

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**

SECOND SUNDAY
IN LENT

FEBRUARY 25, 2024



MEDITATION

Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at his disposition, and listening to his voice in the depth of our hearts.

– St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR MELINDA VEATCH

GREETINGS FROM BISHOP JIM GONIA

PRELUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

CALL TO WORSHIP

BRUCE SHIREY

Leader: In you, Lord God, we put our trust.

People: Show us your ways, Lord. Teach us your paths. Guide us in your truth and teach us, for you are our Savior, and our hope is in you all day long.

Leader: Good and upright is the Lord; therefore God instructs sinners in the Ways of the Spirit.

People: May integrity and uprightness protect us, because our hope, Lord, is in you.

Leader: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us worship God!

WELCOMING SONG* *Gather Us In* (Marty Haugen)

HYMN NO. 649 Verses 1, 2 and 4

Holy God, we gather this day to worship you and to celebrate the life we share in your Spirit. We praise you that you call us to walk with you. We thank you that you walk with us in every aspect of our lives. As we worship you this day, receive our gratitude for all your gifts to us. Draw us nearer to you that we may walk in the Ways of your Spirit and carry your light and your joy out into the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING MATTHEW 6:5-8

JUNELLA HILDRETH

⁵“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

⁶But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ⁷And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God, Amen.

ANTHEM *Down to the River to Pray* (Trad., Arr. Sheldon Curry)

UCSJ CHOIR

As I went down to the river to pray,
Studyin' about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown/robe and crown,
Good Lord, show me the way.

Refrain

**O sisters/brothers/fathers/mothers, let's go down,
Let's go down, come on down.**

**O sisters/brothers/fathers/mothers, let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.**

SCRIPTURE READING LUKE 10:38-42

BISHOP JIM GONIA

³⁸ As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”

⁴¹ “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”

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*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BRUCE SHIREY AND PASTOR 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* *Amazing Love* (Graham Kendrick)

HYMN NO. 259 All Verses

CLOSING PRAYER

BRUCE SHIREY

Holy God, we have gathered in this place to worship you and to celebrate our life in you. We give you thanks for the gift of life in your Holy Spirit. Walk with us as we go from this place. Keep our ears open to your counsel, and keep our hearts open to the ways we can share your Love. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

CHARGE AND BLESSING

PASTOR MELINDA VEATCH

SENDING SONG *Christ The Eternal Lord* (Timothy Dudley-Smith, words; George J. Elvery, music)

HYMN NO. 335 Verse 4

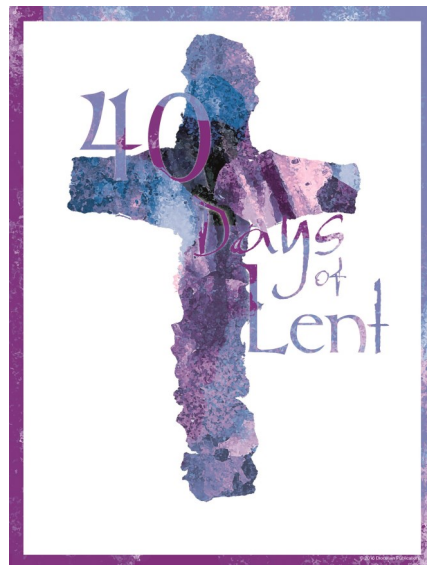
*Christ the unfading Light of everlasting day,
Our morning star in splendor bright, the Life, the Truth, the Way;
That light of truth you give to servants as to friends,
Your way to walk, your life to live, till earth’s brief journey ends.*

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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



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 pm.

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

MUSIC

Katy Kristoffersen, Director
ucsjmusic@gmail.com

OFFICE

Anita Posey, Admin. Assistant
ucsjoffice@gmail.com