

# Central United Methodist Church

3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95204

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Trinity & Communion Sunday*

Sunday, June 4, 2023



## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

Monica Adams

### GATHERING MOMENT

Laura Dinges (8:30am), Alan England (11:00am)

### INTROIT

*Open The Gates of Righteousness*  
[by Eric Thiman]

Chancel Choir

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Laura Dinges (8:30am), Alan England (11:00am)

**Leader:** You have given us all the authority in heaven and on earth.

**All:** We will make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit with such authority.

**Leader:** Teach them to obey everything that Jesus has commanded you.

**All:** We remember that Jesus is with us always, to the end of the age.

**Leader:** Let us worship the Triune God together.

**All:** Praise God, the Father, Jesus, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Sustainer! Amen.

### \*OPENING HYMN

*Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing!*

UMH #318

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Carol Willson

### PRAYER CARDS COLLECTED

### MISSION & MINISTRIES MOMENT

Laura Dinges (8:30am), Alan England (11:00am)

### RITE OF FRIENDSHIP AND A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Alan England (11:00am)

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

Laura Dinges (8:30am), Alan England (11:00am)

(Stand, bow or wave, with the word "Peace be with You!")

**All Sing:** *And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.*

**ANTHEM**

*I Sing The Mighty Power of God*  
[arr. Anna Page]

Chancel Choir

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**SCRIPTURE**

Genesis 1:1-2:4a (Pew Bible NRSV, page 1)

Laura Dinges (8:30am)

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Alan England (11:00am)

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**\*HYMN**

*God Created Heaven and Earth*

UMH #151

**SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 28:16-20 (Pew Bible NRSV, page 34)

Laura Dinges (8:30am)

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Alan England (11:00am)

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“God Created Heavens and Earth!”

Rev. Sungho Lee

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Laura Dinges (8:30am), Alan England (11:00am)

After a concern, the worship leader will say “Let us pray to the Lord,” and the congregation will reply, “**Lord, hear our prayer!**”

After a joy, the worship leader will say “Let us pray to the Lord,” and the congregation will reply, “**Lord, we give thanks!**”

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THANKSGIVING**

**WORSHIP WITH OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Laura Dinges (8:30am), Alan England (11:00am)

**OFFERTORY**

*Make Me A Channel of Your Peace*  
[arr by Mark Hayes]

Monica Adams, Piano  
Ric Campero, Tenor

**\*DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, From Whom all Blessings Flow*  
***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 up lifts!***  
***Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!***  
***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

UMH #94

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Laura Dinges (8:30am), Alan England (11:00am)

**COMMUNION**

**UMH #23-24**

Laura Dinges (8:30am), Alan England (11:00am)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is right and a good and joyful thing...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Sing:** *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

**Leader:** Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Sing:** *Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.*

**Leader:** Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

**Sing:** *Amen, amen, amen.*

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Sungho Lee

**Our Father, 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.**

#### COMMUNION HYMNS

*One Bread, One Body*

UMH #620

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

UMH #618

*Eat this Bread*

UMH #628

#### COMMUNION REFLECTION

Rev. Sungho Lee

#### SENDING FORTH

#### \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Sungho Lee

#### \*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.***

#### \*POSTLUDE

Monica Adams

\* Indicates please stand as you are able.

---

#### SERVING YOU TODAY

Rev. Dr. Sungho Lee

Laura Dinges, 8:30am Worship Leader

Alan England, 11:00am Worship Leader

Carol Willson, Children's Moment

Ric Campero, Choir Director

Monica Adams, Organist/Pianist

David Campero, Livestream

Mark Wharff & Steven Adams, Media

Cherie Hudson, Facilities Coordinator

Rupert Cooper, Audio

## SERMON IN A NUTSHELL: "GOD CREATED HEAVENS AND EARTH!"

### **Trinity Sunday**

Trinity Sunday is a day to celebrate the unity of God the Creator, Jesus the Savior, and the Holy Spirit the Sustainer, even though they are three distinct persons. They are one in essence, with the same will and power. When God created the heavens and the earth, the Holy Spirit was present at the moment of creation. The Gospel of John also testifies that Jesus was with God at creation. Thus, all three divine persons were present at the creation and worked together in harmony to create the universe.

In his infinite wisdom, God has revealed himself to us as three distinct persons, not three functions or titles of one person. Just as I am one person with multiple roles, God is one essence in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Many people try to simplify the Trinity by comparing it to water, ice, and steam - three forms of one substance. But this falls short of the reality of the Trinity. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are not merely different forms of the same essence, but rather three distinct persons who share the same will and power.

We see this shared will and power at work in the creation of the universe. In the beginning, the earth was formless and void, covered in darkness. But the Spirit of God swept over the waters, and God spoke, creating light and order out of chaos.

The Gospel of John also testifies to the unity of the Trinity in the creation of all things. John tells us that in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. This Word was none other than Jesus, who was with God at the beginning of time.

Thus, we see that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit were all present at the creation of the universe, working in perfect harmony to bring order out of chaos. And even now, they continue to work together to sustain and redeem all things. Let us give thanks and praise to the triune God for his power, his love, and his infinite grace.

