

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**

**FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER CHRISTMAS**

DECEMBER 26, 2021



LEADING TODAY'S WORSHIP
Katy Kristoffersen, Music Director
Anna and Harry Strong

WELCOME

REV. HARRY STRONG

PRELUDE *What Child is This?* (Traditional; arr. Dennis Alexander)

KIM LUNDGREN AND
KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

INTROIT *It's a Boy* (From Kyle's CD, *Timeless Christmas Child*)

KYLE MATTHEWS

CALL TO WORSHIP

ANNA STRONG

One: Rejoice in the LORD! Let your hearts exult in God!

Many: For God has clothed us with garments of salvation
and covered us with the robe of goodness.

One: As surely as the earth brings forth its fruit and the garden its blossoms,

Many: God has brought grace and redemption to all people!

All: Let us go forth to live as faithful children of the Promise!

OPENING HYMN *Joy to the World* (Isaac Watts, words; George Frideric Handel, music)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO 179 ALL VERSES



God of grace: We rejoice in the fulfillment of Your Promise. We praise You for the birth of Your Son, Jesus. He brings joy to our hearts, and we cherish Him as deeply as those who first gazed upon His infant face. As we sense His Spirit present in our hearts, we are aware that His life will change ours forever. As we trace the years of His life, help us to continue to grow in patience and in strength. As we see Him bear frustration and defeat, help us to learn endurance and hope. As we see Him show forth Your glory, fill us with Your saving grace; through Jesus Christ, the Babe of Bethlehem and our Living Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM *Silent Night* (Franz Xaver Gruber; arr. Dennis Alexander)

KIM LUNDGREN AND
KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

SCRIPTURE

LUKE 2:22-38

MARGE QUIST

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.

²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹ "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed--and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day.

³⁸ At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Leader: This is the word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SERMON

HOLDING GOD'S PROMISE

ANNA AND HARRY STRONG

(Simeon & Anna)

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SPECIAL MUSIC *This Little Babe* (Richard Avery & Donald Marsh)

MARGE QUIST

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

REV. HARRY STRONG

**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, forever. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* (John W. Work, words; African-American spiritual) CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 218 ALL VERSES

BENEDICTION

REV. HARRY STRONG

POSTLUDE *Good King Wenceslas* (Traditional; arr. Dona Gilliam and Mizzy McCaskill)

KIM LUNDGREN, FLUTE;
KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

**Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace*; Song of Simeon.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, 1969. Music: American Folk Melody, arr. Annabel Morris Buchanan, 1938.

***What in the World*. Words & Music by Kyle Matthews, 1994.

****From All That Dwell Below the Skies*. Text: Isaac Watts, 1719. Music: *The English Hymnal*, 1906.



OUR MISSION

- We are a loving and compassionate church family that *respects the dignity and integrity* of each individual.
- We find our joy and meaning through faith in God and Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.
- We seek to promote Christian unity and to encourage understanding and cooperation with those from different traditions.
- We seek to foster deeper relationships with God and each other through worship, fellowship, growth and service.



WE ARE AFFILIATED WITH

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA ~ THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



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