

Welcome to Church of the Painted Hills

United Church of Christ

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

Welcome and Announcements

Paul Tobey

Passing of the Peace

One: Through webs and nets and wires, it googles and zooms to everyone whose heart needs peace, and to every place there is no peace. And we will share it now: the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you.

Prelude When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (Lowell Mason, arr. Joel Raney)

Dr. Kyungsun Choi

Liturgy of the Lenten Candles

Sophia Sainz-Leon

A Call to Trust

Reader: As we journey through Lent, we are called to trust in God's unfailing love, even when the path is uncertain.

All: We come with open hearts, ready to follow where Christ leads.

Reader: As this light fades, may our faith grow stronger.

All: Lord, teach us to trust You. Amen.

Call to Worship

Sophia Sainz-Leon

One: Friends, we're here today not just because it's what we do on Sundays, but because something in us longs for renewal.

All: We're here hoping to be changed, open to being made new in spirit and in truth.

One: God meets us with a love that doesn't point fingers or push us away, but gently puts us back together.

All: We're opening our hearts to that love, the kind that wakes us up and shapes us from the inside out.

One: And Christ keeps calling us out of our fears and into a hope that's alive and steady.

All: So together, we stand as a community ready to carry His light into the world.

Hymn Blessed Assurance

#473

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!

O what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God,

born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood.

An Open and Affirming Congregation

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**This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, perfect delight!
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

**This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blessed;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with God's goodness, lost in Christ's love.**

**This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

Young at Heart

Sue Ellen Coltrin

Opening Prayer

Sophia Sainz-Leon

**Holy Spirit, prepare our hearts as we gather. Quiet our fears, wake up our minds,
and open us to the transforming love of Christ. Fill this place with peace, unity,
and courage so we can receive what you are speaking into our lives today. In
Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

**Prayers of the People
Pastoral Prayer**

Rev. Carlos Sosa

Savior's Prayer

Rev. Carlos Sosa

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory
forever. Amen**

Music The Power of the Cross (Stuart Townend, arr. Marianne Kim)

Dr. Kyungsun Choi

First Reading Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 NRSVUE

Second Reading John 3:1-17

Message

Sophia Sainz-Leon

Sean Sosa

Rev. Carlos Sosa

Communion

Rev. Carlos Sosa

Invitation to Generosity

Rev. Carlos Sosa

Offering Prayer

Gracious God, thank you for awakening our hearts with your love and for giving us the privilege to give as people being made new. Bless these gifts and multiply them so this church can reflect your grace, hope, and transforming power in our community. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Hymn Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life (verses 1-4 only)

#543

**Where cross the crowded ways of life,
Where sound the cries of clan and race,
Above the noise of selfish strife,
O Christ, we hear your voice of grace.**

**In haunts of wretchedness and need,
On shadowed thresholds framed with fears,
From paths where hide the lures of greed,
We catch the vision of your tears.**

**From tender childhood's helplessness,
From human griefs and burdened toil,
From famished souls, from sorrows' stress,
We know your heart does not recoil.**

**The cup of water given for you
Still holds the freshness of your grace;
Yet long these multitudes to view
The deep compassion of your face.**

Benediction

Rev. Carlos Sosa

Postlude Praise His Greatness (Rowland Hugh Prichard, arr. Mark Hayes)

Dr. Kyungsun Choi