



**Bloom**  
in the  
**Desert**  
Ministries



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

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
Celebrating July 4<sup>th</sup>  
June is LGBTQIA+ Month  
June 30, 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.

**6:20pm Pre-Service Music**

Malcolm Swan, piano

**6:30pm 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

**\* Call to Worship**

Bill Phelps-Ramos

It's awesome when all of the people live together in unity:  
**when waters are rough, we hold each other tightly. When the sea begins to swallow us up, we hold each other tightly and call on God.**

But we also need God and each other when the storm abates:  
**when we can splash and play at the ocean's edge, and venture into deeper waters with trusted friends, with whom we create and celebrate.**  
**Aloha, Shalom, Salaam, Vrede, Myr, Ping-an, Paz, Peace. Amen.**

**\* Opening Hymn**

448                      Go Down, Moses

1. When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo - ple  
2. "Thus saith the Lord," bold Mo - ses said, let my peo - ple  
3. No more shall they in bond - age toil, let my peo - ple  
4. We need not al - ways weep and mourn, let my peo - ple  
5. Come, Mo - ses, you will not get lost, let my peo - ple

go; op - pressed so hard they could not stand,  
go; "if not, I'll smite your first - born dead,"  
go; let them come out with E - gypt's spoil,  
go; and wear those slav - ery chains for - lorn,  
go; stretch out your rod and come a - cross,

let my peo-ple go. Go down, (go down)

Mo-ses, (Mo-ses) way down in E-gypt's land;

tell old Pha-raoh to let my peo-ple go!

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual (Ex. 3:7-12)  
 MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1986  
 Adapt. and arr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

TUBMAN  
 85.85 with Refrain

## In Faith We Open Our Hearts to Ministry

### Prayer for Good and Growth

On this 248th Anniversary of the United States' Declaration of Independence from Great Britain,

We pray this "Sabbath Prayer" responsively as citizens of faith:

We cannot merely pray to you, O God, to end war;

**For we know that You have made the world in a way that people must find their own path to peace within themselves and with their neighbors.**

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to end starvation;

**For You have already given us the resources with which to feed the entire world, if we would only use them wisely.**

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to root out prejudice;

**For You have already given us eyes with which to see the good in all people, if we would only use them rightly.**

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to end despair;

**For You have already given us the power to clear away slums and to give hope, if we would only use our power justly.**

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to end disease;  
**For You have already given us great minds with which to search out cures  
and healing, if we would only use them constructively.**

Therefore we pray to You instead, O God, for strength, determination and will power,  
**To do instead of only pray,  
To become instead of merely to wish.**

Rabbi Jack Riemer (adapted)

**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.)

Benevolent creator, wonderful counselor, sovereign of peace, receive now our silent prayers.  
~ Silence ~

To all our silent prayers let the people say amen.

**Amen.**

### The Words of Encouragement

“Prayer has the power to generate insight; it often endows us with an understanding not attainable by speculation. Some of our deepest insights and attitudes are born in moments of prayer.”

(Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel)

**Amen!**

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

### Sung Response

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the song 'Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!'. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. 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 the phrase with 'lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.' The lyrics are printed below the notes.

# The Word Informs Our Living with Grace and Power

## Hebrew Scripture Reading

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27

Loretta Martin

After Saul's death, David returned from his victory over the Amalekites and spent two days at Ziklag. David took up his lament for Saul and Jonathan and ordered that "*The Song of the Bow*" be taught to the Judeans. It is written in the *Book of Jashar*:

Saul, your glory, Israel, lies slain,  
How the mighty have fallen!

Do not announce it in Gath,  
do not proclaim it in the streets of Ashkelon,  
lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice,  
lest the daughters of the heathen exalt.

Heights of Gilboa:  
may neither dew nor rain refresh you,  
nor deep springs make your fields lush.  
For there the tarnished shields of warriors lie.  
Saul's shield glimmers no more.

From the blood of the dead,  
from the flesh of the fallen,  
Jonathan's bow did not fail,  
nor did Saul's sword return unstained.

