

Today is UMCOR Sunday. Your donations equip UMCOR to respond quickly when disaster strikes and to stay for the long term. From training volunteers to keeping the office lights on, the UMCOR Sunday special offering helps cover the costs of this nonprofit UMC organization and allows for 100% of gifts given in response to disasters to assist with the disaster.

Book Club meets this Wednesday at 1:30 PM in the Youth Room. This month's book is *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Order your Easter flowers today! This year we will be ordering orchids to beautify our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Suggested donation is \$10 each and you can take your orchid home after Easter worship. Sign up in honor or memory of a loved one. We will include this list in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

Thanks Today to:

Our **Liturgist:** Cailan Darling

Our **Usher:** Jillian Holmberg

Our **Tech Team:** Carolyn Collins, Roger Swenson

Our **Coffee Volunteers:** Rachél Lather, Kate Sutherland

No Altar Flowers during Lent

This Week:

Tuesday, 3/17: Alive Now 10 AM, Upper Room Group 7 PM

Wednesday, 3/18: Book Club 1:30 PM

Friday, 3/20: **Tide Deadline**, Scott Group 10 AM

Coming Up:

Monday, 3/23: PACT 10 AM

Sunday, 3/29: Palm Sunday

Aptos UMC sends out a weekly email blast on Saturdays. If you would like to be added to the email list, contact the office at office@aptosumc.org. *If you've given us your email address and aren't receiving the emails, please check your junk or spam folder.*

Online giving is available. Go to aptosumc.org and click on the 'GIVE NOW' button, or scan this code using your smartphone.



You are invited to join our Prayer Team. The Prayer Team receives a weekly email with prayer requests. To join the Prayer Team or submit a prayer request, contact the church office.

APTOS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 15, 2026 ~ 10 AM Worship

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Aptos UMC is an inclusive community that welcomes and encourages full participation of ALL PERSONS, regardless of race, culture, age, economic circumstance, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical/mental abilities. We affirm our denomination's motto, "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"



Gabe House, Pastor
Daniel Goldsmith, Music Director

221 Thunderbird Drive, Aptos, CA 95003
831-688-2210 aptosumc.org office@aptosumc.org
Facebook: Aptos United Methodist Church YouTube: @aptosumc

Order of Worship

Gathering Music

Call To Worship

Beloved, the journey of grace takes us to still waters, the valley of the shadow of death, even to tables surrounded by our enemies.

We gather to worship God, our Shepherd, who guides us on the journey.

The journey of grace points us toward the Light so that we may bear the fruit of the Light in all that we do.

We gather to be formed by grace so that our lives may bear the fruit of all that is good and right and true.

The journey of grace calls us to pay attention, to discern what is pleasing to God.

We gather to listen to the Spirit, who empowers us to go from this place to work together to do what is pleasing to God.

Come, let us worship God who provides, inspires, and empowers us on the journey of grace.

**Come, let us worship God as we journey in grace together!
Amen.**

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Loving Shepherd, you know our names; you care for us. When we face darkness and death, journey alongside us. When we hunger for your love, fill us with your presence. When we are fearful, feed us at your table. May we dwell in the house of goodness and mercy all the days of our lives. Amen.

Announcements

Opening Hymn #374 (v1,2,4) **“Standing on the Promises”**

Children’s Time

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read, and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scripture

Psalm 23

Sermon

“Journeying in Grace”

Pastor Gabe

Hymn #2146

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”

Prayers of the People

Confession and Pardon

O Lord, you are our shepherd, and yet we want. We lie down when we could act. We stir the pot when we could offer peace. We wander tempting paths instead of following you. We seek courage and comfort in earthly things rather than in you. We hate our enemies and refuse to break bread with them. We see scarcity even when you offer us abundance. We pray for forgiveness, for your goodness and mercy, so that we might dwell in You, in your grace, forever. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Offering

Doxology #64 (v1) **“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer

Closing Hymn #2140 (v1,4,5) **“Since Jesus Came into My Heart”**

Benediction

Postlude

Psalm 23 NRSVue

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

³ he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.