

\*Scripture *John 3:1-5* Julianne Stafford

Message *Mystery and Wonder of Birth* Reverend Doug Norris

## HOLY COMMUNION

UMH p. 24, Musical Setting E

During Communion, please sing *Spirit Song* UMH 347

\*Hymn *Jesus Calls Us* UMH 398

1. Jesus calls us o'er the tumult  
of our life's wild, restless sea;  
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,  
saying, "Christian, follow me!"

4. In our joys and in our sorrows,  
days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,  
"Christian, love me more than these!"

2. As of old the apostles heard it  
by the Galilean lake,  
turned from home and toil and kindred,  
leaving all for Jesus' sake.

5. Jesus calls us! By thy mercies,  
Savior, may we hear thy call,  
give our hearts to thine obedience,  
serve and love thee best of all.

3. Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying, "Christian, love me more!"

\*Benediction Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Postlude *Fanfare in G Minor* Emma Louise Ashford (1850-1930)

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration  
of our parents Asotolu & Daniel Fifita's 38th Wedding Anniversary  
by their children and grandsons.

*\*Please stand as you are able where indicated by an asterisk.*

Interim Pastor: Douglas Norris  
Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries: Gerardo Garcia Palacios  
Director of Music: Mark Shaull  
Organist: Diane Keller  
Head Usher: Daniel Fifita



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

# Second Sunday of Lent

SUNDAY MARCH 5, 2023

10:45 AM SERVICE



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023

Prelude *Meditation on "Peace Like a River"* Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

Welcome Reverend Doug Norris

Life of the Community Sumith Kalas

\*Call to Worship Sumith Kalas

Welcome, pilgrims, on the way to the cross.  
**We are learning to follow Jesus.**

When God says, "Go!" without telling us the destination,  
**Show us, Christ, how to go forward in faith.**

When re-birth is the impossible way forward,  
**Christ, be our midwife as we accept God's call to be reborn.**

When we find ourselves in the in-between of where we've been and where we're going,  
**Christ, meet us on the way and bless us in the going.**

Pilgrims on the way, come let us worship God!  
**We come to worship God as we learn to live inside out! Amen.**

\*Hymn *My Faith Looks Up To Thee* United Methodist Hymnal 452

1. My faith looks up to thee,  
thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine!  
Now hear me while I pray,  
take all my guilt away,  
O let me from this day  
be wholly thine!

2. May thy rich grace impart  
strength to my fainting heart,  
my zeal inspire!  
As thou hast died for me,  
O may my love to thee  
pure, warm, and changeless be,  
a living fire!

3. While life's dark maze I tread,  
and griefs around me spread,  
be thou my guide;  
bid darkness turn to day,  
wipe sorrow's tears away,  
nor let me ever stray  
from thee aside.

4. When ends life's transient dream,  
when death's cold, sullen stream  
shall o'er me roll;  
blest Savior, then in love,  
fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above,  
a ransomed soul!

Children's Moment Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Anthem *Life Is Born Again* John Purifoy

Invitation to the Offering Sumith Kalas

Offertory Prayer Sumith Kalas

**God of unwavering love, you have held nothing back in your love for us, not even your Son. How we marvel at that kind of love, and how we long to reflect a portion of that devotion back to you. As we dedicate our offerings to you, lead us away from our tendency to hold back and worry that there will not be enough. Help us to live as the people of love and abundance you have called us to be. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

Offertory *My Jesus, I Love Thee* arr. Joyce Jones (1933-2022)

\*Doxology UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*Hymn *This Is the Spirit's Entry Now* UMH 608

1. This is the Spirit's entry now:  
the water and the word,  
the cross of Jesus on your brow,  
the seal both felt and heard.

3. Renewing Spirit, hear our praise  
for your baptismal power  
that washes us through all our days.  
Lord cleanse again this hour.

2. Let water be the sacred sign  
that we must die each day,  
to rise again by his design  
as followers of his way.