

WELCOME

Grace and Peace be with you in the name of our Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.

Thank you for coming! We're so glad you've chosen to worship with us today.

It gives me great joy to tell you that
First United Church of Christ and Conference Center Second Life is
a church with full real life standing in the
Southern California Nevada Conference of the
United Church of Christ (UCC).

And as a real UCC church, we'd like you to know that
"No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
You are welcome here.

Our service will be in voice and text.
A copy of our services today, our bulletin or worship guide can be found inside that
red book located in the back.
The music will be on the media viewer, so be sure that you have your voice and media
turned on.

If you don't know how to do that, let someone know and we'll try to help.
There will be a link in Nearby Chat so you can watch it in your browser if the
viewer isn't working for you.

One of the blessings and responsibilities that come with
our being a real church with real standing is that we, like all UCC churches,
support the work of the national church not only with prayer
but financially.

So we greatly appreciate any offering you can make to support this ministry.
If you prefer, donations can be made on our donation bowl located in the back next
to the red book or on our website, firstuccsl.org.

My name is Rev. Yadi Martínez-Reyna, I am one of the Pastors in this community.
And anyone you see with a "Minister" tag is an ordained UCC minister in real life.

This month has been a month of reflection and celebration of the Hispanic Heritage
Month which runs from September 15 to October 15th.

This month is an opportunity to learn, celebrate and hear unique voices that foster
community, pride, a sense of understanding from a community that is a vital part of
the U.S population.

This month we started with a series that is aimed to invite everyone—not just
women—to explore the narratives of those who have frequently been overlooked or
silenced.

Last Sunday, Pastor Kris delivered a powerful message on women, hidden figure in our

history and how they are part of our sacred literature.

Reminded us that once they step out into the light they are seen.
Pastor Kris said, like the women in the movie and in the text from
Luke she read about Mary Magdalene,
Once they have been seen, they cannot be unseen.

The week before we talked about Judith and this past Thursday we explored
even further from a mujerista (womanist perspective the accomplice of the servant
helping Judith.

Next week we will dive into the world of Jezebel.
I invite you on Thursday to come and share your ideas,
your own research, and stories of Jezebel.

We meet friends in the upper room called "the gathering" on the teleport there.
We meet at 4 SL time which is 6 Texas time (central).

So come on bring your beverage of choice, your notes, your questions.
Let's craft my notes that I can later use for our reflection/sermon for Sunday the
19th together on Jezebel.

This Sunday friends as part of our series and our Hispanic Heritage Month I will
diligently invite other voices from around the country to join us.

Today's guest preachers is The Rev. Rhina Ramos.

Here is a link to her congregation in <https://www.ministeriolatino.net/>
Rev. Rhina wrote a book called "En mi Corazon un Volcan" and here is the link to
order it:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScV_GC6aNU6_QIxpnQdyCIgK1gQJ5q8ER02E_v6EPZ_jL-Waw/viewform?fbclid=IwY2xjawNYvTNleHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETFiUDk4bFNJRjl1c2RscEdLAR4KMWpwz-R4Mkgj-ZWxP5Z3-vAsM5ZGNaesfyoutEt5I80876LW_LmOGNUTVyA_aem_uZxECpvQo2ROepnolqvGUw

For now, this book's only in Spanish—but an English version's on the way.
My dear friend, Rev. Rhina, is my co-conspirator in all things sacred and a little
scandalous.

Together we've baptized a trans person in a swimming pool and marched for justice in
the streets.
She's from El Salvador, raised during the time of Padre Óscar Romero.

After migrating to the U.S., she studied law at Hofstra, became a lawyer,
then followed her call to ministry at Pacific School of Religion,
where she was ordained in the United Church of Christ.

There's so much more to say—but today, we'll let her speak for herself.
Her sermon was pre-recorded for us; you'll see it in the media viewer.
If it doesn't load, use the link we'll share.

Will you pray with me?

INVOCATION -

Come, Holy Spirit, and fill this space and our community with your divine presence. Touch our hearts, minds, and souls wherever in this vast planet we are found.

Thanking you of Holy on what wherever we are found you not only know, but see us and hear us.

May this service today be an inspiration, a creative wonder and invitation to grow closer to you and in community to each other.

May you create a holy bubble of protection from anything that might distract, or glitch our very own connection to you through these digital waves and in our minds.

May all honor and glory be yours now and forever.

I pray in the name of the one who calls us family, in Jesus name.

Amen

For our gathering music if you have any announcements of the life of our church please share during this time.

GATHERING MUSIC

Farruko - Pasa_je_ro (Lyrics) (English Translation)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CNp4bOVdeWg&list=RDCNp4bOVdeWg&start_radio=1

SCRIPTURES

Today's reading come from the book of Luke 4:18-30

The Word of God for the people of God will be read by Rhina during her sermon.

Thanks be to God

SERMON - BY Rev. Rhina Ramos

Rev Rhina Ramos Sermon on Luke 4:18-30

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=damAqiGUEoE>

PRAYER PREPARATION:

We have come to the time where we come together in prayer.

Let us give thanks for the gift of this day
and pray for the life of the world.

If you have a prayer of joy or concern that you wish to lift to God, and have supported by the energy of those gathered here, we invite you to share.

As this song plays, in the silence of our hearts or type your request in the nearby chat.

ANNA MVZE - "HEY GOD" (LYRIC VIDEO)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eRCoBgGDaj4>

COMMUNITY PRAYER

If there was a prayer inside of you that you couldn't quite get out, it's ok.

Because the Psalmist tells us that God knows what we are going to say before the words can even form on our tongues.

And so we know.

We know that God has heard our prayers.

Those spoken out loud, those typed into SL chat, and those spoken only in the silence of our hearts.

PASTORAL PRAYER -

BLESSING FOR THE JOURNEY

May you practice a sacred reclamation of all this world was made for—dignity, love, belonging, delight. May you nurture your own imagination for repair in all its forms, and expand with self-compassion, in the knowledge that no healing is linear, and no reparation final. Amen.

Arthur Riley, Cole. Black Liturgies: Prayers, Poems, and Meditations for Staying Human (pp. 152-153). (Function). Kindle Edition.

GO IN PEACE, AMEN

MUSIC FOR THE JOURNEY

izzo - Good As Hell

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmbmeOgWsQE&list=RDSmbmeOgWsQE&start_radio=1, L
Amen.