

CLOSING PRAYER

Joan Moyer

Leader: Lord Jesus, you have shown us in your teaching what the kingdom of heaven is like. It is a fast growing bush and a yeast that leavens all the dough.

People: May your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Leader: Sovereign God, your kingdom surrounds us and you invite us to be a part of it. May we in turn be used to bless others, sharing the unimaginable riches of your kingdom with all we meet.

People: May your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Leader: Holy Spirit, work in us. Teach us to prize membership in your kingdom – a kingdom of forgiveness, mercy, righteousness and justice. Show us where we can plant seeds and introduce yeast to grow your kingdom, so others may receive its riches beyond measure.

People: May your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Leader: In your name we pray. Amen.

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, Thursday 9am to 1pm.

MUSIC OFFICE
Katy Kristoffersen, Director Shirley Didier, Admin. Assistant
ucsjmusic@gmail.com ucsjoffice@gmail.com

THE
United Church
OF THE *San Juans*



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER
PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Meditation

Mighty things from small beginnings grow.
– John Dryden

If you plan to excel in big things, you have to develop the habit in small ones.
– LaCrae

The man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones.
– Confucius

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Melinda Veatch

PRELUDE

Instrumental

Katy Kristoffersen

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Posted on the Starters for Sunday website of the Church of Scotland churchofscotland.org)

Joan Moyer

Leader: Let us begin this day by rejoicing!

People: The Lord has done such wonderful things for us. Let us be glad!

Leader: The day before us is uncertain.

People: We know not what we will encounter on our way.

Leader: Wherever we go, we go as the people of the living God, and we go out to touch the lives of all with his healing care.

People: Let us begin this day with rejoicing! Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

Joan Moyer

WELCOMING SONG*

This is My Father's World
(Maltbie D. Babcock, words; English melody)

Congregation

Hymn No. 21 All Verses

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable

Scripture Reading

1 Kings 3:5-12

Todd Schroedel

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you.”

Solomon answered, “You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

“Now, Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?”

The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. So God said to him, “Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Antthem:

Servant Song
(Donna Marie McGargill)

UCSJ Choir

What do you want of me, Lord?
Where do you want me to serve you?
Where can I sing your praises?
I am your song.

Jesus, Jesus,
You are the Lord
Jesus, Jesus,
You are the way.

I hear you call my name, Lord,
And I am moved within me.
Your spirit stirs my deepest self.
Sing your songs in me.

Jesus, Jesus,
You are the Lord
Jesus, Jesus,
You are the way.

Above, below and around me.
Before, behind and all through me,
Your spirit burns deep within me.
Fire my life with your love.

Jesus, Jesus,
Be warmth of my heart.
Jesus, Jesus,
You are the way.

You are the light in my darkness.
You are my strength when I'm weary.
You give me sight when I'm blinded.
Come, see for me.

Jesus, Jesus,
You are the Lord
Jesus, Jesus,
You are my Light.

I am your song and servant,
Singing your praise like Mary.
Surrendered to your Spirit,
"Let it be done to me."

Jesus, Jesus,
"Let it be done to me."
Jesus, Jesus,
You are the way.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:31-33

Pastor Melinda Veatch

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Surprise of Small

Pastor Melinda Veatch

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

Joan Moyer and Pastor Melinda Veatch

Closing Song*

All Things Bright and Beautiful
(Cecil F. Alexander, words; English melody, 17th c.)

Congregation

Hymn No. 30

All Verses

*Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable