

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**



1ST SUNDAY
IN
LENT
MARCH 9, 2025

Meditation

Even in deepest night, a light persists,
A midnight sun that through darkness twists,
Its rays, like gentle, warming mists,
In its glow, despair desists.

– *Maya Anthony*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Melinda Veatch

PRELUDE

Sicilienne (*Gabriel Faure*) Keira Deluccio, flute; Katy Kristoffersen, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Todd Schroedel

Leader:: God our Creator, you brought light out of darkness and set the sun to brighten the day, and the moon and stars to illumine the night.

People: By the light of your truth, you lead us into the way of wholeness, righteousness and peace.

Leader: Our hearts take courage as we wait for and follow you. Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

Todd Schroedel

WELCOMING SONG*

Sing of God Made Manifest (*Carl P. Daw Jr., words; Jakob Hintze, music*)

Hymn No. 247

Verses 2-4

Congregation

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 9:28-36

Shirley Didier

About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” (He did not know what he was saying.)

While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.” When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

ANTHEM:**The Transfiguration** (*Suffian Stevens; arr. K. Kristoffersen*)

UCSJ Choir

*When he took the three disciples
To the mountainside to pray,
His countenance was modified, his clothing was aflame.
Two men appeared: Moses and Elijah came;
They were at his side.
The prophecy, the legislation spoke of whenever he would die.*

*Then there came a word
Of what he should accomplish on the day.
Then Peter spoke, to make of them a tabernacle place.
A cloud appeared in glory as an accolade.
They fell on the ground.
A voice arrived, the voice of God,
The face of God, covered in a cloud.*

*What he said to them,
The voice of God: "The most beloved Son.
Consider what he says to you, consider what's to come."
The prophecy was put to death,
Was put to death, and so will the Son.
And keep your word, disguise the vision 'till the time has come.*

*Lost in the cloud, a voice: "Have no fear! We draw near!"
Lost in the cloud, a sign: "Son of man! Turn your ear."
Lost in the cloud, a voice: "Lamb of God! We draw near!"
Lost in the cloud, a sign: "Son of man! Son of God!"*

SCRIPTURE READING**Luke 9:37-43a**

Pastor Melinda Veatch

The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. A man in the crowd called out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him. I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not."

"You unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Bring your son here."

Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the impure spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father. And they were all amazed at the greatness of God.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON**Light Walks into the Darkness**

Pastor Melinda Veatch

RESPONSIVE SONG**As a Fire is Meant for Burning**(*Ruth Duck, words; Attr. B.F. White*)**HYMN NO. 551****All Verses**

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

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*

You Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd
(Sylvia G. Dunstan, words; Henry T. Smart, music)

Hymn No. 99

Verses 1, 2, and 3

Congregation

CLOSING PRAYER

Todd Schroedel

POSTLUDE

Instrumental

Katy Kristoffersen

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Pastor Melinda Veatch

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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