Saul and Jonathan—  
loved and cherished in life,  
never apart in life or in death!  
Both swift as eagles  
and as strong as lions!

Daughters of Israel, weep for Saul,  
who clothed you in scarlet  
and adorned you in gold!

How the mighty have fallen!  
In the heat of battle Jonathan lies slain on your heights!

I grieve for you, my brother, my Jonathan;  
you were my delight, my sweet!  
Your love was marvelous to me,  
more wonderful than the love of women!

How the mighty have fallen!  
The war machines have perished!

(Inclusive Bible Version)

## \* Gospel Reading

Mark 5:21-43

Alan Weaver

When Jesus had crossed again to the other shore in the boat, a large crowd gathered, and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the Synagogue officials—Jairus by name— came up and, seeing Jesus, fell down and pleaded earnestly, saying, “My little daughter is desperately sick. Come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.” Jesus went with him, and a large crowd followed, pressing from all sides.

Now there was a woman who had suffered from hemorrhages for twelve years; after long and painful treatment from various doctors, she had spent all she had without getting better—in fact, she was getting worse. She had heard about Jesus, and she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak. “If I can touch even the hem,” she told herself, “I will be well again.” Immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction.

Immediately aware that the healing power had gone out from him, Jesus turned to the crowd and said, “Who touched me?”

The disciples said, “You see how the crowd is pressing you and yet you say, “Who touched me?”

But Jesus continued to look around to see who had done it. Then the woman came forward, frightened and trembling because she knew what had happened to her, and she fell at Jesus’ feet and told him the truth.

“My daughter,” Jesus said, “your faith has saved you; go in peace and be free of your affliction.”

While Jesus was speaking, some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, “Your daughter is dead. Why put the Teacher to any further trouble?”

But Jesus overheard the remark and said to the official: “Don’t be afraid. Just believe.” Jesus allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and James’ brother John.

They came to the official’s house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. Jesus went in and said to them, “Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.” At this, they began to ridicule him, and he told everyone to leave.

Jesus took the child’s mother and father and his own companions and entered the room where the child lay. Taking her hand, he said to her, “*Talitha, koum!*” which means, “Little girl, get up!” Immediately the girl, who was twelve years old, got up and began to walk about.

At this they were overcome with astonishment. Jesus gave the family strict orders not to let anyone know about it and told them to give the little girl something to eat. (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

# Hymn of Response

282

## Every Time I Feel the Spirit

2 Sam. 22:9; Ps. 18:8

African-American spiritual

*Refrain*

Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will

pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing

*Last time, end*

in my heart I will pray. 1 Up - on the moun - tain my God  
2 Oh, Jor - dan riv - er, chil - ly and

spoke, out of God's mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a -  
cold, it chills the bod - y, not the soul. There's on - ly

*to Refrain*

round me; looked so fine; I asked my God if all were mine.  
one train on this track; it runs to heav - en, then right back.

Among the thousands of spirituals that exist today are songs of gladness and songs of sorrow. This well-known spiritual is a song of joy, captured not only in the words, but in the lively rhythms.

Tune: African-American spiritual  
Arr. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

## 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

Malcolm Swan, piano

### Presentation of Offerings and Prayer of Dedication

Loretta Martin

Great God, you called a people and in Christ you named us to serve you. We present ourselves in response to your mercy. Magnify your name through our thoughts and actions, so that we may reflect your goodness in all that we do. Let the seal of our baptism be your stamp of approval, so that engrafted into Christ's body we can respond to his will. Amen.

~When We Gather: A Book of Prayers for Worship, James G. Kirk

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

**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

519

Not My Brother, nor My Sister  
(Standing in the Need of Prayer)

*African-American spiritual; alt.*

*Leader*

1 Not my broth-er, nor my sis-ter, but it's me, O God,  
 2 Not the preach-er, nor the dea-con, but it's me, O God,  
 3 Not my fa-ther, nor my moth-er, but it's me, O God,  
 4 Not the strang-er, nor my neigh-bor, but it's me, O God,

