



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12
10:45 AM SERVICE

Prelude

Gather Us In

Jeffrey Honoré (b. 1956)

Welcome

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Processional Hymn

Gather Us In

FWS 2236, v. 1, 3, 4

Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness, vanished away,
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven light years away,
but here in this space, the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in, and hold us forever;
gather us in, and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat, the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Life of the Community

Call to Worship

Lou & Patty Bellardo

We come here today not because we are clever but because God welcomes the slow learners.

We come here not because we are wise, but because God loves us in spite of our folly.

We come knowing that the greatest persons will be found among those who humbly serve like Jesus did, and that the brightest ideas and the deepest truth will come from those who see themselves as little children in Christ's school.

O Lord, open up our minds and our hearts and enable our lives to declare your praise.

Pastoral Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem

Be Thou My Vision

John Rutter (b.1945)

Scripture *James 3:1-12* Jeff King

Hymn *Trust and Obey* UMH 467

When we walk with the Lord
in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will,
he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain:
Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear,
not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss,
not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey. [Refrain]

But we never can prove
the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows,
for the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey. [Refrain]

Then in fellowship sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey. [Refrain]

Message Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

VirtuAll Voices *This Little Light of Mine*

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Prayer Lou & Patty Bellardo

Loving God, Jesus taught us "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." We offer our gifts to you knowing they are part of our treasure, and we do so with the hope that our hearts, our actions, and the words of our tongues will likewise follow. We acknowledge that the tongues that praise you are often the ones that hurt you, when we use them to diminish or discount one of your precious children. Guide our hearts, minds, and tongues to the words that bring you joy. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Doxology *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH No. 95

Offertory *Balm in Gilead* Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

Closing Hymn *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* UMH 731 v. 1, 2, 4

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken,
formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou mayst smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.

Blest inhabitants of Zion,
washed in our Redeemer's blood;
Jesus, whom our souls rely on,
makes us monarchs, priests to God.
Us, by his great love, he raises,
rulers over self to reign,
and as priests his solemn praises
we for thankful offering bring.



Benediction

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Alleluia

Postlude

Trumpet Tune in C Major

Michael McCabe (b. 1941)

Virtual Coffee & Chat

Join us after the service for a virtual coffee chat! All are welcome.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81124350936>

Please message Paula McKinney for the password.