### **God of Order**

The creation reflects God's character of order and boundaries. Everything was created with laws and orders, and each creation has its boundary. We, as humans, have the image of God in us and thus reflect his character. When we keep our principles and rules, we reflect God's order and boundaries.

### **God of Boundaries**

In the creation account, we see the importance of boundaries. God created the dome to separate the waters from above and below and called it sky. He also gathered the waters together and called the dry land Earth, and the waters Seas. Boundaries are essential for every aspect of creation, and when they are crossed, disasters occur.

When we cross boundaries in our personal lives, it can lead to severe consequences. For instance, a married couple who crosses the boundary of faithfulness is engaging in an affair, which can lead to the destruction of their marriage. Similarly, when a river or sea crosses its boundary, it can lead to catastrophic flooding or a tsunami.

As Christians, we should respect the personal boundaries of others and honor their privacy. We should refrain from giving uninvited advice or making personal attacks on others. In our church meetings, we can follow God's example of boundaries by implementing a yellow card system. If a person makes a personal attack or disrespectful comment, they receive a yellow card. If they receive two yellow cards, they are out of the meeting.

By respecting boundaries, we can maintain healthy relationships and avoid unnecessary conflicts. Let us follow God's example and embrace the importance of boundaries in our lives.

## **God of Life**

In the beginning, God brought forth order from chaos. He spoke into the void, and creation came into being. And with each day, He continued to bring forth new forms of life, each with their own boundaries and orders.

On the third day, God commanded the earth to bring forth vegetation, plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind. And the earth obeyed, bringing forth an abundance of life. And God saw that it was good.

On the fourth day, God created the sun and moon and stars, setting them in the sky to separate the day from the night and to be for signs and seasons and days and years. And once again, He saw that it was good.

On the fifth day, God created the creatures of the sea and the birds of the air. He blessed them, commanding them to be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters and the skies with their abundance. And God saw that it was good.

On the sixth day, God created the land animals, each with their own unique forms and boundaries. And then, He created mankind, in His own image, to be stewards of His creation, to live within the boundaries and orders that He had established.

And so, we see that God's creation is marked by boundaries and orders, each one serving a purpose and contributing to the overall flourishing of life. As we seek to live abundant lives, let us embrace the boundaries and orders that God has established, knowing that they are good and for our benefit.

## **God of Blessing**

Let us take a moment to consider the bountiful blessings that our triune God has bestowed upon us and all of creation. We are called to be good stewards of these gifts and to share them with others.

Let us strive for restoration in our relationships, agreeing with one another and living in peace. By doing so, we invite the God of love and peace to dwell among us. Let us greet one another with a holy kiss, as all the saints do.

## **Make Disciples of Jesus with all the blessings.**

Why do we have to keep all the boundaries, laws, and commandments?

These commandments given to us are for us to continue the work of spreading the good news of the gospel and making disciples of all nations. We are to baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything that Jesus has commanded us.

It is important to remember that we are not alone in this work. Jesus promised to be with us always, to the end of the age. With this promise, we can take heart and be assured that we have the power and authority of Christ with us as we carry out his mission.

Let us then go forth with confidence, knowing that the triune God is with us and that we have been given a great commission to fulfill. May we be faithful stewards of the gospel, sharing it with others and making disciples of all nations.

---



### ***KINGDOM DREAMS, VIOLENT REALITIES***

**Next Sunday, June 11, the Central's Adult Class** – will continue one of the most important studies we have ever undertaken. Important because—quite literally—lives hang in the balance. For whatever reasons, violence—particularly gun violence—continues to rage out of control. In 2021, the most recent year for which complete data are available, 48,830 people in the US died of gun-related injuries according to the Centers for Disease Control. This figure includes gun murders, gun suicides and other gun-related deaths. The numbers don't include those injured with guns or otherwise victimized by gun use.

Most of us have been touched by gun violence. Thirty-four years ago, at 11:59am on Tuesday January 17, 1989, the first mass school shooting in the US took place, three blocks from our church. With a semi-automatic refire, the shooter killed five school children and wounded 32 others, including one teacher. Members of our church family were directly impacted.

In this series we'll look at gun violence from through the perspective of our Judeo-Christian heritage. Our guide will be a little-known Hebrew prophet, Micah, who wrote in Palestine some 2800 years ago. His times were bleak economically and politically, times when the superpowers of the age roared and trounced each other, and refugees fled this way and that to avoid the violence. Opportunists took what they wanted; others were left hungry. *Sound familiar?* To this world Micah spoke:

*"In days to come...they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more...for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken." ~ Micah 4:1-4*

Our study series will be coordinated by Becky Cameron, Central Member and member of *Cleveland School Remembers (CSR)/Brady United Against Gun Violence*. Our curriculum, *Kingdom Dreams, Violent Realities*, is a Bible study produced by the General Board of Church and Society of The United Methodist Church.

Those who wish to participate will have an opportunity to create a *Soul Box*. Somewhat akin to the AIDS Quilt Project, which created quilts in remembrance of those who died of AIDS, Soul Boxes are created to remember those who have been victims of gun violence.

