

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**



**17TH SUNDAY
OF PENTECOST
IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 8, 2024**

Meditation before Worship

*Carrying the past into the present, we program the present to continue the past.
Letting go the past in the present, we free the present to be something else.
– Anonymous*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Melinda Veatch

PRELUDE

Instrumental Music

Katy Kristoffersen

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather in this present moment to celebrate all the ways God has been present for us in this past week. We gather to give thanks. We gather to be nourished. We gather to go out renewed to live fully in God's Spirit all the moments that will come.

People: Let us worship God!

WELCOMING SONG*

Like a Mighty River Flowing

(Michael Perry)

Hymn No. 20

All Verses

Congregation

A PRAYER TO GATHER US IN CHRIST'S SPIRIT

Charlotte Duckett

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 43:6-9

Carol Brecker

This is what the Lord says - he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick: "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM:

Holy is His Name (John Michael Talbot; Arr. K. Kristoffersen)

UCSJ Choir

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit exalts in God my Savior.
For He has looked with mercy on my lowliness, and my name will be forever exalted.
For the mighty God has done great things for me, and his mercy will reach from age to age.
And holy, holy, holy is His name.
He has mercy in every generation. He has revealed His power and His glory.
He has cast down the mighty in their arrogance, and has lifted up the meek and the lonely.
He has come to help His servant Israel, He remembered His promise to our fathers
And holy, holy, holy is His name.*

***Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable**

SCRIPTURE READING**Philippians 4:4**

Pastor Melinda Veatch

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.**SERMON****The Gift of the Present**

Pastor Melinda Veatch

REFLECTIVE SONG **As Water to the Thirsty** (Timothy Dudley-Smith, words; T. Brian Coleman, music)**Hymn No. 432****Verses 1 and 2**

Congregation

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

Charlotte Duckett 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***Rejoice in the Lord Always**

(Anonymous)

Hymn No. 650**All Sing 2 times through**

Congregation

Left side of the church starts, sings 3 times through.

**Right side of the church comes in when the Left side gets to the start of their 2nd time,
Right side then sing 3 times through.**

CLOSING PRAYER

Charlotte Duckett

Holy God, you call us to lives that extend beyond ourselves. Inspire our minds as we engage with others. Open our eyes to see you at work in the world. Open our mouths to proclaim your grace and goodness. Open our ears to receive your counsel and guidance every day. Keep us focused on serving you in word and deed, and help us to carry and share your love as we keep walking through this hurting world. Amen.

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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