

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



23RD SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST  
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY  
THE LORD'S SUPPER

NOVEMBER 5, 2023

**MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP**

Is that "great cloud of witnesses" watching my way so as to judge or is it informing my way so that I may walk in it? Do they hide the light so that I cannot see it or do they filter it so that its blaze will not blind me?... We can't so much see light as we can see things because of it. So I do not meet God in a vacuum. I meet God in the world God has provided for me to meet him, in a world of events and of places (time and space), in a world of lives of people and their records of their encounters. I meet God in this world, in the world of these things... and this is the world as best as I can remember it.— the late Rich Mullins, Christian musician

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PASTOR MELINDA VEATCH

**PRELUDE** *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

CINDI MYERS

LEADER: WE GATHER TODAY TO WORSHIP THE ONE GOD WHO CREATED HEAVEN AND EARTH AND EVERYTHING IN THEM.

**PEOPLE: WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE THE WAY GOD WALKS WITH US IN OUR LIVES, OFTEN THROUGH ONE ANOTHER.**

LEADER: WE GATHER TODAY TO WORSHIP THE ONE GOD WHO HAS MADE LOVE KNOWN TO US IN JESUS CHRIST.

**PEOPLE: WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE THAT GOD HAS WELCOMED US, THAT GOD LOVES AND CLAIMS US ALL, AND THAT TOGETHER WE RECEIVE THE GOODNESS OF GOD. WE GATHER TO GIVE THANKS FOR THE WAYS WE HAVE LEARNED THAT THROUGH THE BODY OF CHRIST.**

LEADER: AS WE LIVE TOGETHER THE WAY OF CHRIST, GOD'S LOVE, GOODNESS, AND BLESSING ARE MADE REAL TO US AND TO THOSE AROUND US. AS WE WORSHIP TODAY, LET US GIVE THANKS FOR THE WAY CHRIST'S SPIRIT WORKING THROUGH US MAKES PLAIN GOD'S LOVE FOR US.

**WELCOMING SONG\*** *When the Saints Go Marching In* (African-American spiritual)

CONGREGATION

Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
Oh how I want to be in that number,  
When the saints go marching in.

Oh, when the trumpet sounds its call,  
Oh, when the trumpet sounds its call,  
How I want to be in that number,  
When the saints go marching in.

Oh when the saints go marching in,  
Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
Oh, how I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in.

And when the sun begins to shine,  
And when the sun begins to shine,  
Oh how I want to be in that number,  
When the saints go marching in.

Oh, when the new world is revealed,  
Oh, when the new world is revealed,  
How I want to be in that number,  
When the saints go marching in.

**PRAYER OF PRAISE**

CINDI MYERS

**GRACIOUS GOD, YOUR SPIRIT BINDS US TOGETHER AND GIVES US LIFE. FOR CENTURIES, YOUR WAY OF LOVE HAS BEEN MADE KNOWN THROUGH THE FAITH OF THOSE WHO HAVE COME BEFORE US. WE THANK YOU FOR THEIR WITNESS. THEIR LIVES OF FAITH IN YOU HAVE SHONE THE WAY AS WE HAVE FOLLOWED THEIR EXAMPLE.**

**THROUGH THEM, WE HAVE LEARNED SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO FOLLOW YOU. WE THANK YOU FOR THE DIVERSITY OF WITNESS TO YOUR LOVE, GRACE, JUSTICE, COMPASSION, MERCY, AND FORGIVENESS. MAY WE BE WITNESSES TO YOUR WAY TO A HURTING WORLD. MAY OUR JOY IN LIVING YOUR WAY DRAW OTHERS INTO LIFE IN**

\*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

**SCRIPTURE READING HEBREWS 12:1-3**

MICK GRAFF

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

**A Moment for Remembrance and Reflection**

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

*Hear the good news, you've been invited  
No matter what others may say  
Your darkest sins will be forgiven  
You will always have a place*

*At the table of grace, the cup's never empty  
The plate's always full, and it's never too late  
To come and be filled with love never ending  
You're always welcome at the table of grace*

*At the table of grace, the cup's never empty  
The plate's always full, and it's never too late  
To come and be filled with love never ending  
You're always welcome at the table of grace*

*So let the first become the last  
Let the poor put kings to shame  
Their willing hearts will be their treasure  
By the power of Jesus' name, Jesus' name*

*So come you weak, and heavy hearted,  
Don't try to hide your earthly scars  
For in His eyes, we all are equal, yes, we are  
Don't be afraid, come as you are*

*At the table of grace, the cup's never empty  
The plate's always full, and it's never too late  
To come and be filled with love never ending  
You're always welcome at the table of grace*

**ANTHEM** *Table of Grace* (Connie Harrington and Anna Hutto)

Cindi Myers, soloist

**SCRIPTURE READING JOHN 13:12-17**

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**A Moment for Remembrance and Reflection**

DONNA WHISKEMAN  
ROBERT MCDANIEL  
ANGELA TODD

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

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

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**

GATHERING AT THE TABLE:

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION:

LEADER: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

LEADER: LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS.

PEOPLE: WE LIFT THEM TO YOU, LORD.

LEADER: LET US GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD OUR GOD.

PEOPLE: IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE YOU THANKS AND PRAISE YOU, LORD.

LEADER: . . . WE LIFT ALL THESE PRAYERS TO CHRIST OUR LORD & SAVIOR WHO TAUGHT US TO PRAY

PEOPLE: **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.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A TIME OF CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

CLOSING PRAYER

CINDI MYERS

Gracious and Loving God, we thank you that you have called us into discipleship. We thank you for the ways disciples before us have shown us your Way. Because of their witness, 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 & 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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