

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**



PENTECOST
SUNDAY
MAY 19, 2024

MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP

So don't you see that we don't owe this old do-it-yourself life one red cent? There's nothing in it for us, nothing at all. The best thing to do is give it a decent burial and get on with your new life. God's Spirit beckons. There are things to do and places to go!

This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, grave-tending life. It's adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike "What's next, Papa?" God's Spirit touches our spirits and confirms who we really are. We know who he is, and we know who we are: Father and children. And we know we are going to get what's coming to us - an unbelievable inheritance! We go through exactly what Christ goes through. If we go through the hard times with him, then we're certainly going to go through the good times with him!

Romans 8:12-17 (*The Message*)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Melinda Veatch

PRELUDE

Instrumental Music

Katy Kristoffersen

CALL TO WORSHIP

ROMANS 8:2-4 (adapted)

Angela Todd

Leader: Hear this sisters and brothers in Christ; through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set us free from the law of sin and death.

People: For the law had no effect on freeing us from our flawed, human, self-driven ways. So God sent his Son in human flesh to overcome with love the things in us that bring us to lifeless ways every time.

Leader: We can now celebrate that we are free to live God's Way in the world. We no longer have to be held captive in the human ways of self. We are set free to live in the transforming power of the Spirit.

People: Alleluia! We are free, indeed! Let us worship God.

WELCOMING SONG*

Fear Not, Rejoice and Be Glad

(Priscilla Wright)

HYMN NO. 392

Verses 1 AND 4

Congregation

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Angela Todd

Holy God, you are true to your promise to never leave us or forsake us. Your spirit abides right here with us, infusing our lives with your love and your power and leading us into new life. We thank you for this gift! We praise you for this gift! May we live each day grounded in this gift, walking with your Spirit and carrying your love out into this world. Amen.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem, God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs - we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another "What does this mean?" Some however, made fun of them and said, "they have had too much wine."

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you, listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

ANTHEM: **Veni Sancte Spiritus - Holy Spirit, Come to Us** (Jacques Berthier)

UCSJ Choir

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Come, Holy spirit, from heaven shine forth with your glorious light.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Come Father of the poor, Come generous spirit. Come light of our hearts

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Come from the four winds, O spirit, Come breath of God; Disperse the shadows over us, Renew and strengthen your people.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

POSTLUDE

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Katy Kristoffersen

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Pastor Melinda Veatch

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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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