

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**



TWELFTH SUNDAY
AFTER
PENTECOST
AUGUST 16, 2026

MEDITATION

Peace is not the absence of chaos or conflict, but rather finding yourself in the midst of that chaos and remaining calm in your heart.

— *John Mroz*

We don't see things as they are, we see them as we are.

— *Anais Nin*

There is a problem with most of our confessions. We naturally make weak and evasive apologies. Our sinful self-righteousness compels us to play down our faults, minimize our guilt, and make excuses for our wrongs.

— *Ken Sande and Kevin Johnson in Resolving Everyday Conflict*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Melinda Veatch

PRELUDE

Instrumental

Ron and Dee James

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 133:1-3

Todd Schroedel

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

People: It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe.

Leader: It is as if the dew of Mount Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forever more.

People: We come giving thanks for the life we share in Christ and for the strength and joy we have together in his way. We come to praise God's wonderful works. Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

Todd Schroedel

Holy God, in Jesus Christ you made an everlasting covenant with us, and you call us into covenant life with you and one another. We give you thanks that you are present at the very center of our lives. You walk with us in times of calm and in times of storm. You are with us in times of peace and in times of conflict. As we gather today, we ask that your Spirit would be present with us. As we read scripture, sing and pray together, may all we do honor you and remind us to turn to you in all circumstances, so that when we leave here, we will be strengthened in spirit and in discipleship. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WELCOMING SONG*

Just As I Am

Congregation

(Charlotte Elliott, words; William B. Bradbury, music)

Hymn No. 354

All Verses

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

SCRIPTURE READING**Colossians 3:1-4, 12-17**

Junella Hildreth

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM**I Then Shall Live**

UCSJ Choir

(Gloria Gaither, words; Jean Sibelius, music)

*I then shall live as one who's been forgiven.
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am His child and I am not afraid.
So, greatly pardoned, I'll forgive my brother;
The law of love I gladly will obey.*

*I then shall live as one who's learned compassion.
I've been so loved, that I'll risk loving too.
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I'll dare to see another's point of view.
And when relationships demand commitment,
Then I'll be there to care and follow through.*

*Your Kingdom come around and through and in me;
Your power and glory, let them shine through me.
Your Hallowed Name, O may I bear with honor,
And may Your living Kingdom come in me.
The Bread of Life, O may I share with honor,
And may You feed a hungry world through me.*

SCRIPTURE READING**Matthew 18:15-20**

Pastor Melinda Veatch

“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

“Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON**We Keep Us Safe**

Pastor Melinda Veatch

RESPONSIVE SONG**Amazing Grace**

Congregation

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

Hymn No. 422**All Verses****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**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***Amazing Love**

Congregation

(*Graham Kendrick*)

Hymn No. 259**All Verses****CLOSING PRAYER**

Todd Schroedel

Loving and Gracious God, we thank you for your Presence and for this time of singing, praying, and listening together. As we go from this time of worship, focus us on your love which will not let us go. Instill in us your peace which passes all understanding, that your way of peace is what we share with others we meet in Jesus’ name. Amen.

POSTLUDE***Instrumental***

Ron and Dee James

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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