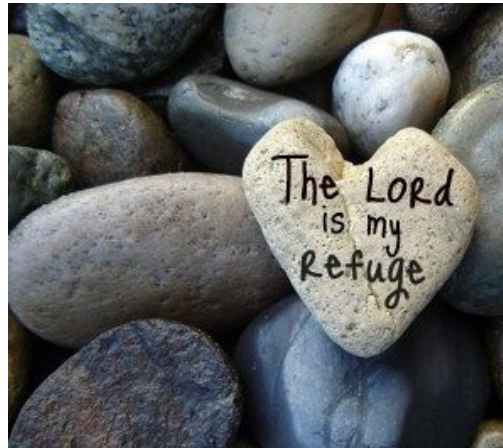


THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY COMMUNION

MAY 7, 2023



MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP

Today, as we peer out over the sea of troubled waters before us, may our souls be anchored on the Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ.

These are the words that mark our time...Fear, Tension, Unrest, Violence, Division, Hatred, Sickness, Isolation, Discouragement, Distrust, Lies, Deception, Evil, Death.

But they are not the final word for followers of Christ. For those found in Jesus, He is our final Word.

– Melissa McLaughlin, “Standing on the Rock in the Storms”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

PRELUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Psalm 31

JOAN MOYER

Leader: In you, O Lord, we seek refuge; do not let us be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver us.

People: Incline your ear to us: rescue us speedily. Be a rock of refuge for us, a strong fortress to save us.

Leader: You are indeed our rock and our fortress; for your name’s sake lead us and guide us,

People: Take us out of the net that is hidden for us, for you are our refuge.

Leader: Let your face shine upon your servants. Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us worship the God who saves us in steadfast and unfailing love!

WELCOMING SONG* *On Eagles Wings* (Michael Joncas)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 438

Verses 1 and 2

Living God, You are our Rock and our Redeemer. By Your love we stand on rock solid footing on the ever-shifting landscape of the world. We give You thanks for the ways You order our steps along your path of sacrificial love. We praise You for the courage You give us to follow in the footsteps of our Resurrected Lord. With those of faith in every time and place, we celebrate and give You thanks for the redeemed lives we live in Jesus Christ Your Son. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING 1 PETER 2:1-10

MARGE QUIST

¹Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. ²Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”

⁷Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

ANTHEM *Abba Father* (Carey Landry)

UCSJ CHOIR

Refrain
Abba, Abba, Father.
You are the potter,
We are the clay,
The work of your hands.

Mold us, mold us and fashion us
Into the image of Jesus, your Son, **Refrain**

Father, may we be one in you.
As He is in you and you are in Him. **Refrain**

Glory, glory and praise to you.
Forever, amen! **Refrain**

¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.”

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Pastor: This is Gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

The Dwelling Places of Rock

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**

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

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* *A Mighty Fortress* (Martin Luther)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 507 Verses 1, 2 and 4

CHARGE

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

Leader: We are Christ's living stones gifted to do God's upbuilding work in the world.

People: Gifted by God, let us go out to show God's love.

POSTLUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

BLESSING

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

Leader: May the peace of the great house of God go out with us into the world.

People: May we bless the world around us with God's love.

***Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable**

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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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