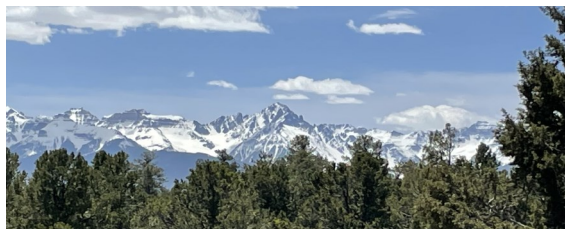


THE  
**United Church**  
OF THE **San Juans**



**7TH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER**

**MAY 12, 2024**

**MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP**

As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass; and it shall be known that the hand of the Lord is with his servants.

*Isaiah 66:13-14c*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor Melinda Veatch

**PRELUDE**

*Instrumental Music*

Katy Kristoffersen

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**ADAPTED FROM PSALM 62**

Tim Spangler

Leader: We come this day blessed with the grace-filled lives of the beloved children of God.

**People: In the deepest of love, God gathers us in the Body of Christ.**

Leader: We are fed and nurtured by the God of all creation who knows our deepest needs.

**People: We live as those who are held in heart by the one who provides for us through every moment of our lives.**

Leader: Like a mother whose faithful care raises up vibrant children, so God is to us. Brothers and Sisters in Christ, let us worship God!

**WELCOMING SONG\***

**Borning Cry**

(John C. Ylvisaker)

**HYMN NO. 680**

**All Verses**

Congregation

**PRAYER OF PRAISE**

Tim Spangler

**Holy God, today we walk into your house not as guests but as your very own children. We give you thanks for the tenderness with which you care for us. We praise you for the ways you walk with us, challenge us, encourage us, keep us growing in the strength of your Holy Spirit. We are never alone when we turn to you. You are as close as our breath. You hear our every cry. Keep us mindful that your love is our life. That no matter how far we stray, you are ever calling us home to you. As we draw close to you in worship, strengthen our faith, that as we go from here, we may take your love into a hurting world. Amen**

\*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

**SCRIPTURE READING****PSALM 1**

Shirley Didier

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the LORD and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

**ANTHEM:****Come To The Water** (John Foley)

UCSJ Choir

*O let all who thirst, let them come to the water. And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord: Without money, without price. Why should you pay the price, except for the Lord?*

*And let all who seek, let them come to the water. And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord: Without money, without strife, why should you spend your life, except for the Lord?*

*And let all who toll, let them come to the water. And let all who are weary, let them come to the Lord: All who labor, without rest. How can your soul find rest, except for the Lord?*

*And let all the poor, let them come to the water. Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord: Bring the children without might. Easy the load and light:*

*Come to the Lord.*

**SCRIPTURE READING****JOHN 17:6-19**

Pastor Melinda Veatch

I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you have given to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they may be sanctified in truth.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

“The Love that Holds Us”

Pastor Melinda Veatch

HYMN RESPONSE\*      O Love That Will Not Let Me Go      (George Matheson, words; Albert L. Peace, music)

Hymn No: 444

Verses 1 and 2

Congregation

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

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

Pastor 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*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Tim Spangler 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\*

RAIN DOWN

(Jaime Cortez)

Hymn No: 444

Verses 1 and 3

Congregation

CLOSING PRAYER

Tim Spangler

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 being your beloved children. 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

\*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

**CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Pastor Melinda Veatch

**SENDING SONG\***

**HYMN NO. 291 - ALLELUIA NO. 1, V2**

Congregation

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give Thanks to the risen Lord,  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his name!  
Spread the good news ore all the earth.  
Jesus has died and has risen,  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord,  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name!*

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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



**Rev. Melinda A. Veatch**

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