



Bloom  
in the  
Desert  
Ministries



Bloom in the Desert  
Ministries  
United Church of Christ  
Palm Springs, CA

Second Sunday after Pentecost  
June 2, 2024

For Facebook check-ins, etc., the Demuth Community Center - Wi-Fi password is: D3muthP@rk

\* Please rise as you are able in body and spirit.

**9:50am Pre-Service Music**

Malcolm Swan, piano

**10:00am Gathering Song**

1. En - ter, re-joice, and come in.      Ent - er, re-joice, and come in.  
 2. God's love is ours to em - brace.      God's love is ours to em - brace.

To - day will be a joy - ful day;      en - ter, re-joice, and come in.

**Welcome and News of the Congregation**

Rev. Jeff Munnis

**Music for Centering**

Malcolm Swan, piano

“Nimrod”

**\* Call to Worship**

Carl Toland

We gather here to worship God our Creator,  
**who overflows with love and compassion, with justice and peace;**

We are ready and willing to experience God, who is Spirit,  
**who fills us with faith and joy, with love and eternal life. And as a result, we are able to bless the world by saying:**

**Aloha, Shalom, Salaam, Vrede, Myr, Ping-an, Paz, Peace. Amen.**

**\* Opening Hymn**

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As We Gather at Your Table

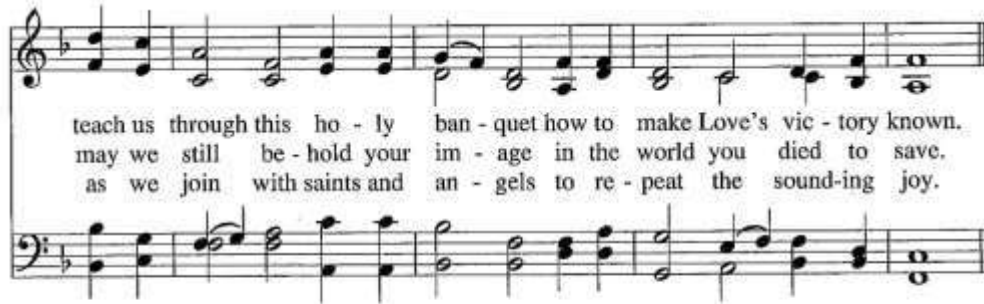
*Matt. 22:1-10; Luke 14:16-24*

*Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1989*

1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.

Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



*In this hymn, commissioned by an Episcopal parish in Virginia for the celebration of its tricentennial, Carl P. Daw, Jr., utilized a familiar phrase from Isaac Watts' "Joy to the World," which was the motto for the celebration: "Repeat the sounding joy."*

Words Copyright © 1989 by Hope Publishing Company

Tune: BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7.D.  
The Sacred Harp, 1844  
Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1992

## In Faith We Open Our Hearts to Ministry

### Prayer for Good and Growth

Carl Toland

Now in prayer, we welcome God's spiritual embrace.

**We thank you, God, that you give us love and peace through Christ Jesus; that you offer us the keys to spiritual knowledge and comfort through your Holy Spirit.**

For those who are in the midst of life's problems, grant your wisdom and insight.

**For those who are burdened with anxiety and fear, offer assurance and the sense to make wise choices.**

For those facing decisions about family or career, bless them with self-confidence and good intentions.

**For those entering a new chapter in their lives, be it the birth of children, taking new jobs, finding a place to live, or entering retirement, guide them on the best path and bless them with a sense of peace.**

This we pray trusting the love and wisdom of Jesus Christ our Sovereign, sibling and friend.

**Amen.**

**Our Silent Prayers** (These intentional moments of silence are included in worship to enable minds to settle, then move past the distraction of internal chatter, to connect actively with God.)

With tender care, dear God, receive now our silent prayers.

~ Silence ~

To all our silent prayers let the people say amen.

**Amen.**

## The Words of Encouragement

O Sovereign of glory, your voice creates the heavens, your breath sets the stars on fire, your hands gather up the waters of the sea. When we put our trust in power, in our own plans and designs, show us how to live according to your calling for justice and peace that trusting in you, our hearts may overflow with joy.

