

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**



SECOND
SUNDAY
OF EASTER
APRIL 12, 2026

Meditation

The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today.
Let us move forward with strong and active faith.

---*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

Whoever reflects earnestly on the meaning of life is on the verge of an act of faith

—*Paul Tillich*

Be faithful in small things: it is in them that your strength lies.

---*Mother Teresa*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tim Spangler

PRELUDE

Instrumental

Katy Kristoffersen

CALL TO WORSHIP

Tim Spangler

Leader: This is the good news which we proclaim to you.

People: Jesus Christ is raised from the dead!

Leader: Walk in the light of his love.

People: Live in the light of his teachings and healing mercies.

Leader: Come, let us worship the One who overcame death.

People: Let us celebrate the triumph of our Lord!

OPENING PRAYER

Tim Spangler

Lord of Resurrection surprises, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief, and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray. Amen.

(The Call to Worship and Opening Prayer are written by Nancy C. Townley, and posted on the Worship Connection page of the *Ministry Matters* website).

WELCOMING SONG*

Now the Green Blade Rises
(J.M.C. Crum, words; French carol, 15th c.)

Congregation

Hymn No. 311

All Verses

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

SCRIPTURE READING**Acts 5:27-32**

Shirley Didier

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM:

Easter Song
(Anne Herring)

UCSJ Choir

*Hear the bells ringing,
They're singing that we can be born again.
Hear the bells ringing,
They're singing, "Christ is risen from the dead."*

*The angel upon the tombstone said,
"He is risen, just as he said.
Quickly now, go tell his disciples that
Jesus Christ is no longer dead!"*

*Joy to the world, he is risen, alleluia,
He's risen, alleluia,
He's risen, alleluia! Alleluia!*

SCRIPTURE READING**John 20:19-29**

Rev. Carol Layton

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me so I, so I send you." When he had said this he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So, the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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

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*

GATHERING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Tim Spangler and Rev. Carol Layton

CLOSING SONG*

When Our Confidence is Shaken
(J.M.C. Crum, words; French carol, 15th c.)

Congregation

HYMN NO. 413

All Verses

CLOSING PRAYER

Tim Spangler

God of the Risen Christ, you love us so much as to raise Christ from the tomb. Through this act, you grant us new life and redeeming grace. You grant us peace in death-defying love. You grant us forgiveness of sin. You welcome us back—without revenge—when we have been faithless. Bring us your peace and lead us to forgive others. Carry us through our times of disbelief. May we believe that Jesus is the Christ! In that belief may we have life in Christ's name! In the name of the Risen One, we pray. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Instrumental

Katy Kristoffersen

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Rev. Carol Layton

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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