

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



**THIRD SUNDAY**  
**AFTER**  
**EPIPHANY**  
**JANUARY 25, 2026**

**Meditation**

Grace is the face that love wears when it meets imperfection.

— *Anonymous*

Believers are never told to become one; we already are one and are expected to act like it.

— *Joni Eareckson Tada*

From him, the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

— *Ephesians 4:16*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor Melinda Veatch

**PRELUDE**

***Instrumental***

Katy Kristoffersen

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Psalm 27**

Pam Larson

(Adaptation from the *Center for Faith and Giving* website of the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ)

Leader: Come! Let us praise the Lord, who is our light and our salvation!

**People: Who is it we should fear when we know the Lord is “the stronghold of our lives?”**

Leader: We’re gathered to sing and make melody to the Lord.

**People: We lift up our heads and offer our gifts with shouts of joy!**

Leader: We know our best hope is to seek God all the days of our lives.

**People: So we come together to praise the One who is gracious to us all.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

Pam Larson

**WELCOMING SONG\***

**We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding**  
(Carl P. Daw, words; Leavitt’s *The Christian Lyre*, 1830)

Congregation

Hymn No. 245

All Verses

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

The people walking in darkness

have seen a great light;

on those living in the land of deep darkness

a light has dawned.

You have enlarged the nation

and increased their joy;

they rejoice before you

as people rejoice at the harvest,

as warriors rejoice

when dividing the plunder.

For as in the day of Midian's defeat,

you have shattered

the yoke that burdens them,

the bar across their shoulders,

the rod of their oppressor.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM****Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone**

UCSJ Choir

*(Chris Tomlin and Lonie Giglio, words and music; Joel Raney, choral setting; John Newton, original text)*

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am 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!*

**Refrain**

*My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,  
And like a flood, his mercy reigns;  
Unending love, amazing grace.*

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

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."

Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

When the Walls Come Down

Pastor Melinda Veatch

RESPONSIVE SONG

**O Love, How Deep, How Broad**  
(*Latin hymn, 15th c.; Trier manuscript, 15th c.*)

Congregation

Hymn No. 244

Verses 1, 2, 3, and 6

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Pastor Melinda Veatch

*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

Pam Larson 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 sin, 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\***

**Amazing Grace!**

Congregation

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

Hymn No. 422

**Verses 1 and 2: ALL**

**Verse 3: Women**

**Verse 4: Men**

**Verse 5: ALL**

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Pam Larson

**POSTLUDE**

*Instrumental*

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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