

**February 23, 2020
Transfiguration Sunday**

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
Preacher: Chaplain Beverly Boxill-German
Lay Liturgist: Tim Crockett*

*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 *Orchestra Trio #10 (Presto, Andante)* *Johann Stamitz*
Fiume di Musica

Choral Introit *Anthem for Transfiguration Sunday*
Paul W. Hofreiter (1953-2008)

This is my Son, my Chosen One.
Listen to Him!
My Chosen Son!
Listen! Listen! Listen!

Welcome Reverend Dr. Debra Murray
Opening Hymn* *O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair* UMH 258
sung to the tune of UMH 267 "O Love, How Deep"

Call to Worship* Tim Crockett
Leader: Called by God, we have come to worship.
People: Called by Christ, we have come to follow.
Leader: Called by the Spirit, we have come to rejoice.
All: Called together, we will listen and pray.
Called by God, we have come to worship!

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 Tim Crockett
Hymn in Honor of Black History Month
UMH 728 *Come Sunday* Duke Ellington (1899-1974)

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 *Speak of Peace* Allan Robert Petker (b. 1955)
Perceive of peace. Embrace the thoughts of tranquility:
comfort, warmth, friendship, security.
Let flow the words that listen and trust.
What grace emerges from the whip?
What strength is driven by the sword?
What force can kindle restful fire?
What willful creativity is spurred by twists of pain?
Life cannot flourish out of death. Conceive of peace. Immerse in the
light of understanding; love, respect, honesty, compassion.
Let flow the words that listen and trust.
Speak of peace.

Scripture Reading* *Luke 5:1-11* Jerry Johnson
New Testament p. 58; large print p. 76

Hymn* *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore* UMH 344

Sermon *Let Jesus Use Your Boat*
Chaplain Beverly Boxill-German

Anthem *Restoration* Pavel Tschesnokoff (1877-1944)
arr. Heather Sorenson
Salvation is created, in midst of the earth, O God, O our God. Alleluia.

Invitation to the Offering Tim Crockett

Offertory *Improvisation on "Christ, upon the Mountain Peak"*

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

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts & Self* Tim Crockett
**Increase the strength of these gifts, and the strength of our
ministries, O God. Expand the nets of our love, that we may
reach deeply and share abundantly. In Christ's name, we pray.
Amen.**

Closing Hymn* *Prisoners of Hope Arise*
Sung to the tune of UMH 88, "Maker, in Whom We Live"
Text by Charles Wesley

Prisoners of hope, arise, and see your Lord appear;
Lo! on the wings of love He flies, and brings redemption near;
Redemption in His blood, He calls you to receive:
"Look unto Me, the pardoning God. Believe," He cries, "believe!"

The reconciling word, we thankfully embrace;
Rejoice in our redeeming Lord, a blood besprinkled race.
We yield to be set free; Thy counsel we approve;
Salvation, praise, ascribe to Thee, and glory in Thy love.

Jesus, to Thee we look, till saved from sin's remains;
Reject the inbred tyrant's yoke, and cast away his chains.
Our nature shall no more over us dominion have;
By faith we apprehend the power which shall forever save.

Benediction* Reverend Dr. Debra Murray
Alleluia* UMH 186
Postlude *Soon I Will Be Done* Calvin Taylor (b. 1948)

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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 memory
of my parents by Ruth Waters.*

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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. 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.....

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'S TOPIC: U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle

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

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 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 and payable to 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: The **last Sunday of each month (today!)** 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, Tom Cousar (Patty & Lou Bellardo's nephew), Marilyn Davis (Michele Conway's aunt), Lou Ecroll, 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.

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.



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 23

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

Monday February 24

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

Tuesday February 25

1:30 PM **Mary/Martha Circle**, Patio Room
7:00 PM **Short CEF Meeting**, Wesley Room
7:30 PM **Church Council**, Millennium Room

Wednesday February 26—Ash Wednesday

10:00 AM **Bible Study**, Channing House
6:00 PM **Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper**, Kohlstedt Hall
7:00 PM **Ash Wednesday Service**, Kohlstedt Hall

Thursday February 27

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

Sunday March 1

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:

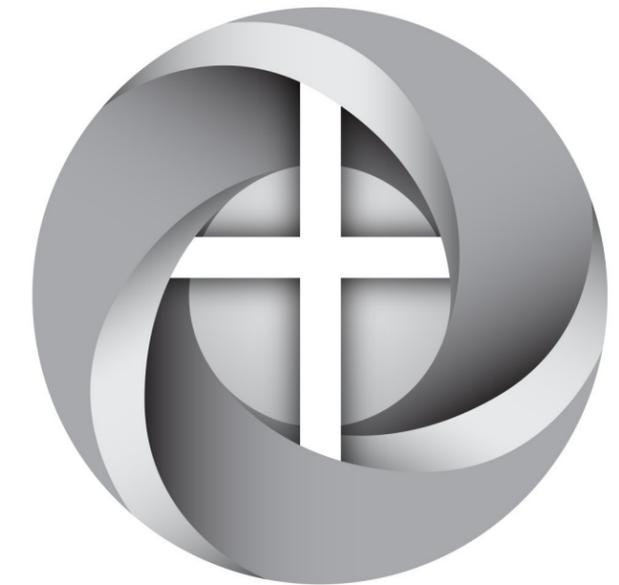
Sunday School is from 9:45 to 10:40 a.m. in the First School room (ages 3 through Kindergarten) and the Rainbow Room (grades 1 through 5).

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

WELCOME

February 23, 2020

Transfiguration Sunday



FIRST PALO ALTO

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS:

SUNDAY 10:45 AM

WEDNESDAY 6:00 PM

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