



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

10:45 AM SERVICE

Prelude *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens* Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Welcome Reverend Doug Norris

Greeting Song *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love* FWS 2223

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord (2x)
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Life of the Community Sumith Kalas

*Call to Worship Sumith Kalas

Come, let us worship the one who calls us here.
We gather to worship with joy and in hope.
Come, let us worship the one who desires our hearts.
We bring our whole selves in worship to our God.
Come, let us set aside all that distracts us from true worship.
We come as we are and ask the Spirit to gather us in and direct our vision.
Come, let us worship the one who calls us here.
We are here to worship with all that we are.

Introit *Praise The Lord Who Reigns Above* Eugene Butler

*Opening Hymn *Rise, Shine, You People* United Methodist Hymnal (UMH) 187

1. Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered our human story; God in him is centered. Christ comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.

2. See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling; he brings us freedom, light and life and healing. All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.

3. Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling, your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling. To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.

4. Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us. Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us. Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation God's new creation.

Children's Moment Reverend Gerardo García Palacios

Prayer of Confession Reverend Doug Norris

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.

Chancel Choir Anthem *Help Us Forgive Each Other, Lord* S. Drummond Wolff (1916-2004)

Invitation to the Offering Sumith Kalas

Offertory Prayer Sumith Kalas

O Lord, you have blessed us with the ministry of your church. We thank you for the rich fellowship we enjoy with each other and with you. We give our tithes and offerings to you now, to support the ministry of this church in our community and worldwide. Amen.

Offertory *Divertissement* Gordon Young (1919-1998)

*Doxology UMH 95

*Hymn *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive* UMH 390

"Forgive our sins as we forgive"
You taught us, Lord, to pray,
But you alone can grant us grace
To live the words we say.

2. How can your pardon reach and bless
The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let
Old bitterness depart?

3. In blazing light your cross reveals
The truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us;
How great our debt to you!

4. Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love
Our lives will spread your peace.

Scripture *Colossians 3:12-15* Jeff King

Message *Having Trouble With Forgiveness?* Reverend Doug Norris

*Closing Hymn *The Voice of God is Calling* UMH 436

1. The voice of God is calling
A summons in our day;
Isaiah heard in Zion,
And now we hear God say:
"Whom shall I send to succor
My people in their need?
Whom shall I send to loosen
The bonds of shame and greed?"

2. "I hear my people crying
In slum and mine and mill;
No field or mart is silent,
No city street is still.
I see my people falling
In darkness and despair.
Whom shall I send to shatter
The fetters which they bear?"

3. We heed, O Lord, your summons,
And answer: "Here are we!
Send us upon your errand,
Let us your servants be.
Our strength is dust and ashes,
Our years a passing hour;
But thou canst use our weakness
To magnify your power.

4. "From ease and plenty save us;
From pride of place absolve;
Purge us of low desire;
Lift us to high resolve;
Take us, and make us holy;
Teach us your will and way.
Speak, and, behold! we answer;
Command, and we obey!"

*Benediction Reverend Doug Norris

*Alleluia

Postlude *Allegro maestoso* Flor Peeters (1903-1986)