**Amen!**

**Blessing and praise to God forever. Let us now receive the Word.**

## Sung Response

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le, —

lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a 4-measure rest, followed by the melody for 'Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.' The second staff continues the melody with 'Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le, —'. The third staff concludes with 'lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.' The lyrics are written below the notes.

## The Word Informs Our Living with Grace and Power

### Hebrew Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-20

Gerald Chester

Now young Samuel was in the service of YHWH under Eli. In those days, the voice of YHWH was rarely heard—prophesy was uncommon. One night Eli, whose eyes had grown so weak he could no longer see, was sleeping in his bed. The lamp of God had not gone out, and Samuel was sleeping in the Tent of Meeting, near the Ark of the Covenant.

Then YHWH called to Samuel.

Samuel answered, “Here I am!” and ran to Eli saying, “You called. Here I am!”

Eli said, “I didn’t call you. Now go back to sleep.” He went back to sleep.

A second time, YHWH called Samuel, and he got up and went to Eli.

“Here I am!” Samuel said, “You called me.”

Eli repeated, “I did not call you. Go back to sleep.”

At that time Samuel had not encountered YHWH, and the word of YHWH had not yet been revealed to him.

YHWH called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up, went to Eli, and said once more, “Here I am. You called me.”

Then Eli realized that YHWH was calling the boy.

So he said to Samuel, “Go back and go to sleep, and if you are called, say, ‘Speak, YHWH, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went back to sleep.

And YHWH called, “Samuel! Samuel!”

And Samuel replied, “Yes, YHWH, I am listening.”

Then YHWH said to Samuel, “I am going to do things in Israel that will make the ears of all who hear about them ring. I am going to fulfill all the dreadful things I told Eli I would do against his family—from the beginning to the end. You are to tell Eli that I condemn his family forever because he knew of the blasphemies of his sons against God which he ignored. Therefore, I swear it to the house of Eli, neither sacrifice nor offering will ever expiate the guilt of the House of Eli.”

Samuel lay down to rest till morning when he opened the doors of the Tent of Meeting. He feared to tell Eli about the vision, but Eli called to Samuel, who answered, “Here I am.”

“Samuel, come here, what did God say to you? Don’t hide it from me. May YHWH curse you if you conceal from me one word of what you were told.”

Then Samuel told Eli everything, concealing nothing. Eli said, “YHWH reigns. YHWH will do what must be done.”

As Samuel grew, YHWH was with him. None of Samuel’s words remained unfulfilled. From Dan to Beersheba, all Israel recognized that Samuel was a prophet of YHWH. ~Inclusive Bible Version

Here ends the Hebrew Scripture reading.

### **\* Gospel Reading**

Mark 2:23-3:6

Phyllis Ramsey

One Sabbath day Jesus took a walk through the grain fields, and the disciples began to pick ears of grain as they went along. The Pharisees said to Jesus, “Look, why are they doing something on the Sabbath day that is forbidden?”

And Jesus replied, “Did you never read what David did in his time of need when he and his followers were hungry—how David went into the house of God when Abiathar was high priest and ate the loaves of offering, which only the priests were allowed to eat, and how he also gave some to those with him?”

Then Jesus said to them, “The Sabbath was made for people, not people for the Sabbath. That is why the Chosen One is ruler even on the Sabbath.”

Returning to the synagogue, Jesus met someone who had a withered hand. Now the religious authorities were watching to see if Jesus would heal the individual on the Sabbath day, as they were hoping for some evidence to use against Jesus. He said to the afflicted one, “Stand and come up front!”

Then he turned to them and said, “Is it permitted to do a good deed on the Sabbath—or an evil one? To preserve life or destroy it?”

At this they remained silent. Jesus looked around at them with anger, for he was deeply grieved that they had closed their hearts so. Then Jesus said to the person, "Stretch out your hand." The other did so, and the hand was perfectly restored.

The Pharisees went out and at once began to plot with Herodians, discussing how to destroy Jesus.

