



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

SUNDAY AUGUST 21, 2022

10:45 AM SERVICE

Prelude *"The Peace may be exchanged"* Dan Locklair (b. 1949)

Welcome Reverend Doug Norris

Life of the Community Jill Kispert

*Call to Worship Jill Kispert

God calls us to worship today.

We are here!

All are invited— the sick, the well, the believer, and the doubter.

We are here!

Wash us, O God! May we be cleansed by your holy love.

We are here! Amen.

*Opening Hymn *I Come with Joy* United Methodist Hymnal (UMH) 617 v. 1, 3-5

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord,
forgiven, loved and free,
in awe and wonder to recall
his life laid down for me,
his life laid down for me.

3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.

4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord.
His presence, always near,
is in such friendship better known;
we see and praise him here,
we see and praise him here.

5. Together met, together bound,
we'll go our different ways,
and as his people in the world,
we'll live and speak his praise,
we'll live and speak his praise.

Children's Moment Reverend Gerardo García Palacios

Baptism Isileli Fakalata Jr.
Parents: Isi and Christina Fakalata

Pastor to congregation:

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include this child now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ.

We will surround this child with a community of love and forgiveness, that he may grow in his service to others. We will pray for him, that he may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

Prayer of Confession UMH 893

Lord, we confess our day to day failure to be truly human.

We confess that we often fail to love with all we have and are, often because we do not fully understand what loving means, often because we are afraid of risking ourselves.

We cut ourselves off from each other and we erect barriers of division.

We confess that by silence and ill-considered word we have built up walls of prejudice.

We confess that by selfishness and lack of sympathy we have stifled generosity and left little time for others.

Holy Spirit, speak to us. Help us listen to your word of forgiveness, for we are very deaf.

Come, fill this moment and free us from sin.

Pastoral Prayer Reverend Doug Norris

Our Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem *The Call* Z. Randall Stroope

Invitation to the Offering Jill Kispert

Offertory Prayer Jill Kispert

Mighty God, we have read of the prophets of old, and how your power was often made known to them in small gestures or in a still small voice. We bring our gifts to you this day confessing that we have often missed (or dismissed) your miracles because they did not present themselves in dramatic, startling events or grand transformations. Give us eyes that are constantly on the lookout for the small and subtle ways you make your power and presence, love and mercy known to us! In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Offertory *We're Marching to Zion* Joyce Jones (b. 1933)

*Doxology UMH 95

*Hymn *Together We Serve* Faith We Sing (FWS) 2175

1. Together we serve, united by love,
inviting God's world to the glorious feast.
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,
extending your love to the last and the least.

2. We seek to become a beacon of hope,
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
until we see Christ in each person we meet.

3. We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.
We offer a home to those who will come,
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.

4. Together, by grace, we witness and work,
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,
remembering love is the strength of our song.

Scripture *Acts 2:42-47* Debbie Krueger

Message *The Church At Its Best* Reverend Doug Norris

*Closing Hymn *Go Forth for God* UMH 670

1. Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;
be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
in God's good Spirit daily to increase,
till in the kingdom we see face to face.
Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.

2. Go forth for God, go to the world in love;
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;
help the afflicted; richly from above
God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.
Go forth for God, go to the world in love.

3. Go forth for God, go to the world in strength;
hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;
render to no one evil; Christ at length
shall overcome all darkness with his light.
Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.

4. Go forth for God, go to the world in joy,
to serve God's people every day and hour,
and serving Christ, our every gift employ,
rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.
Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

*Benediction Reverend Doug Norris

*Alleluia

Postlude *Postlude on "Darwall's 148th"* Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

Altar flowers are given in memory of Craig Laughton and
in honor of Ruth Waters' newest grandson, Clark Santos.

**Please stand as you are able where indicated by an asterisk.*