

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY, JUNE 23 2024

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

Welcome Reverend Burke Owens

Passing of the Peace

Life of the Community Linda Grossman

*Call to Worship Linda Grossman

Beloved, when sorrow and hardship abound and events across an ocean and down the block shake our resolve and make us question what good the good news is even doing, God calls to us...

Open your heart.

When fear and misinformation infiltrate our relationships, and we don't know who to trust or how to do the next right thing, God calls to us...

Open your heart.

When joy overflows, and we witness the fruit of grace all around us, transforming our lives and our communities into places of connection and flourishing, God calls to us...

Open your heart.

May this time of worship be for each of us a time to listen to God's call to open our hearts and accept the divine invitation to say yes to the work of grace in us, among us, and all around us.

God, we open our hearts to receive your gift of grace, knowing you hold us securely in the palm of your hands that we might have the courage to live in vulnerable community with you and one another. Amen.

*Hymn *Come Down, O Love Divine* UMH 475

1. Come down, O Love divine,
 seek thou this soul of mine,
 and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;
 O Comforter, draw near,
 within my heart appear,
 and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

2. O let it freely burn,
 till earthly passions turn
 to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
 and let thy glorious light
 shine ever on my sight,
 and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

3. And so the yearning strong,
 with which the soul will long,
 shall far outpass the power of human telling;
 for none can guess its grace,
 till Love create a place
 wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Children's Moment Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Summer Choir Anthem *Taste and See that the Lord Is Good*
 Lloyd Larsen

Scripture *John 2:1-11* Alan Cooper

Message *The Flavor of Grace* Reverend Burke Owens

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People Reverend Burke Owens

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord, for these gifts,
we give you thanks!

*Lord's Prayer Reverend Burke Owens

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.

*Hymn *Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word* UMH 596

1. Blessed Jesus, at thy word
 we are gathered all to hear thee;
 let our hearts and souls be stirred
 now to seek and love and fear thee,
 by thy teachings sweet and holy,
 drawn from earth to love thee solely.

3. Glorious Lord, thyself impart!
 Light of light, from God proceeding,
 open thou our ears and heart;
 help us by thy spirit's pleading;
 hear the cry thy people raises;
 hear, and bless our prayers and praises.

2. All our knowledge, sense, and sight
 lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
 till thy spirit breaks our night
 with the beams of truth unclouded.
 Thou alone to God canst win us;
 thou must work all good within us.

Invitation to the Offering Linda Grossman