

Offertory

\*Doxology

UMH 94

**HOLY COMMUNION**

\*Closing Hymn

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

UMH 581

Lord, whose love through 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.

3. 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.

2. 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.

4. Called by worship to your service,  
Forth in your dear name we go  
To the child, the youth, the aged,  
Love in living deeds to show;  
Hope and health, good will and comfort,  
Counsel, aid and peace we give,  
That your servants, Lord, in freedom  
May your mercy know and live.

\*Benediction

Reverend Burke Owens

\*Alleluia

Postlude

*Toccata classique*

Dennis Janzer (b. 1954)

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

Senior Pastor: Burke Owens  
Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries: Gerardo Garcia Palacios  
Director of Music: Mark Shaull  
Organist: Diane Keller  
Head Usher: Daniel Fifita



**FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Fifteenth Sunday  
After Pentecost**

**COMMUNION SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2024**

**10:45 AM SERVICE**



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

Prelude *Meditation on Beach Spring* Dennis Janzer (b. 1954)

Welcome Reverend Burke Owens

Passing the Peace

Life of the Community Linda Grossman

\*Call to Worship Linda Grossman

Welcome, Beloved of God! For truly, you are deeply, wonderfully, beautifully loved by the God of all creation!

**Come, let us worship God who loves us!**

Whether your week was filled with mountain-high joys or valley-low sorrows, peace like a gently flowing river, or stress like a stormy gale, this is the time to rise and come away to worship God who sustains and tends to you.

**Come, let us worship God who loves us and tends to us!**

In a world that pulls us this way and that, God's love is our True North, guiding us with an uncommon wisdom through all that life brings us.

**Come, let us worship God who loves us and guides us!**

Beloved, the time for singing has come, because God's love, care, and wisdom sustain and guide us wherever we go.

**Come, let us worship and sing to the God who loves, tends, guides, and sustains us! Amen!**

\*Hymn *Come, Let Us Sweetly Join* UMH 699

1. Come, and let us sweetly join,  
Christ to praise in hymns divine;  
give we all with one accord  
glory to our common Lord.

2. Hands and hearts and voices raise,  
sing as in the ancient days;  
antedate the joys above,  
celebrate the feast of love.

3. Jesus, dear expected Guest,  
thou art bidden to the feast;  
for thyself our hearts prepare;  
come, and sit, and banquet there.

4. Sanctify us, Lord, and bless,  
breathe thy Spirit, give thy peace;  
thou thyself within us move,  
make our feast a feast of love.

Children's Moment Reverend Burke Owens

Anthem *With a Voice of Singing* Martin Shaw

Scripture *1 Corinthians 1:26-31* Sumith Kalas

Message *The Ring Leaves the Shire* 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

**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 *O Thou Who This Mysterious Bread* UMH 613

1. O Thou who this mysterious bread  
didst in Emmaus break,  
return, herewith our souls to feed,  
and to thy followers speak.

2. Unseal the volume of thy grace,  
apply the gospel word;  
open our eyes to see thy face,  
our hearts to know the Lord.

3. Of thee communing still, we mourn  
till thou the veil remove;  
talk with us, and our hearts shall burn  
with flames of fervent love.

4. Enkindle now the heavenly zeal,  
and make thy mercy known,  
and give our pardoned souls to feel  
that God and love are one.

Invitation to the Offering Linda Grossman

Offertory Prayer

**Gracious God, we bring these offerings with hearts full of love and gratitude, inspired by the beauty of your creation and the love that binds us. Just as the Song of Solomon celebrates love's arrival, we dedicate these gifts to further your kingdom with joy and patience. May they bring hope, peace, and transformation, reflecting your love for all. Help us to be stewards of your grace and love in the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**