

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**



**3RD SUNDAY
IN EASTER**

APRIL 14, 2024

MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP
Quotes from C.S. Lewis

Though we are incomplete, God loves us completely
Though we are imperfect, He loves us perfectly
Though we may feel lost and without compass, God's love encompasses us completely.

He loves us more than we could ever imagine and more than anyone on earth ever could
This is why it is often hard to wrap our minds around God's love.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEACON BOB LARSON

PRELUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

CALL TO WORSHIP - ADAPTED FROM PSALM 4

JOAN MOYER

Leader: Hear me when I call, O God

People: **Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer**

Leader: The Lord will hear when I call to him

People: **For You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety**

Leader: Put your trust in the Lord

People: **You have put gladness in my heart**

All: **Thank you, Lord, for your Mercy is Great**

WELCOMING SONG* *Hallelujah! What a Savior!* (Phillip P. Bliss)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 301 **Verses 1, 4 and 5; repeat "Hallelujah! What a Savior!" the very last time**

PRAYER OF PRAISE

JOAN MOYER

Gracious and Almighty God, we come before you with open hearts and open minds wishing to learn and understand you more, wishing to follow you in the ways you are teaching us, hoping that the love you give us is shared by all those around us. Bless us, bless this day, bless this Church, bless our families. Thank you for your love, your forgiveness, and your direction for our lives. In Christ's name we pray. Amen

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

SCRIPTURE READING 1 JOHN 3:1-7

SHIRLEY DIDIER

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are.

The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed.

What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.

Little children, let no one deceive you.

Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God, Amen.

ANTHEM *Let There Be Peace on Earth* (Sy Miller and Jill Jackson)

UCSJ CHOIR

HYMN NO. 614

Congregation: the choir will sing this the first time through.

Join us for the second time!

SCRIPTURE READING LUKE 24:36B-48

DEACON BOB LARSON

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost.

He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."

Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

You are witnesses of these things.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SERMON

"What Will We Be?"

DEACON BOB LARSON

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

JOAN MOYER AND DEACON BOB LARSON

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* *He Lives* (Alfred H. Ackley)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 302 All Verses

CLOSING PRAYER

JOAN MOYER

Loving God, you continue to surround us with your Love and Mercy. You continue to provide us with everything we need to follow you, to be your example in this hurting world. Continue to guide us, continue to direct us in all that we do, so that the world sees you in us and sees you through us. Let us be Your Light as we take your light from this place, out into the world. Let us continue to be the Blessing that others are searching for, wanting and needing, to provide them with the means to become closer to you, by our example. We ask this In The Name of Jesus. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

DISMISSAL

DEACON BOB LARSON: GO IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

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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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