~Inclusive Bible Version

Here ends the reading of the Gospel. This is the Good News of Jesus Christ

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Commentary

Rev. Jeff Munnis

## Offering our Prayer Concerns, and Joys and Thanksgivings

Concerns:

Rev. Jeff Munnis

Keep watch, dear God, with all who work, or watch, or weep this day. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.

**God, receive our prayer.**

Joys and Thanksgivings:

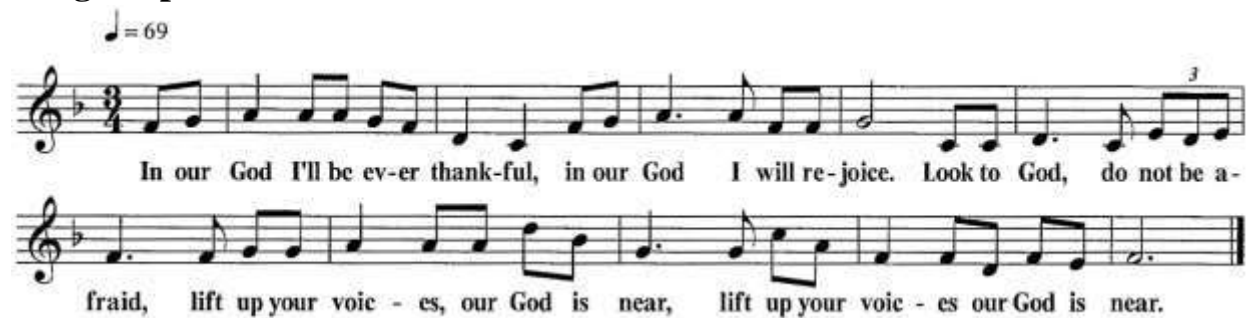
Your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of all creation. Keep us always thankful for your loving providence and help us be faithful stewards of your good and abundant gifts.

**God, receive our prayer.**

## Sung Response

In Our God I'll Be Ever Thankful

♩ = 69



In our God I'll be ev-er thank-ful, in our God I will re-joice. Look to God, do not be a-  
fraid, lift up your voic - es, our God is near, lift up your voic - es our God is near.

## Ministry of Generosity — Expressing God's Love and Empowering Good Works

**Our tithes and offerings are an expression of our hearts and our discipleship.**

--Checks should be made out to "Bloom in the Desert Ministries." Checks and cash in envelopes with identification are recorded for your year-end convenience. **Online giving is available and easy!** Go to: [www.bloominthedesert.org](http://www.bloominthedesert.org) and click on the Donate tab. **Thank you.**



## Offertory-Meditation Music

Malcolm Swan, piano

"Remembrance"

## Presentation of Offerings and Prayer of Dedication

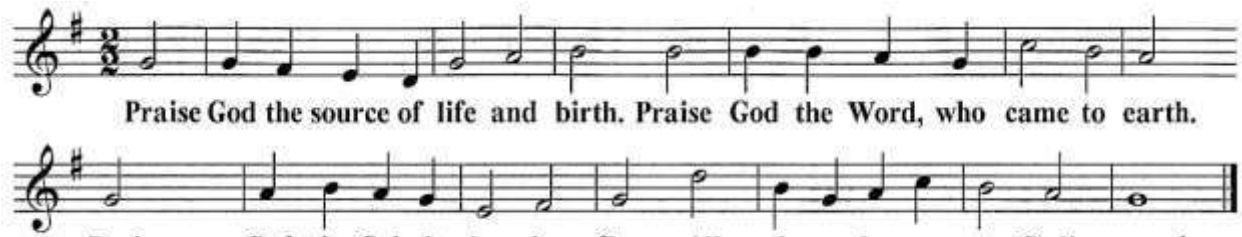
Phyllis Ramsey

O God, you anoint us with the oil of your blessing. You set us apart as Christ calls us to serve. You fill us with the Spirit of righteousness. We are vessels of your holiness, prepared to do what you command. Be pleased with our sacrifices and take delight in our victories. Enhance all our efforts and multiply their effectiveness. Help us rise to the level of your trust in us, as we dedicate our gifts in response to your goodness. Amen.

