



**INTROIT**

*“St. Thomas”*

Inglewood First Music

**WELCOME**

Sheila Clayborn  
*Liturgist*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*One: In this holy season of Christmas,*

***Many: Christ comes to us again.***

*One: In this quiet after the harried days of December,*

***Many: God invites us to pause and reflect.***

*One: Our journey has led us here.*

***Many: The Spirit is with us now.***

*One: Let us bow down as sages of old,*

***Many: and worship Christ our King.***

**OPENING PRAYER**

***Christ of power and justice, help us embrace the power that comes from love,  
and guide us to seek the justice that love reveals.***

***Open our hearts and minds, that we may bear your wisdom in this time of worship.***

***Open our lives in the year ahead to the power and strength of your loving Spirit.***

***In your holy name, we pray. Amen.***

**OPENING HYMN**

*“Lift Every Voice and Sing”*

Hymnal #519

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*“We Are Not Alone”*

Hymnal #883

***We are not alone, we live in God’s world.***

***We believe in God: who has created and is creating,***

***who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,***

***to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.***

***We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation,***

***to love & serve others, to seek justice & resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified & risen, our  
judge & our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.***

***We are not alone. Thanks be to God. AMEN!***

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*“We Are the Church”*

Inglewood First Music

***English Version:***

*I am the church!*

*You are the church!*

*We are the church together!*

*All who follow Jesus*

*all around the world!*

*Yes, we’re the church together!*

***Spanish Version:***

*¡Yo soy la Iglesia!*

*¡Tú eres la Iglesia!*

*¡Somos la Iglesia juntos!*

*¡Todos los que siguen a Jesús*

*en todo el mundo!*

*¡Si, somos la Iglesia juntos!*

***Tongan Version:***

*Koau koe temipale!*

*Ko koe koe temipale!*

*Tautolu koe temipale!*

*Tau muimui kia Sisu*

*Tautolu kotoa ‘i mamani*

*‘Io, ko tautolu koe temipale kakato*

## SONG OF PREPARATION

*"Blessed Assurance"*

Hymnal #369

## SCRIPTURE

**John 1:1-5**  
*Common English Bible*

*1 In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. 2 The Word was with God in the beginning. 3 Everything came into being through the Word, and without the Word nothing came into being. What came into being 4 through the Word was life, and the life was the light for all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light.*

## MESSAGE

***"Light at the Finish Line"***

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Oliver

## HOLY COMMUNION

## COMMUNION SONG

*"Kum Bah Yah"*

Hymnal #494

## MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sheila Clayborn

## BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Oliver

## POSTLUDE

*"St. Thomas"*

Inglewood First Music

# Announcements

inglewood first united methodist church

## COMING UP @ INGLEWOOD FIRST UMC / [inglewoodfirst.org/calendar](https://inglewoodfirst.org/calendar)

- **Zoom Bible Study | Resumes in January 2026** - Tuesdays @ 7 pm & Thursdays @ 1 pm.
- **January Zoom Birthday Shout Out** | Wednesday, January 7, 2026 @ 6:30 pm
- **Church Council Monthly Meeting** | Thursday, January 8 @ 7 pm

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING GROUNDBREAKING UPDATES

- **Affordable Housing Groundbreaking Coordination Meeting** | Wednesday, January 7 @ 7 pm
- **31-Day Prayer Challenge Countdown Begins** | Thursday, Jan 8 | [inglewoodfirst.org/prayer](https://inglewoodfirst.org/prayer)
- **Weekly Prayer Countdown Check-In w/ Rev. Linda Furtado** | Begins Sunday, Jan 11 @ 2pm
- **Groundbreaking Ceremony** | Saturday, February 7 @ 10 am

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE | *Submit prayer requests at [inglewoodfirst.org/prayer](https://inglewoodfirst.org/prayer).*

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS** | Sheila Clayborn 1/2 • Sara Diaz-Montejano 1/4 • Tony Lowe 1/7 • Nell Walker 1/8 • Zaneta Smith 01/10- Salome Simpson 1/12 • Helen Jenkins 1/12 • Donald Perry 1/18 • Pastor Rey Guevara 1/23 • Victor Franklin, Sr. 1/27 • Meleane Baker 1/28

**PRAYER LIST** | J'Slolo Siosiu Tava Tu'uholoaki • Cisco Rose • Ellis Melendez • Anthony Greene & Family • Family of Lilye Harbison • Quinn Jones & Jonathan Jones • Michelle Taylor Greene • Annie Webb & Monica Webb • Jean H. Pryor • Mary Anne Swayne & son Paul • Elva Herrera & son Daniel • Jennifer Blannon • Patricia Thomas • Jimmie Woods-Gray • Mary Collins • John Cohill • Rokyia Ferguson • Elizabeth Payne • Stephannie Starr • Affordable Housing Project