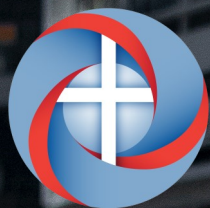


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost



Sunday, June 28
10:45 service

Welcome

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Prelude

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Hymn

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

UMH 514, v. 1 & 4

Stand up, stand up for Jesus
ye soldiers of the cross;
lift high his royal banner,
it must not suffer loss:
from vict'ry unto vict'ry
his army he shall lead,
'til ev'ry foe is vanquished,
and Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
the strife will not be long;
this day the noise of battle,
the next the victor's song:
to him that overcometh
a crown of life shall be;
he with the King of glory
shall reign eternally.

Call to Worship

Welcome! This is a time to celebrate and worship God who loves us!
We are grateful and thankful for all God's blessings in our lives.

We gather to remember that Christ gave his life for us.
We humbly praise God for such a gift!

Come, friends! Come and worship the God of love and hope.
Praise be to God at all times and in all places!



Children's Moment

Reverend Ann Duncan

Life of the Community

Caryn Cranston

Invitation to the Offering

Reverend Ann Duncan

Pastoral Prayer

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

God of Creation and everything created, we thank you for your resurrection power to rise this morning. We are grateful for the gift of life. We pray for your guidance in unwrapping this gift of life wisely. As we come before you today, we come, with a mixture of thanksgivings and concerns. We praise your name and thank you for all our many blessings. We thank you for witnessing that there is more tenacity within us than we believed.

In this time of COVID-19, let us be mindful to observe physical distancing and not "social" distancing. During our sheltering-in place, we are learning to appreciate those activities in which we cannot participate and long for. At the same time, we are learning (or relearning) activities which have become very meaningful for us. We give thanks for the opportunity to connect with family and friends with whom we may have lost contact. We are thankful for the many people who graciously reach out to us with offers of assistance. While this is not a set of circumstances we would have chosen or could have imagined, we are thankful that, in many cases, we are able to experience the very best in people, some of whom we barely knew before now.

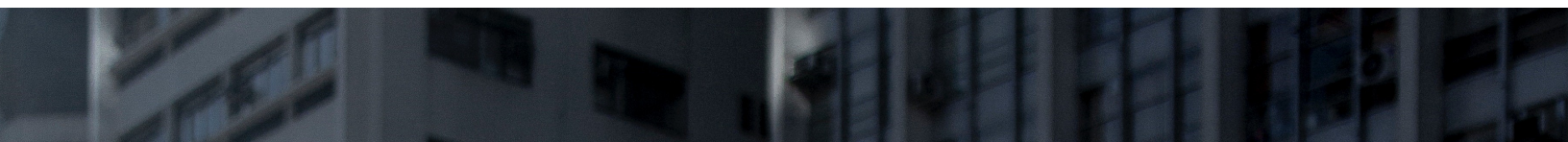
Lord, we lift up the thousands of families who have lost their loved ones to COVID-19. Have mercy upon their loved ones. Help them to honor the life and legacy of their loved ones. Hear their cries and help them to heal from this tragedy.

Almighty Savior, as our country re-opens for commerce, we are experiencing a spike in COVID-19 cases. Lord, allow them to fully recover. We ask that you comfort them and those who care for them. As the nation opens we pray that your guiding presence will be with us. Remind us of how we can participate in a daily act of love and justice when we wear a mask. We pray for the success of businesses that are gradually re-opening. We pray for the good health of their employees, suppliers and patrons.

Loving Creator, we ask that you give us a global problem-solving approach to learning best practices on how to keep our economy and our citizens healthy. Lord, we are grateful for the collaboration that is taking place amongst scientists searching for a vaccine. Give us the interlocking insight and foresight that we might need to prepare for the next viral and economic pandemic heading our way. We ask for your blessing upon all of those who work so that we can retain life and social distancing at home. For them, we give you thanks. Amidst these frightful events is the righteous protest for justice for the murder of Blacks in the care of those police who swore to protect and serve them. Help us to support good police through the dismantling of a structurally biased criminal justice system. Give us the wisdom to develop systems to protect and serve all.

Omniscient Christ, we are concerned about those who have no shelter and those who are experiencing food insecurity around the world. Use us to feed and shelter those who are most vulnerable and to participate in the enactment of legislation and legislators who lead with economic and social justice purviews.

Omnipresent God, Remind us that you are with us always. Let us see and feel your presence around and within us. Let that peace you promise us when we keep our minds focused on you spread contagiously to all that we meet. Thank you for allowing us to walk and talk with you this and every day. Amen.





Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, 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.

Scripture

Romans 6:1-11

Nancy Stowe

Hymn

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

UMH 581

Lord, whose love in humble service
Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken,
Worked Your mercy's perfect deed:
We, Your servants, bring the worship
Not of voice alone, but heart;
Consecrating to Your purpose
Every gift which You impart.

As we worship, grant us vision,
Till your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness
Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens
Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to ardent service,
Your abundant life to share.

Still Your children wander homeless;
Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom;
Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion
Healed the sick and freed the soul,
By Your Spirit send Your power
To our world to make it whole.

Message

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Invitation to the Offering

Reverend Ann Duncan

Offertory Prayer

Reverend Ann Duncan

On this beautiful, summer day, we praise and thank you, O Lord. We bring before you our gifts, our lives, our talents. Take all these gifts and use them for work in your kingdom. Bless the gifts and the givers of all gifts. Amen.

Offertory

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Austin C. Lovelace (1919-2010)

Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH No. 94





Closing Hymn

To Live Is Christ / I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Eugene Butler (b. 1935)

Congregation joins in with *I Know My Redeemer Lives*

I know that my Redeemer lives;
what comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my everliving Head.

He lives to bless me with His love,
He lives to plead for me above,
He lives my hungry soul to feed,
He lives to help in time of need.

He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives,
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"

Benediction

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

As you go from here, bless others. As you bless one another, remember you are blessing of God. God will provide you with every blessing in abundance so that you may always have enough of everything to provide in abundance for every good work. Amen.

Alleluia

UMH 186

Postlude

Soon I Will Be Done

Calvin Taylor (b. 1948)