Please rise, as you are able, in celebration, as we sing the Doxology.

### \* Doxology

#### Praise God the Source of Life and Birth



Praise God the source of life and birth. Praise God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God, the Spi-rit, ho - ly flame. All glo-ry ho-nor to God's name!

Old Hundredth NCH #7

## The Great Thanksgiving

God is with you.

Rev. Jeff Munnis

**And also with you.**

Let us lift our hearts.

**We lift them to our God.**

Let us give thanks and praise.

**This is a good and joyful thing to do.**

**Phyllis Ramsey:** It is a right and good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give you praise, all-loving God, creator of energy and matter, heaven and earth. Long ago, you renewed your rainbow covenant with every living creature by entering our realm in the person of Jesus. He gave us your unconditional love and this mandate:

**I give you a new commandment: Love one another. And you're to love one another the way I have loved you. This is how all will know that you're my disciples: that you truly love one another."**

Therefore, we celebrate you, joining our voices with the wind and streams, the animals and flowers, the living and the dead, the stars, and the planets and all the company of creation, who forever sing of their devotion to your love and glory:

All sing.

## Santo, Santo, Santo!

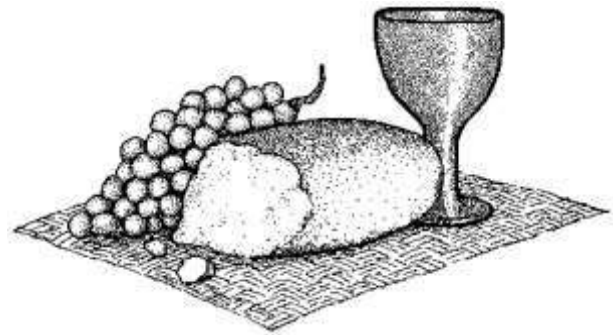
(Sing first in Spanish, then in English)

*Text and music: Anon., Argentina*

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zón te a - do - ra! Mi  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zón te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Dios.  
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, God.

**Carl Toland:** We remember that on the night before Jesus was betrayed by one whom he loved, and killed by ones who feared him, he sat at table with his friends, women and men and children, sharing the feast of the Passover, which is the celebration of the liberation of God's people. Remembering God's power, Jesus took bread, and after he had given thanks and blessed it, he broke it saying,



**“This is my work and my life, for you and with you. Take it all of you, and do this remembering me.”**

**Phyllis Ramsey:** After the meal Jesus took the Elijah Cup, the cup traditionally reserved for the Holy One to come. But instead of waiting, Jesus passed it to them as it is now being passed on to us, and he said,

**“This is the cup of the new covenant. It is the cup of justice and peace poured out for all. Drink of it all of you and do this remembering me.”**



**Carl Toland:** Each time that we break bread together we participate in the Body of the Risen Christ, for we are the Body of the Risen Christ. And each time we share this cup we participate in the New Community, for we are God's hope of the New Community. For this, we turn to you for blessing:

**Pour out your Spirit on us and these gifts of grain and grape, so in this sharing we recognize Christ in our midst. This offering of praise and thanksgiving is an offering of us to you. Hasten the day when the prophets' dreams come to pass: when justice rolls down like waters and nations no longer threaten each other, neither shall they learn war any more. This we pray by the authority of Jesus and in your holy grace. Amen.**

### **Communion Invitation**

Rev. Jeff Munnis

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. This is bread and beverage for the journey. In this church community, we share an inclusive communion, which means you need not be a member of this congregation or any community of faith to join us at the table. We believe Jesus welcomed everyone present. We do this in remembrance of him. We do this historically... globally... personally.... For we believe Christ is the host. Christ sets the table and Christ welcomes all. Likewise, no one is required by the host to come forward. If you wish to remain in your seat, you are welcome to relax and enjoy the music. If you wish to be served at your seat, please raise your hand as the line ends, so the servers will come to you. Now, let all who wish to come, come, for God's table is ready.