We hope you'll join us in Knoles Room 6 on Sunday mornings.

*June 11 Transformation*

*June 18 Flourishing*

*June 25 What Can We Do?*

The link below will go to the Kingdom Dreams, Violent Realities materials we will be studying in adult ed in June. We encourage you to read the materials (a total of 45 pages) to learn more about this important topic. If you plan to participate in the class, do try to read the 7-10 page section each week. You will find the information compelling. The 4th Sunday we will learn things we can each DO to help our nation deal with the #1 cause of death among children in our country—gun violence.

<https://www.umcjustice.org/what-you-can-do/advocacy/resource-kingdom-dreams-violent-realities-bible-study>

### SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Join Pastor Lee's Summer Bible Study Small Group during June, July, and August on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall following the 11:00am worship service (except for the Sundays when Book Club meets, and Annual Conference happens). The study is open to everyone. Come to the Fellowship Hall and learn about the leadership of Samuel, King Saul, and King David in the Bible.

---

### NEW MEMBER CLASS

Pastor Lee is starting a new members class in June. If you want to become a member of Central UMC, please email Pastor Lee at [slee@cumcstockton.org](mailto:slee@cumcstockton.org). The class will meet 4 times according to the schedule of the participants.

---

### LEADERSHIP TRAINING CLASS

First Wednesday of June, July, and August at 6 PM via zoom. You only need to attend one class. If you are a committee chair, you are required to attend this one-hour training.

---

### A NOTE REGARDING STAFF TIME ON SUNDAYS

Although many staff members work on Sunday during worship services, this does not mean they are available for anything outside of their Sunday duties. For instance, David is paid to provide online live streaming service on Sunday. He is not there to be advised of issues around the campus that may need attention. If you find issues that need to be addressed, please send an email to the appropriate staff member or committee head so it can be handled during their weekly work schedule. If it is an emergency, contact any staff member available.

Here are the emails for staff members and the committee chairs:

#### STAFF

**Sungho Lee, Senior Minister**

[slee@cumcstockton.org](mailto:slee@cumcstockton.org)

**Viseth Hou, Cambodian Minister**

[vhou@cumcstockton.org](mailto:vhou@cumcstockton.org)

**Susie Wanden, Church Administrator**

[swanden@cumcstockton.org](mailto:swanden@cumcstockton.org)

**Ric Campero, Director of Music**

[riccampero@gmail.com](mailto:riccampero@gmail.com)

**Cherie Hudson, Sunday Campus Coordinator**

[cherieh127@gmail.com](mailto:cherieh127@gmail.com)

**David Campero, Facilities and Maintenance/Sunday Media**

[dcampero@cumcstockton.org](mailto:dcampero@cumcstockton.org)

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Church Council: Ned Leiba**

[ned@leibacpa.com](mailto:ned@leibacpa.com)

**Board of Trustees: Don Smiley**

[don.smiley48@gmail.com](mailto:don.smiley48@gmail.com)

**SPRC: Suzi Treganza**

[suzitreganza@yahoo.com](mailto:suzitreganza@yahoo.com)

**Finance & Stewardship: Judy Avila**

[judyavila@hotmail.com](mailto:judyavila@hotmail.com)

**Worship Committee: Mary Juarez Dalton**

[Mary.juarez.dalton@comcast.net](mailto:Mary.juarez.dalton@comcast.net)

**Education Committee: Andrea Moccia**

[moccia.andi@gmail.com](mailto:moccia.andi@gmail.com)

**Mission Committee: Steven Adams**

[sadams14@comcast.net](mailto:sadams14@comcast.net)

---

### SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

The Sunday Afternoon Book Group's next read is called *Tastes Like War* by Grace Cho, joining the Big Library Read which connects readers around the world with the same book at the same time. Grace Cho grew up as the daughter of a white American merchant marine and the Korean bar hostess he met abroad. They were one of few immigrants in a xenophobic small town during the cold war, where identity was politicized by everyday details. The story is about a daughter's search, through intimate and global history, for the roots of her mother's schizophrenia. Grace learns to cook dishes from her mother's childhood in order to invite the past into the present. In this way Grace discovers not only the things which broke her brilliant mother, but also the things that kept her alive.

### **WE'RE HIRING!**

Central Methodist is looking for a Part-Time Family & Youth Ministries Coordinator – 25 hours/week, including 4 hours every Sunday. This position will play a pivotal role in maintaining a comprehensive plan for children and youth (Pre-K through High School). The Coordinator will help create, design, implement, and oversee children-centered events.

The primary responsibilities for this position are:

- Oversight of programs for children, Pre-K through High School;
- Recruiting volunteers to help with children's programming; and
- Focus on creative ways to grow our Children, Youth, and Family Ministries.
- The successful candidate will work with the Church's Education Committee.

Pay: \$22 per hour.

Hours: 25 hours per week which includes 4 hours every Sunday.

If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please have them contact Suzi Treganza, Chair, Staff-Parish Relations Committee, via email at [suzitreganza@yahoo.com](mailto:suzitreganza@yahoo.com).

Please note: This is NOT a remote position. On campus office hours are required.