*All* *Leader*

stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not my broth-er, nor my sis-ter, but it's  
 stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not the preach-er, nor the dea-con, but it's  
 stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not my fa-ther, nor my moth-er, but it's  
 stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not the strang-er, nor my neigh-bor, but it's

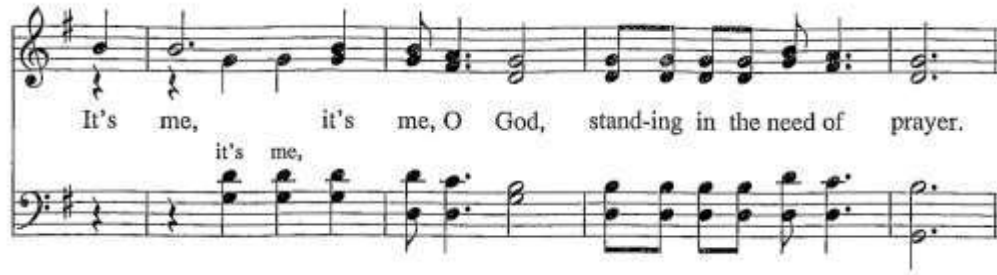
*All* *Refrain*

me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer.  
 me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer. It's  
 me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer.  
 me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer.

me, it's me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer;  
 it's me,

*James Weldon Johnson included this African-American spiritual in his historic collection of 1925, The Book of American Negro Spirituals. It was popularized by Mahalia Jackson, who specialized in such spirituals when she began her public singing career.*

Tune: NEED OF PRAYER 13.7.13.7, with refrain  
*African-American spiritual*



**Mutual Blessing**

Rev. Jeff Munnis

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

<b>Bloom Happenings This Week</b>						
Monday July 1	Tuesday July 2	Wednesday July 3	Thursday July 4	Friday July 5	Saturday July 6	Sunday July 7
<b>10:30am-1:00pm</b> Lunch for our unhoused neighbors, served at United Methodist	<b>10:30am-1:00pm</b> Lunch for our unhoused neighbors, served at United Methodist	<b>10:45am – 1:00pm</b> Lunch for our unhoused neighbors served at St. Paul’s Episcopal	<b>10:45am – 1:00pm</b> Lunch served at Our Lady of Solitude  <b>Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!</b>	<b>10:45am – 1:00pm</b> Lunch served at Our Lady of Guadalupe  <b>4:00pm</b> Women of Bloom Zoom Happy Hour		<b>10:00am</b> Sunday Service at Demuth and on Facebook

# Congregational Life Announcements

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

--Thank you to **Bill Phelps-Ramos, Loretta Martin** and **Alan Weaver**, 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, **Ray Allen** and **Pamela Robinson** for welcoming us this morning.

--Thank you to **Logan** for setting up for worship and ice cream social.

--Flowers on the Worship Center, symbolic of the living Christ, are offered to the glory of God by **Mile Termini** in memory of Jack McClelland.

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

## Last Week's Participation

--Souls Present at Demuth: 55 --Children: 0 --First Timers: 1

--- Facebook Live Views: 8 -Facebook Total Views: 108 --YouTube Views: 0

## Sunday Offerings

Tithes, Offerings, and Participation:

Offering, online, by mail and text: \$1,311 Electronic Giving: \$443

Permanence Fund: \$250 Cumulative: \$327,635

Strengthen the Church: \$274 Cumulative: \$604

--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.

--**All music** contained in this worship service is Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700000. All rights reserved.

## 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 July 10 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**, [dinoins@gmail.com](mailto:dinoins@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

**--Meditation Circle-** Is on hiatus for the summer.

### 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 Mondays through Fridays, 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.



**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 — 415-747-9114 — [jeff@bloominthedesert.org](mailto:jeff@bloominthedesert.org)**

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

**Bill Wallace, Administrative Assistant — [adminassitant@bloominthedesert.org](mailto:adminassitant@bloominthedesert.org)**

**Church Office is located at 400 South El Cielo, Suite G, Palm Springs, CA 92262**

**760-327-3802 — [www.bloominthedesert.org](http://www.bloominthedesert.org) — [info@bloominthedesert.org](mailto:info@bloominthedesert.org)**