

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**



**21ST SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

OCTOBER 22, 2023

MEDITATION

*Why do you see the speck that is in your neighbor's eye,
but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?
Or how can you say to your neighbor, "Let me take the speck out of your eye,"
when there is the log in your own eye?
You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye,
and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye.
Matthew 7:3-5*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR MELINDA VEATCH

PRELUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

CALL TO WORSHIP *adapted from Psalm 133*

TIM SPANGLER

Leader: How good and pleasant it is when we dwell in unity!

People: It is like swimming in a river of blessing, like receiving joy and healing, like being welcomed into a place of true belonging.

Leader: In Jesus Christ, we are claimed as children of the Living God and welcomed as members of God's household.

People: We celebrate that God has welcomed us, that God loves and claims us all, and that together we receive the goodness of God.

Leader: As we live together the Way of Christ, we make God's love, goodness, and blessing real to those around us. As we worship today, let us give thanks for Christ's Spirit working through us.

People: Let us worship and celebrate God!

WELCOMING SONG* *God of Creation, All-Powerful* (Margaret Clarkson, words; Irish melody)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 27

Verse 1: All

Verse 2: Women

Verse 3: Men

Verse 4: All

Verse 5: All

PRAYER OF PRAISE

TIM SPANGLER

Gracious God, we ask the blessing of your presence with us as we worship you today. Your Spirit binds us together and gives us life. Remind us of how deeply we need you and one another to live well. Give us the grace to live each day with gratitude and humility and to extend that to one another. Help us to see others as you do, with eyes of compassion. Show us how to walk with and work with others. Guide us as we seek to share your grace and compassion with one another and to carry them into a hurting world. May our joy in living your way draw others into life in your Spirit. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

ANTHEM *Holy is His Name* (John Michael Talbot; Arr. K. Kristoffersen)

UCSJ CHOIR

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
And my spirit exalts in God my savior.
For He has looked with mercy on my lowliness,
And my name will be forever exalted.
For the mighty God has done great things for me,
And His mercy will reach from age to age.

And holy, holy, holy is His name.

He has mercy in every generation.
He has revealed His power and His glory.
He has cast down the mighty in their arrogance,
And has lifted up the meek and the lonely.
He has come to help His servant Israel,
He remembered His promise to our fathers.

And holy, holy, holy is His name.

SCRIPTURE READING 2 ROMANS 13:8-14

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy.

¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

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

TIM SPANGLER 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.

CLOSING SONG* *The Gift of Love* (Hal H. Hopson, words; English melody)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 397 All Verses

CLOSING PRAYER

TIM SPANGLER

Gracious and Loving God, we thank you that you have called us into discipleship. We thank you that we know who you are and whose we are. Keep us focused on living out your love as the most important thing we can do. Open our eyes, our ears, our hearts and our minds to your guidance and to those around us. May we speak and act with your love in this hurting world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Tell Out My Soul* (Timothy Dudley-Smith, words; Walter Greatorex, music)

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN

CHARGE AND BLESSING

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

SENDING SONG* *From "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" – verse 3*

CONGREGATION

*Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother — all who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.*

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.

the
ONE
who
LOVES
ANOTHER
has
fulfilled
the
LAW

ROMANS 13:8

WE ARE AFFILIATED WITH

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA ~ THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



Rev. Melinda A. Veatch

ucsjpastor@gmail.com

Church Office hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

www.ucsjridgway.org . 970-626-5803 . P.O. Box 295 . 295 N. Lena Street . Ridgway CO 81432 . Facebook/UCSJRidgway

MUSIC

Katy Kristoffersen, Director
ucsimusic@gmail.com

OFFICE

Anita Posey, Admin. Assistant
ucsjoffice@gmail.com