(After a moment, ushers will invite you to move forward for Communion.)

### **Communion Music**

"Jesus, What a Beautiful Name"

Malcolm Swan, piano

### **The Prayer of Jesus**

Rev. Jeff Munnis



**Our Father (Eternal Source/Mother/Creator/Parent) in heaven, hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom (Kin-dom/realm/dream), come.**

**Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses (sins/debts), as we forgive those who trespass against us (sin against us/our debtors).**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:**

**For yours is the kingdom (Kin-dom/realm/dream), and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

~Based on Matthew 6:9-13 NRSV

\* Sending Hymn

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I Love to Tell the Story

*Katherine Hankey, 1866; alt.*

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove.  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; more won - der - ful it seems  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry; it's pleas - ant to re - peat  
 4 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

Of Je - sus' ra - diant glo - ry, of Je - sus' end - less love.  
 than all the gold - en vi - sions of all our gold - en dreams,  
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, I tell it now to you  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when I sing in glo - ry, I know the new, new song

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.  
 be - cause I want to share it, be - cause I know it's true.  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.  
 will be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*

I love to tell the sto - ry; and when I am in glo - ry

I'll tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus' end - less love.

*Born in Clapham, England, Katherine Hankey belonged to the Clapham Sect of Evangelicals and established a Bible class for girls in London's West End. This hymn is drawn from her extended poem on the life of Jesus, which also contains "Tell me the old, old story."*

Tune: HANKEY 7.6.7.6.D. with refrain  
William G. Fischer, 1869

## Benediction

Rev. Jeff Munnis

## Mutual Blessing

Our worship has ended. Our service begins. What does God need from us?

**“Simply do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God.”**

Continue to serve with faith and love,  
depart from this time today committed to sharing the best of yourself,  
through extravagant generosity of time and resources,  
meeting the needs of others, both spoken and unspoken, seen and unseen, heard and unheard.

**We will go now seeking justice, sharing compassion, and promoting hope in the world.**

My dear friends in faith, will you go into your worlds to be people of God in Christ's name?

**We will. Amen!**

## Passing of the Peace

Let us safely offer one another signs of grace and peace and go in peace. Amen.

## Postlude

Malcolm Swan, piano

“Come Christians, Join to Sing”

## Bloom Happenings This Week

Monday June 3	Tuesday June 4	Wednesday June 5	Thursday June 6	Friday June 7	Saturday June 8	Sunday June 9
<p><b>10:30am-1:00pm</b> Lunch for our unhoused neighbors, served at United Methodist</p>	<p><b>10:30am-1:00pm</b> Lunch for our unhoused neighbors, served at United Methodist</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>6:00</b> Bloom Book Club on Zoom</p>	<p><b>10:45am – 1:00pm</b> Lunch for our unhoused neighbors served at St. Paul’s Episcopal</p>	<p><b>10:45am – 1:00pm</b> Lunch served at Our Lady of Solitude</p> <p><b>4:15pm</b> BibleBites in the office and on Zoom</p> <p><b>5:45pm</b> Meditation in the office and on Zoom</p>	<p><b>10:45am – 1:00pm</b> Lunch served at Our Lady of Guadalupe</p> <p><b>4:00pm</b> Women of Bloom Zoom Happy Hour</p>		<p><b>10:00 am</b> Sunday Service at Demuth and on Facebook Live</p>

## Congregational Life Announcements

--A warm welcome and thank you to **Malcolm Swan**, piano, for sharing his musical talents with us today.

--Thank you to **Carl Toland, Gerald Chester, and Phyllis Ramsey**, serving as readers for today’s service.

--Thank you to **Jackson Enzler** for handling the A/V technical aspects for today’s service.

--Thank you also to our ushers, **Gary Lange** and **Robert Van Dyke** for welcoming us this morning.

--**Flowers on the Worship Center**, symbolic of the living Christ, are offered to the glory of God by **Jim Nixon** and **Stephen Hodge** in memory of **Bill Davisson**.

--Those wishing to donate flowers may contact **Ray Allen** at 405 833-1817 for assistance.

