

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**



**20TH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

OCTOBER 23, 2022

LEADING TODAY'S WORSHIP - *Dale Laidlaw, piano - Rev. Charles Packard, Interim Pastor*

MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP

How we pray says a lot about our understanding of God.

Jesus told a story of two people at prayer: one was a Pharisee, the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee thanked God that he was not like others—unjust, extortioners.

The tax collector could only beat his breast and beg God for mercy.

Jesus declared that the tax collector went away justified.

*Those who exalt themselves will be humbled,
and those who humble themselves before God will be exalted.*

from LUKE 18:9-14

PRELUDE *Lord of All Hopefulness* (Jan Struther, words; Irish melody) UCSJ CHOIR; DALE LAIDLAW, PIANO

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane
and the lathe,
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION AND SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

REV. CHARLES PACKARD

WORDS OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1 JOHN 1:8

Pastor: Peace be with you.

People: And also, with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 65

Pastor: Praise is due to you, O God, for you answer our prayer.

People: We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your holy temple.

Pastor: By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance.

People: You are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

Pastor: Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

Shield and Defender, how worthy you are of the praises we bring. We sing of your mercy. We tell of your glory. We speak of your greatness to the assembled throng. We need only cry aloud and you hear us, O God. You send your Spirit as our comfort and strength. We shall dwell evermore within your enfolding protection through the faith of Christ Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen

WELCOMING SONG *Refiner's Fire* (Brian Doerksen)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 374 Both Verses

SCRIPTURE 2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8, 16-18

DONNA WHISKEMAN

⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

¹⁶At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

ANTHEM *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* (Thomas A. Dorsey)

UCSJ QUARTET:

ALICE GOERTZ, MARGE QUIST, VINCE SNOWBARGER, FRED QUIST

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on,
to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone;
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

GOSPEL LUKE 18:9-14

⁹He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt::

¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income. ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'

¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen**

MESSAGE

PREPARING THE WAY: *Through Confession*

REV. CHARLES PACKARD

...for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.

LUKE 18:14

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for your continued support of the church and our mission.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Merciful God, teach us to trust you to supply all our needs. We bring you our offering with praise and thanksgiving for your constant care and protection. We give what we have in the name of Christ, who gave to all who believe the gift of hope. Amen.

DOXOLOGY*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

*As the pastor says, "Lord in your mercy."
The congregation responds with "Speak to our prayers."*

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, forever. Amen.

SENDING SONG *I Then Shall Live* (Gloria Gaither, words; Jean Sibelius, music)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 372 All Verses

BLESSING

REV. CHARLES PACKARD

*The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.*

NUMBERS 6:24-26

POSTLUDE *Tis the Gift to Be Simple* (Shaker hymn, arr. Michael Larkin)

DALE LAIDLAW, PIANO

*"It's a gift to be simple, and a gift to be free.
It's a gift to come down where you ought to be."*

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

REV. CHARLES PACKARD

Pastor: Go forth knowing we have all fallen short of God's plans for us.

People: We go forth knowing despite our transgressions, we are forgiven in Christ.

All: Alleluia. Amen.

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*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

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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