

CLOSING SONG

We Labor Unto Glory
(Craig Harris, Paul Zach, Isaac Wardell)

Congregation

CLOSING PRAYER

See Insert

Bob McDaniel

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



Rev. Melinda A. Veatch

ucsjpastor@gmail.com

Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday - 9am to 1pm

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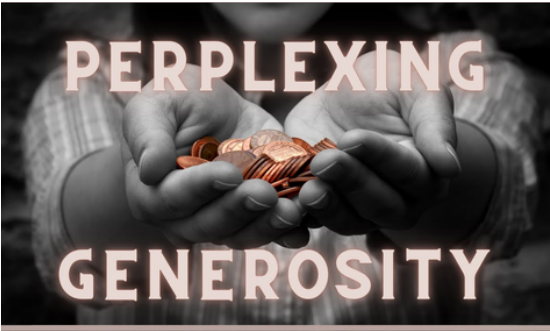
MUSIC

Katy Kristoffersen, Director
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THE
United Church
OF THE San Juans



SEVENTEENTH
SUNDAY
AFTER
PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

MEDITATION

God inclines to shower his graces upon us, but our perverted will is a barrier to his generosity.

– Ignatius of Loyola

Riches, both material and spiritual, can choke you if you do not use them fairly. For not even God can put anything in a heart that is already full.

– Mother Teresa

Want to snatch a day from the manacles of boredom? Do overgenerous deeds, acts beyond reimbursement. Kindness without compensation. Do a deed for which you cannot be repaid.

– Max Lucado

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Melinda Veatch

PRELUDE

Instrumental

Katy Kristoffersen

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bob McDaniel

Leader: You, God, are why we are here. We come joyful that you are the One who gives us breath and life.

People: Moved by the generosity of your love, we come grateful that you supply our every need – not because we do the right things, but because you love us.

Leader: As we gather here, we celebrate the goodness of life in your Spirit.

People: As we worship together, feed our hearts with your love and grace, that we, full of your Spirit, may overflow your care and compassion to a world in pain.

Leader: Sisters and brothers in Christ, let us worship our God of life and love!

OPENING PRAYER

Bob McDaniel

God of love and power, we pray that your Holy Spirit would move among us as we worship. Open our hearts and minds to see you at work among us. Encourage us, challenge us, uplift us, and inspire us as each of us has need. May our worship today show the joy we have as we live in your Spirit. Amen.

Welcoming Song*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
(Charles Wesley, words; John Zundel, music)

Congregation

Hymn No.359 .

Verses 1-3

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 145:1-8

Carol Layton

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 20:1-16

Pastor Melinda Veatch

I will exalt you, my God the King;
I will praise your name for ever and ever.
Every day I will praise you
and extol your name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
his greatness no one can fathom.
One generation commends your works to another;
they tell of your mighty acts.

They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—
and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

They tell of the power of your awesome works—
and I will proclaim your great deeds.
They celebrate your abundant goodness
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Holy is His Name

(John Michael Talbot; Arr. K. Kristoffersen)

UCSJ Choir

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
And my spirit exalts in God my savior.

For He has looked with mercy on my lowliness,
And my name will be forever exalted.

For the mighty God has done great things for me,
And His mercy will reach from age to age.

And holy, holy, holy is His name.

He has mercy in every generation.
He has revealed His power and His glory.

He has cast down the mighty in their arrogance,
And has lifted up the meek and the lonely.

He has come to help His servant Israel,
He remembered His promise to our fathers.

And holy, holy, holy is His name.

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

“About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the market place doing nothing. He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’.

“‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

“When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

“The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

“But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

“So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Fully Present

Pastor Melinda Veatch

RESPONSIVE SONG

Great Is the Lord

(Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith)

Congregation

Hymn No. 50

Both Verses

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for your continued support of the church and our mission.

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

Bob McDaniel 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.