

**March 1, 2020  
1st Sunday in Lent**

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: 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 entryway.*

**10:45 a.m. Worship Celebration**

Prelude *Land of Rest* Dale Wood (1934-2003)  
Welcome Reverend Dr. Debra Murray  
Opening Hymn\* *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* UMH 269  
Call to Worship\* Pamela Cutkosky

Leader: Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.  
**People: Happy are those whose sins are cast away.**  
Leader: Rejoice in the Lord! Be glad!  
**People: Sing out! Shout for joy!**  
Leader: Rejoice in the Lord!  
**All: Rejoice! Amen!**

Children's Hymn *Where Children Belong* FWS No. 2233  
**This, this is where children belong,  
Welcomed as part of the worshiping 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 Pamela Cutkosky

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 *A Lenten Meditation* Douglas Wagner

Scripture Reading\* *Mark 4:1-11* Nancy Stowe  
New Testament p. 35; large print p. 46

Hymn\* *Be Still, My Soul* UMH 534, v. 1-2

Sermon *Code Switching: Good News for All*

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Sung Response *Be Still, My Soul* UMH 534, v. 3

COMMUNION / See insert

Invitation to the Offering Pamela Cutkosky

Offertory *Poco allegro* César Franck (1822-1890)

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

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts & Self\* Pamela Cutkosky

**In the hour of his temptation, when Jesus hungered, he knew  
from where his sustenance came: "One does not live by bread  
alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."  
Lord, from the abundance of your grace, your word has provided  
all that we need. All that we have is yours. Receive the offering  
of our hands and the gratitude of our hearts. In the name of our  
Savior we pray. Amen.**

Closing Hymn\* *It Is Well with My Soul* UMH 377

Benediction\* Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Postlude *Allegro maestoso e vivace* Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

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

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of our  
parents Taniela & Asotolu Fifita's 35th wedding anniversary  
by their children and grandsons.*



***Daylight Savings begins next Sunday (3/8)!***  
***Make sure to "spring forward".***

# The Land, History, & Culture of Israel

**Thursdays, 7:00 p.m**

Los Altos United Methodist Church  
655 Magdalena Ave., Los Altos, CA  
Creekside Center

March 12: "Understanding the Land of Israel"  
March 19: "Embracing Israel's Grand Narrative"  
March 26: "Setting the Stage for Jesus"



A group of LAUMC, PAUMC and Spark Church Members are preparing for their trip to Israel in September 2020 and have arranged for Danielle Parish to present three consecutive Thursday evening two hour "study" sessions about the Land, History, and Culture of Israel. Danielle is an educator, pastor and Israel tour leader who has lived and studied in Jerusalem. If you'd like to learn more about how Israel influences our Christian faith, this study group is for you.

## TOPICS:

**March 12:** Understanding the Land of Israel ~ Explore the Land, studying the historical geography and shedding light on the Biblical text.

**March 19:** Embracing Israel's Grand Narrative ~ From Garden to Garden, join in Israel's larger story, stretching from Genesis to Revelation.

**March 26:** Setting the Stage for Jesus ~ Join us for a deep dive into Israel's Second Temple Period, engaging Jesus' teachings in light of the cultures of his day.

Please RSVP to [joycestanford2020@gmail.com](mailto:joycestanford2020@gmail.com).

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## 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](http://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](http://www.firstpaloalto.com/give). As always, your generosity makes our mission possible! Thank you!

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# NOTEWORTHY NEWS.....

**Reminder: CEF applications** are due at the office on **Friday, March 13!** The office closes at 4 PM.

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



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


**Small Group Kick-off Event: TODAY at 12:30 PM** in Kohlstedt Hall. Meet your group members, select your team facilitator and a 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, payable at the church office. We'll meet in Kohlstedt Hall and you're welcome to bring your lunch. Please RSVP to one of the pastors.



**Words of Comfort:** On the **last Sunday of each month** there will be a UMW table in the Narthex with greeting cards addressed to homebound 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 service.

**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.



**We lift the names of those asking for prayer, with thanksgiving for the healing already being received:** Artemas, Don & Jennifer (Janet Nicholls' friends), Kitty Baggott, Conrado Basco, Tom Cousar (Patty & Lou Bellardo's nephew), Marilyn Davis (Michele Conway's aunt), Lou Ercoli, Kathy Kemp, Danielle Martell, Diane Mazuera's father, Merribeth May Munyon, Joanne Perry, Keith Perry, Mehri Namdarian, Major Ross (Pastor Debra's brother), Robin Snyder, Emilie Sweet, Janni Yuen, Orin & Jo Zimmerman,

**We lift the names of those who have passed away:** Frankie Campos, Richard Pike

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.

**Easter Breakfast – What will you bring?** Help us make FUMC a place of hospitality and grace on Easter as we provide breakfast to everyone worshipping here. The breakfast runs 8:30-10:30 AM Easter Sunday in Kohlstedt Hall. Please visit the signup page to bring a particular food item and/or work a 40-minute shift monitoring tables and greeting people. <http://www.luckypotluck.com/potluck/EasterBreakfast2020>  
Or contact lay leader Pamela Cutkosky at (650) 328-5208, [pamelareasner@yahoo.com](mailto:pamelareasner@yahoo.com), or connect with her at church.

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

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH**  
*Check our online calendar at [www.FirstPaloAlto.com](http://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 1**  
11:45 AM **Snack-n-Chat**, Patio Room  
11:45 AM **Couples Group**, Wesley Room  
12:30 PM **Small Group Kick-Off**, Kohlstedt Hall  
7:00 PM **Great Decisions**, Kohlstedt Hall
- Monday March 2**  
7:00 PM **Fiume di Musica Rehearsal**, Wesley Room
- Tuesday March 3**  
7:00 PM **SPRC**, Millennium Room
- Wednesday March 4**  
10:00 AM **Bible Study**, Channing House  
6:00 PM **Community Supper**, Patio Room  
7:00 PM **Contemporary Service**, Patio Room
- Thursday March 5**  
9:30 AM **UMW Walking Group**, Off-site  
12:00 PM **Lenten Bible Study**, Kohlstedt Hall  
6:30 PM **Handbell Rehearsal**, Sanctuary  
7:30 PM **Choir Rehearsal**, Kohlstedt Hall
- Sunday March 8—Daylight Savings Begins (spring forward!)**  
9:15 AM **Childcare**, Noah's Ark Nursery  
9:30 AM **Adult Bible Study**, 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](mailto: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 Kindergarten) and the Rainbow Room (grades 1 through 5).

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

# WELCOME

March 1, 2020

First Sunday in Lent



**WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS:**  
**SUNDAY 10:45 AM**  
**WEDNESDAY 6:00 PM**

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