patio Room

Thursday February 20

6:30 PM **Handbell Rehearsal**, Sanctuary
7:30 PM **Choir Rehearsal**, Kohlstedt Hall

Saturday February 22

7:30 PM **San Francisco Chamber Orchestra: "Classical With a Twist"**, Sanctuary

Sunday February 23

9:15 AM **Childcare**, Noah's Ark Nursery
9:30 AM **Adult Bible Study: You, The Bible, and Current Events**, Wesley Room
9:45 AM **Children's Sunday School**
Preschool-K, Butterfly Room (1st floor)
1st-5th Grade, Rainbow Room (2nd floor)
10:45 AM **Sanctuary Worship Celebration**

For questions regarding Children & Youth Ministries contact Reverend Ann Duncan, ann@firstpaloalto.com.

Childcare for young children is available every Sunday from 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. 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:

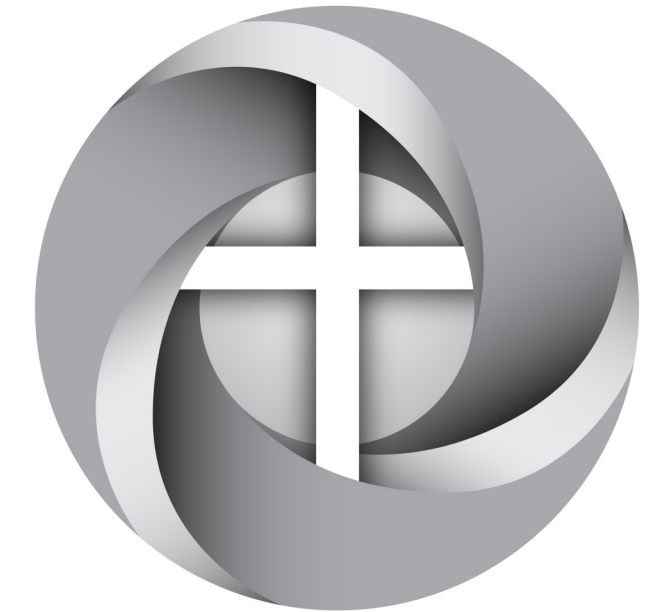
Sunday School is from 9:45 to 10:40 a.m. in the First School room (ages 3 through Kinder) and the Rainbow Room (grades 1 through 5).

YOOPA (Youth of First Palo Alto) for 6th-12th graders: Contact Rev. Ann Duncan for meeting details.

WELCOME

February 16, 2020

Sixth Sunday After Epiphany



FIRST PALO ALTO

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS:

SUNDAY 10:45 AM

WEDNESDAY 6:00 PM

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