

Offertory Prayer

Loving God, who guides us with your everlasting presence, we offer these gifts with grateful hearts. As Jesus stood with us in the waters of baptism, may these offerings stand as a testament to your love and grace. Use them to bring hope, healing, and transformation to our world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology UMH 94

*Hymn *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* UMH 203

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

3. He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains,
shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.

2. He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
are precious in his sight.

4. To him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever;
that name to us is love.

*Benediction Reverend Karen Paulsen

*Alleluia

Postlude *Finale jubilante* Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and with Gratitude and Appreciation for Pastor Burke and Caroline by Jim & Lynn Gibbons.

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

Senior Pastor: Burke Owens
Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries: Gerardo Garcia Palacios
Director of Music: Mark Shaull
Organist: Diane Keller
Head Usher: Daniel Fifita



FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

SUNDAY JANUARY 12 2025

10:45 AM SERVICE



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12 2025

Children's Moment

Rev. Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Hymn

We Would See Jesus

UMH 256

1. We would see Jesus; lo! his star is shining
above the stable while the angels sing;
there in a manger on the hay reclining;
haste, let us lay our gifts before the King.

2. We would see Jesus, Mary's son most holy,
light of the village life from day to day;
shining revealed through every task most lowly,
the Christ of God, the life, the truth, the way.

3. We would see Jesus, on the mountain teaching,
with all the listening people gathered round;
while birds and flowers and sky above are preaching
the blessedness which simple trust has found.

4. We would see Jesus, in his work of healing,
at eventide before the sun was set;
divine and human, in his deep revealing
of God made flesh, in loving service met.

5. We would see Jesus, in the early morning,
still as of old he calleth, "Follow me!"
Let us arise, all meaner service scorning;
Lord, we are thine, we give ourselves to thee.

*Scripture

Luke 2:15-17, 21-22

Julianne Stafford

Anthem

Shall We Gather at the River

John Carter

Message

Preparing the Way

Rev. Karen Paulsen

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People

Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord, for these gifts,
we give you thanks!

*Lord's Prayer

Reverend Karen Paulsen

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.

Prelude *Flute of Grace* Mons Leidvin Takle (b. 1948)

Welcome Reverend Karen Paulsen

Passing of the Peace

Introit *Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above* Eugene Butler

Life of the Community Sumith Kalas

*Call to Worship Sumith Kalas

When we pass through the cleansing waters of baptism and the troubled waters of our lives, God declares:

I will be with you.

When we go through the fires that refine us and the fires that threaten our livelihoods, God declares:

I will be with you.

Even when we travel to the far corners of the earth or down into the depths of our souls, God declares:

I will be with you.

So come, let us worship God whose love never fails, whose presence never leaves, whose mercies never end.

Praise be to God who, in the form of Jesus, waded into the waters of baptism to prove God's solidarity with us! Amen.

*Hymn *When Jesus Came to Jordan* UMH 252

1. When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon
but as the sinless one.
He came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.

3 Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make;
this very day invade us,
and every bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.

2. He came to share temptation,
our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation
to die upon the cross.

So when the dove descended
on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended,
the age of grace began.