

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



**5TH SUNDAY**  
**AFTER EPIPHANY**  
**THE LORD'S SUPPER**  
**FEBRUARY 4, 2024**

**MEDITATION**

And this wise man asked me to stop. He said, "Stop asking God to bless what you're doing. Get involved in what God is doing – because it's already blessed."

– Bono

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

**PRELUDE** *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

**CALL TO WORSHIP** **PSALM 29:1-4**

VINCE SNOWBARGER

Leader: God calls us to love one another

**People: God equips us to love.**

Leader: God calls us to care for one another.

**People: God equips us to care.**

Leader: God calls us to pray for one another.

**People: God equips us to pray.**

Leader: God calls us into worship with one another.

**People: Let us worship the God who equips us to live out our blessed life!**

**WELCOMING SONG\*** *Come, Celebrate the Call of God* (Brian Wren, words; Early American melody)

**HYMN NO. 584**

**All Verses**

**Note: Sing "our" instead of "her" in verses two and three.**

**PRAYER OF PRAISE**

VINCE SNOWBARGER

**Our Creator, you have searched us, and you know us. You know when we sit down. You know when we rise up. You know the words we are going to say before we say them. We thank you that we are fearfully and wonderfully made by your loving hand. We praise you that you have plans for our lives – plans to bring us a future with hope. Plans to bring a future with hope to the world around us. Keep our eyes, ears, minds, and hearts open to the many ways you are at work in and through our lives. May your love and grace flow through us to touch the lives of others in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

Even though I am free of the demands and expectations of everyone, I have voluntarily become a servant to any and all in order to reach a wide range of people: religious, nonreligious, meticulous moralists, loose-living immoralists, the defeated, the demoralized—whoever. I didn't take on their way of life. I kept my bearings in Christ—but I entered their world and tried to experience things from their point of view. I've become just about every sort of servant there is in my attempts to lead those I meet into a God-saved life. I did all this because of the Message. I didn't just want to talk about it; I wanted to be in on it!

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

ANTHEM *Every Age* (Jose Gonzales; Arr. K. Kristoffersen)

UCSJ CHOIR; MIKE KRISTOFFERSEN, GUITAR

*Every age has its turn.  
Every branch of the tree has to learn.  
Learn to grow, find its way,  
Make the best of this short-lived stay.  
  
Take this seed, take this spade,  
Take this dream of a better day.  
Take your time, build a home.  
Build a place where we all can belong.  
  
Some things change, some remain,  
Some will pass us unnoticed by.  
What to focus on, to improve upon,  
In the face of our ancient tribes.*

*Feels so clear, feels so obvious  
To each one on their own.  
But we are here, together  
Reaping what time and what we have sown.  
  
We don't choose where we're born  
We don't choose in what pocket or form.  
But we can learn to know  
Ourselves on this globe in the void.  
  
Take this mind, take this pen,  
Take this dream of a better land.  
Take your time, build a home,  
Build a place where we all... can belong.*

GOSPEL READING MARK 1:29-39

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

<sup>29</sup> As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.  
<sup>30</sup> Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup> He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.  
<sup>32</sup> That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup> And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup> And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.  
<sup>35</sup> In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.  
<sup>36</sup> And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup> When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' <sup>38</sup> He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' <sup>39</sup> And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Leader: This is the Gospel 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*

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## 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.**

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

VINCE SNOWBARGER AND REV. MELINDA VEATCH

CLOSING SONG\* *Canticle of the Turning* (Words, Tune Adapt. And Arr. Rory Cooney) CONGREGATION

SEE INSERT Verse 1: All  
Verse 2: Women  
Verse 3: Men  
Verse 4: All

## CLOSING PRAYER

VINCE SNOWBARGER

**Holy God, we give you thanks that you reach out to us, and you reach out through us. As we go from this place, open us to your guidance. Direct our vision to see you at work. Tune our ears to hear your counsel. Guide our minds to understand your call to us. Open our hearts to both receive and share your love with a hurting world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

POSTLUDE *Instrumental Music*

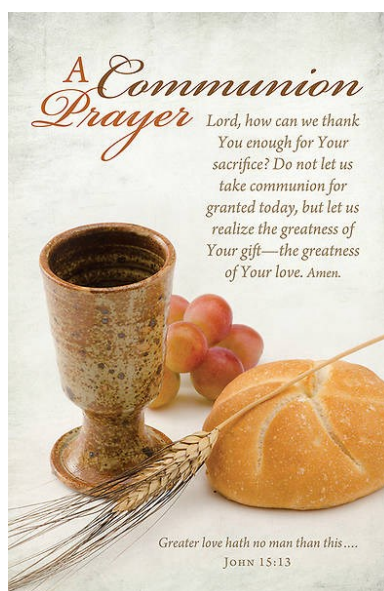
KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

## CHARGE AND BLESSING

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

## 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 pm.

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