

THE  
**United Church**  
OF THE **San Juans**



22ND SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 29, 2023

MEDITATION

*How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!  
It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down the beard,  
running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe.  
It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion.  
For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.  
– PSALM 133*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR MELINDA VEATCH

PRELUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

CALL TO WORSHIP *adapted from Psalm 133*

ANGELA TODD

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 among and through us.

**People: Let us worship and celebrate God!**

WELCOMING SONG\* *Surely It Is God Who Saves Me* (Carl P. Daw Jr., words; Dutch melody)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 423

Both Verses

PRAYER OF PRAISE

ANGELA TODD

**Gracious God, 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. Teach 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.**

RESPONSE TO PRAYER OF PRAISE *Ubi Caritas et Amor* (Latin; Jacques Berthier)  
HYMN NO. 399

CONGREGATION

SCRIPTURE READING 1 ROMANS 14: 1-6

GINI BARKER

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. <sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

RESPONSE TO READING *Ubi Caritas et Amor* (Latin; Jacques Berthier)  
HYMN NO. 399

CONGREGATION

A MOMENT OF REFLECTION

ANTHEM *In Communion We Come to You* (Katy Kristoffersen)

UCSJ CHOIR

*We shall not live by bread alone,  
But by the bread of sincerity and truth.*

*In communion we come to you,  
Heavy with sadness and fear.  
Yet with each step toward our trust in you,  
You lift us, as we draw near.*

*There is no obstacle to your love,  
Though great architects we may be.  
In communion we come to you,  
Rejoicing that we are free.*

*In communion we come to you,  
Bearing the burdens of life.  
Yet with the faith that we have in you,  
A weightless love you provide.*

*Glory to God in the highest,  
And on earth, let there be peace.*

SCRIPTURE READING 2 ROMANS 14:7-12

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." <sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

RESPONSE TO READING *Ubi Caritas et Amor* (Latin; Jacques Berthier)  
HYMN NO. 399

CONGREGATION

A MOMENT OF REFLECTION

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

CHANGE FOR CHANGE

*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

GINI BARKER 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\* *When We Are Living* (Roberto Escamilla, words; Spanish melody)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 415      Verse 1  
                            Verse 2  
                            Verse 1

CLOSING PRAYER

ANGELA TODD

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 *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

CHARGE AND BLESSING

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

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

CONGREGATION

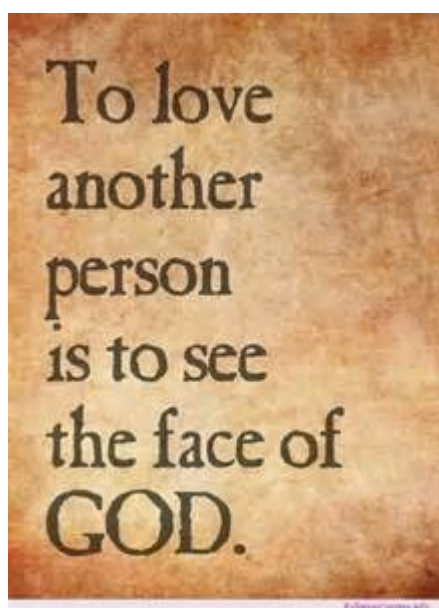
*Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother — all who live in love are thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.*

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

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