### Last Week’s Participation

--Souls Present at Demuth: 43 --Children: 0 --First Timers: 0

--- Facebook Live Views: technical issues -Facebook Total Views: technical issues

--YouTube Views: technical issues

### Sunday Offerings

Tithes, Offerings, and Participation:

Offering, online, by mail and text: \$1,607 Electronic Giving: \$451

Permanence Fund: \$100 Cumulative: \$326,148

Eastertide Offerings: \$0 Cumulative: \$3,492

One Great Hour of Sharing: \$150 Cumulative: \$712

--Please sign up for **Ralph's Community Rewards**. Choose Bloom in the Desert Ministries (Ralphs #PG245.) as your designated charity to benefit from a small percentage of your purchase totals. Every little bit helps!

**Electronic giving is easy! Scan this QR code for Bloom's mobile-friendly online giving page or visit [www.bloominthedesert.org/donateparticipate](http://www.bloominthedesert.org/donateparticipate).**



--**The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation** by Priests for Equality and the **Revised Common Lectionary** are the usual references for Sunday morning scripture readings.

--**Liturgy and prayers** are original, sourced, and often adapted.

**Nimrod**, by Sir Edward Elgar

**Remembrance**, by Robert Schumann

**Jesus, What a Beautiful Name**, by Tanya Riches, arr. by Larry Shackley

**Come Christians, Join to Sing**, arr. by Benjamin Carr

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## Ministries of Leadership and Support

--**Open Leadership Meetings** -- At the January Open Leadership meeting, it was approved to change the time of the meetings from 6:30 pm to 2:00 pm going forward. The next hybrid meeting will be June 12 at 2:00 pm PDT in the church office and on Zoom. All are welcome with a voice. Bloom members have a vote. Contact **Lynda Toland** to receive the Zoom Invitation.

--**Congregation meetings** are in February, May, and October, and special meetings as called. The next congregation meeting is October 13 after church in the Hospitality Room and on Zoom.

### Church Growth and New Member Involvement Ministry

--**If you are interested in making a covenant as a member or associate member** with Bloom in the Desert Ministries UCC, please contact **John DiNapoli**, [dinojnps@gmail.com](mailto:dinojnps@gmail.com) or **Bill Wallace** at [adminassistant@bloominthedesert.org](mailto:adminassistant@bloominthedesert.org).

--**For more information on the United Church of Christ**, visit [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org).

--**Persons seeking Christian Baptism** please call **760-327-3802** for pastoral response.

### Nurture and Community Life Ministry

--We Care: If you know of someone in the hospital, or who might enjoy a pastoral call, including yourself, please call the **church office** at **760 327-3802** and leave a message.

### Education Ministry

--**Bloom Book Club**-. Meets Tuesdays at 6:00 pm with "**Learning to Disagree**" by John Izazu. For information or to receive the Zoom link, contact Gary Lange at 760 773-1014 or [GaryLange13@gmail.com](mailto:GaryLange13@gmail.com).

### Social Action and Missions Ministry

--**Lunch served weekdays**: Come serve lunch at the United Methodist Church of Palm Springs on Mondays and Tuesdays, located at 1555 E. Alejo Rd, Palm Springs 10:30 am-1:00 pm PDT. On Wednesdays, lunch is served at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 125 W El Alameda, Palm Springs 10:45 am-1 pm. On Thursdays, lunch is served at Our Lady of Solitude, 474 N Belardo, Palm Springs and on Fridays at Our Lady of Guadalupe, 204 S. El Segundo, in Palm Springs. Volunteers needed each day. Contact **Jim Nixon** at [nixonsf@aol.com](mailto:nixonsf@aol.com).

**Our focused ministries include:**

- School children's benevolence – backpacks, church camp, and Christmas gift cards.
- Relieving food insecurity – Lunch Weekdays, food bank support.
- National church's wider mission – “5 for 5” UCC mission offerings, disaster relief.
- Spiritual and personal development – worship, music, bible study, book clubs, lending library.
- Loving presence – birthday/anniversary cards, eyeglasses recycling, Us Plus local outreach.
- For peace action and social justice email alerts, sign up with **Jim Nixon** at [nixonsf@aol.com](mailto:nixonsf@aol.com).

