

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 14  
10:45 service



Good morning! Please click [here](#) if you would like to submit a prayer request.

Prelude *With Jesus I Will Travel* Norwegian Folk Tune  
arr. Mons LeidvinTakle (b. 1945)

Welcome Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Processional Hymn *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* UMH 384

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down;  
fix in us thy humble dwelling;  
all thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation;  
enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit  
into every troubled breast!  
Let us all in thee inherit;  
let us find that second rest.  
Take away our bent to sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning,  
set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;  
pure and spotless let us be.  
Let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee;  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Life of the Community

Call to Worship

One: Before we were born,  
**All: Before we took our first breath,**  
One: Before the week started,  
**All: Before the year started,**



One: Before we said, “I love you,”

**All: Before we said, “I’m sorry,”**

One: Before we figured out who we really are,

**All: Before we figured out who we want to be,**

One: Before it all—

**All: God loved us.**

One: Unconditionally and freely,

**All: Fully and honestly—**

One: God loved us.

**All: Again and again, this is where our story begins. Let us worship God!**

### Pastoral Prayer

### Lord’s Prayer

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem

*A Lenten Meditation*

Douglas E. Wagner (b. 1952)

Scripture

*John 3:14-21*

Hymn

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

UMH 420, v. 1, 2, 4

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
until my heart is pure,  
until with thee I will one will,  
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
so shall I never die,  
but live with thee the perfect life  
of thine eternity.

VirtuAll Voices

*Angels Watching Over Me*

Traditional



Message

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Prayer

God of grace, though we know we do not deserve it, you love us so much that you give us precious gifts. We tend to give gifts cautiously, to give gifts of minimal value, to give gifts from what remains after lavishing gifts on ourselves. You gave your only Son, so that in believing, we would have eternal life. Our gifts today seem so small, but you can multiply them through hearts that have been warmed and softened, and with them, you can change the world. Change us, the givers, in the process. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

Offertory

*What A Friend We Have in Jesus*

Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Doxology

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH No. 94

Closing Hymn

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

UMH 206, v. 1, 2

I want to walk as a child of the light  
I want to follow Jesus  
God sent the stars to give light to the world  
The star of my life is Jesus

Refrain:

In Him there is no darkness at all  
The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

I want to see the brightness of God  
I want to look at Jesus  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path  
And show me the way to the Father  
(Refrain)

Benediction

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Postlude

*Toccata in D Minor*

Gaston Béliet (1863-1938)

## Virtual Coffee & Chat

Join us after the service for a virtual coffee chat! All are welcome.  
Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81124350936>  
Please message Paula McKinney or Pastor Ann for the password.  
1st draft sent to Worship Committee on 3/10/21.