

Offertory Prayer

Loving God, you teach us humility and service. We bring our offerings today with grateful hearts. As we reflect on your holy scripture today, may we give as a testament to our commitment to serve others, not seeking the highest places but embracing the path of sacrificial love. Bless these gifts and use them to advance your kingdom. Remind us that true greatness always comes through serving. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology UMH 94

Stewardship Campaign Moment

*Closing Hymn *Be Thou My Vision* UMH 451

- 1. Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.
- 2. Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with the and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 3. Great God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall.
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Benediction Lynn Gibbons

*Alleluia

Postlude *Festival Voluntary* Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my parents,
Grayson and Genevieve Whittington Sloan, by Jerry Johnson.

The rose on the altar celebrates the birth of Wade Garrett Phippen on October 18
to Lara and Colton Phippen. He is the grandson of Pamela and Mark Cutkosky
and nephew of Char Cutkosky.

**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

Laity Sunday

SUNDAY OCTOBER 20, 2024

10:45 AM SERVICE



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

LAITY SUNDAY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 2024

Prelude *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Neil Harmon (b. 1967)

Introit *Prayer of Stewardship* Eleanor Daley

Welcome Emily King

Passing of the Peace

Life of the Community Emily King

*Call to Worship Emily King

Welcome all who long to encounter Jesus, the one who loves, tends, sustains, and saves us.

Jesus said, "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve."

Welcome all who walk the halls of power, who feel pushed and pulled to fight for position, status, and authority.

Jesus said, "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve."

Welcome all who feel burned out, who have given more than they have day in and day out and long for someone to notice that you, too, need help and support.

Jesus said, "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve."

Welcome, followers of Christ, who came to serve and show God's abundant love and grace among us.

We come to worship Jesus who shows us that serving is the fruit of our love and being served by one another is the source of our power as the Body of Christ. Amen.

*Hymn *I'll Praise My Maker While I Live* UMH 60

1. I'll praise my Maker while I've breath;
and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler powers.
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
while life, and thought, and being last,
or immortality endures.

2. Happy are they whose hopes rely
on Israel's God, who made the sky
and earth and seas, with all their train;
whose truth forever stands secure,
who saves th'oppressed and feeds the poor,
for none shall find God's promise vain.

3. The Lord pours eyesight on the blind;
the Lord supports the fainting mind
and sends the laboring conscience peace.
God helps the stranger in distress,
the widow and the fatherless,
and grants the prisoner sweet release.

4. I'll praise my God who lends me breath;
and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler powers.
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
while life, and thought, and being last,
or immortality endures.

Children's Moment

Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Anthem *What Shall I Offer My God?* Lloyd Larsen

Scripture *2 Corinthians 9:6-9* Sarah Joy Espinoza-Evans

Message *Giving Our Spirit* Sumith Kalas
Diane Allen

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People Lucy Tompkin

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord, for these gifts,
we give you thanks!

*Lord's Prayer Lucy Tompkin

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 *Come and Find the Quiet Center* FWS 2128

1. Come and find the quiet center
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.

2. Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.

3. In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

Invitation to the Offering

Emily King