**Large-print bulletins** are available for your convenience.

**You are welcome to take this bulletin with you for reflection,**  
or leave it with the ushers for recycling.

**God wants you to think for yourself and live for others.**

Bathrooms are located through the double glass doors and to the left.

## BibleBites: *The Letter of James*

Thursday Afternoons, May 16 - June 6

4:15-5:15pm, Pacific



The letter of James is, possibly, the earliest Christian scripture that we have discovered, predating Paul's epistles and offering insight into the early church view of how to live a "Christian" life. We will address the teachings in four, weekly, one-hour sessions, reading and discussing the text together, in-person and online.

Led by Pastor Jeff Munnis and Rev. Shelley Somerville

*in-person:* Bloom in the Desert Offices

400 S El Cielo Rd, Palm Springs, CA 92262 <https://maps.app.goo.gl/f1S4i1WzWTow91DM7>

*on zoom:* <https://tinyurl.com/BibleBites>

Any questions, please call Pastor Jeff 760-327-3802 or Shelley 760-250-9661

## Meditation Circle

Thursday Evenings, beginning May 16

5:45-6:45pm, Pacific

In partnership with River of Hope, Palm Springs, we are offering one-hour meditation sessions weekly, in-person and online. We'll explore a range of styles- with guest facilitators - so that you can discover what works for you.



All are welcome!

No experience required.

Led by Rev. Shelley Somerville.

*in-person:* Bloom in the Desert Offices

400 S El Cielo Rd, Palm Springs, CA 92262 <https://maps.app.goo.gl/f1S4i1WzWTow91DM7>

*on zoom:* <https://tinyurl.com/InnerExplore>

Any questions, please call Shelley 760-250-9661



**Bloom**  
in the  
Desert  
Ministries



# Welcome

Bloom in the Desert Ministries (Bloom) is a United Church of Christ (UCC) that had Methodist

beginnings. This liberal Protestant church was born in 2002, as an independent ministry in collaboration with Methodist organizations seeking to start and promote inclusive Christian ministries. Sunday worship began on March 9, 2003. The fledgling congregation decided in 2004 to pursue standing in the UCC, which was established by vote of the Eastern Association of the Southern California Nevada Conference of the UCC on October 29, 2005, welcoming Bloom as a dual covenant, peace, and justice congregation. Bloom is a member of the UCC Open and Affirming Coalition and the Reconciling Ministries Network (Methodist). Bloom is governed congregationally according to our unique bylaws. All Bloom members and friends are ministers in our faith. Our Open Leadership Team and congregation meetings provide leadership and decision making to empower our vision, mission, and core values.

## **Our Vision**

Bloom chooses to build a loving, safe, inclusive faith community that is intellectually challenging, emotionally supportive and filled with the strength, integrity, and social responsibility that spirituality inspires.

## **Our Mission**

Guided by teachings of Jesus Christ, Bloom is a community of believers who strive to uplift and heal one another. We gather to worship God, witness our faith in the living of our lives and uphold one another in Christian living. United in our diversity we are inclusive and embracing. We agitate for God's peace and justice in our community and around the world.

## **Our Core Values**

We are a people of God's extravagant welcome.

We are a people of covenant.

We work toward a just and loving world through service and generosity.

We listen for the still-speaking God.

We encourage a life of inquisitive and thoughtful searching.

We are grounded by Christian faithfulness.

We celebrate the joy in life.

## **Sunday Worship 10 am**

**Demuth Community Center — 3601 E. Mesquite Avenue, Palm Springs, CA 92264**

**Rev. "Jeff" Munnis, Interim Minister — 760-483-1454 — [jeff@bloominthedesert.org](mailto:jeff@bloominthedesert.org)**

**Lynda Toland, Moderator — 503-789-8743 — [moderator@bloominthedesert.org](mailto:moderator@bloominthedesert.org)**

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