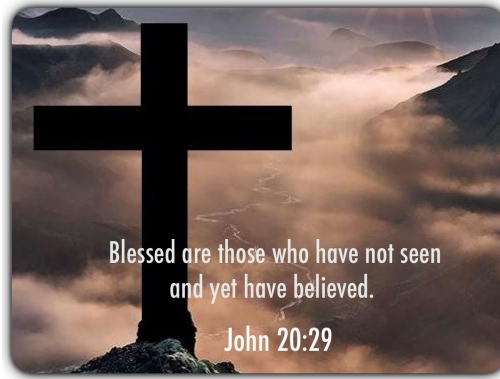


THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**



**SECOND SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

APRIL 16, 2023

LEADING TODAY'S WORSHIP:

*Katy Kristoffersen, Music Director; Donna Whiskeman, Worship Leader; Cindi Myers, Reader; Bailey Sherwood, Worship Assistant
Rev. Melinda Veatch, Pastor*

MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind but now I see**

John Newton, from the hymn "Amazing Grace"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR MELINDA VEATCH

Special Guest - Justin Perry, Ouray County Sheriff

PRELUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

CALL TO WORSHIP *Adapted from PSALM 16*

DONNA WHISKEMAN

Leader: I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you." The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup; God holds our lot. The boundary lines have fallen for us in pleasant places; we have a goodly heritage.

People: We bless the Lord, who is always before us, because he is at our right hand, we shall not be moved. Therefore our heart is glad, and our soul rejoices, we rest secure.

Leader: God shows us the path of life. In God's presence there is fullness of joy; in God's hands are blessings forevermore. Sisters and brothers in Christ, let us worship the Living God!

WELCOMING SONG* *Now the Green Blade Rises* (J.M.C. Crum)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 311 Verses 1 - 3

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

PRAYER OF ADORATION

DONNA WHISKEMAN

God of Life and Love, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. From out of the doom of death, you raise us with him and renew your gift of life within us. Direct our lives as your new creation. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us grow as your people into the fullness of life in your Spirit. May our every word and action speak your saving love into the world, and may the power of your love transform our lives and bring your wholeness into the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE ACTS 2:14a, 22-32

CINDI MYERS

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

²²"Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵David said about him:

"I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

²⁶Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

my body also will rest in hope,

²⁷because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,

you will not let your holy one see decay.

²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life;

you will fill me with joy in your presence.'

²⁹"Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. ³²God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

ANTHEM *Easter Song* (Anne Herring)

UCSJ CHOIR

Hear the bells ringing, they're singing that we can be born again.
Hear the bells ringing, they're singing, "Christ is risen from the dead."

The angel upon the tombstone said, "He is risen, just as he said.
Quickly now, go tell the disciples that Jesus Christ is no longer dead!"

Joy to the world, he is risen, alleluia, he's risen, alleluia he's risen, alleluia!
Alleluia!

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

New Lenses

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

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

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

BAILEY SHERWOOD AND REV. MELINDA VEATCH

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.

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

SENDING SONG* *Christ is Alive!* (Brian Wren, words; Thomas Williams' *Psalmodia Evangelica*)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 312 Verses 1, 3, and 5

BLESSING

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

Leader: May the blessing of God's peace fill your life and flow out into the lives of those around you.

People: Amen.

POSTLUDE *Canon in D* (Johann Pachelbel)

ALEX BIRCK, PIANO

CHARGE

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

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

People: Alleluia! Amen!

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

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"JESUS
IS
RISEN!"

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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