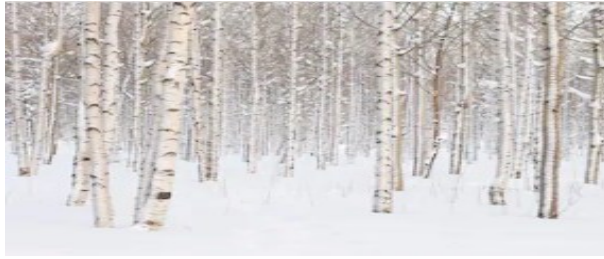


THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**



3RD SUNDAY
AFTER
EPIPHANY
JANUARY 26, 2025

Meditation

Forgiving does not erase the bitter past. A healed memory is not a deleted memory. Instead, forgiving what we cannot forget creates a new way to remember. We change the memory of our past into a hope for our future.

— *Lewis B. Smedes*

Forgiveness is the key that unlocks the door of resentment and the handcuffs of hatred. It is a power that breaks the chains of bitterness and the shackles of selfishness.

— *Corrie Ten Boom*

Love is creative and redemptive. Love builds up and unites; hate tears down and destroys. The aftermath of the “fight with fire” method is bitterness and chaos, the aftermath of the love method is reconciliation and creation of the beloved community... Yes, love – which means understanding, creative redemptive good will, even for one’s enemies – is the solution.

— *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Melinda Veatch

PRELUDE

Instrumental

Katy Kristoffersen

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 103:1-5, 12-13 (adapted)

Todd Schroedel

Leader:: Let our whole being bless the Lord! Let everything inside us bless God’s holy name!

People: Let our whole being bless the Lord and never forget all of God’s good deeds:

Leader : How God forgives all our sins, heals all our sickness, saves our life from the pit, crowns us with faithful love and compassion and satisfies us with plenty of good things so that our youth is made fresh like an eagle’s.

People: God doesn’t deal with us according to our sin or repay us according to our wrongdoing, because as high as heaven is above the earth, that’s how large God’s faithful love is for those who honor our Creator.

Leader: As far as east is from west – that’s how far God has removed our sin from us.

People: Like parents feel compassion for their children – that’s the compassion God feels for those who honor and trust in him. Let us worship God!

WELCOMING SONG*

Make Me A Channel of Your Peace
Prayer of St. Francis

(Sebastian Temple)

Hymn No. 587

All Verses

Congregation

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Todd Schroedel

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

The Messiah has made things up between us so that we're now together on this, both non-Jewish outsiders and Jewish insiders. He tore down the wall we used to keep each other at a distance. He repealed the law code that had become so clogged with fine print and footnotes that it hindered more than it helped. Then he started over. Instead of continuing with two groups of people separated by centuries of animosity and suspicion, he created a new kind of human being, a fresh start for everybody.

Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility. Christ came and preached peace to you outsiders and peace to us insiders. He treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit and have equal access to the Father.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM:

Amazing Grace (*John Newton, words; Virginia Harmony, 1831*)

UCSJ Choir

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!*

*The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'Twas grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6:9-15

Pastor Melinda Veatch

“This, then, is how you should pray:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.

For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

SERMON

Beyond Keeping Score

Pastor Melinda Veatch

RESPONSIVE SONG

Create in Me

See Insert

Soloist sings first

Congregation and UCSJ Choir

Congregation sings four total times while choir adds harmony

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

Todd Schroedel 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*

Christ Be Our Light

See Insert

Verses 1, 2, 4, and 5

Congregation

CLOSING PRAYER

Todd Schroedel

POSTLUDE

Instrumental Music

Katy Kristoffersen

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Pastor Melinda Veatch

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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



THE
United Church
OF THE
San Juans



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