

THE
United Church OF THE **San Juans**

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOT
NOVEMBER 8, 2020

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Instrumental Improvisation

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN

WELCOME

PASTOR PAM STOFFERAHN

WELCOMING SONG

Sing Alleluia to the Lord

UCSJ ENSEMBLE

Lift up your hearts unto the Lord, (*echo*)
Lift up your hearts unto the Lord.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
Lift up your hearts unto the Lord! (*echo*)

His resurrection sets us free, (*echo*)
His resurrection sets us free.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
His resurrection sets us free. (*echo*)

Sing alleluia to the Lord! (*echo*)
Sing alleluia to the Lord.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
Sing alleluia to the Lord! (*echo*)

In Christ the world has been redeemed, (*echo*)
In Christ the world has been redeemed.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
In Christ the world has been redeemed. (*echo*)

Therefore we celebrate the feast (*echo*)
Therefore we celebrate the feast.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
Therefore we celebrate the feast. (*echo*)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Despite our clear commandments to love God and love one another, we often choose to serve the lesser gods of this world. In acknowledgment of our idolatry and failings, resting on the promise of God's mercy and forgiveness, we confess our sin to God and before one another.

Silence for Personal Confession

Leader: Holy one,

People: we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation.

Leader: Ancient of Days, we make plans and predictions, but who are we? Mere mortals who have only a glimpse of what tomorrow brings. We don't presume to understand what you know, God, but we do know that you have been with us since the beginning, and you will see us through. You are the one who knows the hairs on our heads, who whispers our names, who knows the deep wounds we live with in our hearts.

People: We come to you in our brokenness, in our aching, in our sighing, because you are the Great Physician. Heal us, O God. Heal our bodies and spirits. Heal our families, neighbors, communities. Heal our cities, our nation, our world. Heal us, O God, by restoring our hope, our faith in one another. Heal us by helping us to be whole again, to let go of the practices that cause harm, and cling to ways of justice, mercy, and peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Leader: For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. There is nothing that will ever separate us from God's love. You are God's beloved child. You are forgiven, loved, and restored. Go and share the good news.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Leader: Let us pray. Alpha and Omega, you are our beginning and our end, nothing in this life or in this world is absent of your love, presence and power. As we quiet our minds and look to set our worries aside even if for a moment, send your Spirit. Give us wisdom. Instruct us. Shape us. Guide us. Send us. May your Word read and proclaimed be embodied in our actions.

People: Amen.

GOSPEL READING **Matthew 25:1-13**

MESSAGE **FOOLS IN THE DARK**

PASTOR PAM STOFFERAHN

ANTHEM *Prepare the Way of the Lord* (Jacques Berthier and Taizé)

UCSJ ENSEMBLE

Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see the salvation of our God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HOLY COMMUNION

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us,
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Wait for the Lord (Taizé)

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN

*This is the Lord's Table, and all are welcome here. Servers will bring communion to you. All service is grape juice.
Gluten-free communion is available. Just let your server know if that is your preference.*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

PASTORAL BLESSING

SENDING SONG *Soon and Very Soon* (Andraé Crouch)

UCSJ ENSEMBLE

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;

No more crying there, we are going to see the King;
No more crying there, we are going to see the King;
No more crying there, we are going to see the King: **Refrain**

Refrain

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.

No more dying there, we are going to see the King;
No more dying there, we are going to see the King;
No more dying there, we are going to see the King: **Refrain**

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

POST-SERVICE MUSIC *Instrumental Improvisation*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN

UCSJ ENSEMBLE: 10am Service: Fred and Marge Quist, Vince Snowbarger
11am Service: Junella Hildreth, Sue Conrad and Dave Conrad

Flowers are given by Bob McDaniel in honor of Ricky's 90th Birthday!