

LGBTQIA+ Pride Sunday November 3, 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

Lynda Toland, Worship Leader

Music for Centering

Malcolm Swan, piano

“Crazy World” from Victor/Victoria by Henry Mancini

*** Call to Worship**

Wayne Sinclair

We are an Open and Affirming church. Together, let us worship God, rejoicing in the Good News which we celebrate this day!

We are part of the Church Universal, faithful people of every color, gender, class, sexual orientation, age, and ability, gathered to love and serve God.

There is a place in God’s heart, a place at Christ’s table, a place here for all people.

Christ who gathers us, bids us follow in the ways of love and justice.

May our hearts be open to Christ’s leading in our worship and our living, this day and always. Aloha, Shalom, Salaam, Vrede, Myr, Ping-an, Paz, Peace, co-creating a just world for all. Amen.

* Opening Hymn

400

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Eph. 2:20-22; 1 Pet. 2:4-7

Latin, 6th-8th century

Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt.

St. 3 adapt. Thomas H. Troeger, 1992

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and cor - ner - stone,
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O God of Hosts, to - day!
 3 Here re - new your ser - vants' vis - ion, that by faith they may at - tain

chos - en of our God and pre - cious, bind - ing all the Church in one;
 With your con - stant, lov - ing kind - ness hear your peo - ple as they pray.
 peace and hope, re - newed com - pas - sion, strength to com - fort those in pain,

Ho - ly Zi - on's help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 Give your full - est ben - e - dic - tion: grace to fol - low Christ the Way.
 Tears and grief trans - formed to glad - ness in your ev - er - last - ing reign.

The hymn has its origins in an early Latin poem, Urbs beata Jerusalem, based on passages from Ephesians, 1 Peter, and Revelation. "Holy Zion" refers to the church transcendent, built of "living stones"—the saints of God.

Tune: REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7.

Henry T. Smart, 1867

Alternate tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY

In Faith We Open Our Hearts to Ministry

Prayer for Good and Growth

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

Healing God; we come here to be with you and others.

We are seeking physical and spiritual wholeness; seeking beloved community; seeking natural simplicity; and seeking to give and receive grace.

God, we yearn for the healing you promise.

God of Justice; we come here to be with you and others. We are seeking to find and have generous hearts, to offer and experience serenity, to have and find the love found in forgiving hearts.

God, we yearn for the peace you promise.

Knowing that in Christ all things are made new, we come ready to be recreated as we are renewed in our faith and commitment.

God, we give ourselves to renewal empowered by you.

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 and converse with God. A few deep breaths may help you to settle in. Relax, and enjoy the embrace of a spiritual dimension.)

Loving creator of this world, wonderful counselor, sovereign of peace for all, continue with us in meditation and receive our silent prayers

~ Silence ~

To all our silent prayers let the people say amen.

Amen.

The Words of Encouragement

Friends and Neighbors: When we let go of the past and parts of the present that hold us back, we improve our opportunities to engage God's promised new beginnings.

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 musical score is written on three staves 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 piece ends with a double bar line.

The Word Informs Our Living with Grace and Power

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Psalm 47

Carl Toland

People everywhere—clap your hands!

Shout to God with a joyful voice!

For YHWH Most High is awe-inspiring,
the Ruler over the whole earth.

God subdues peoples for us,
and puts the nations under our feet.

God chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Leah, Rachel and Jacob,
the object of God's love.

God ascended the throne with a shout,
with trumpet blasts!

Sing praise to God, sing praise!
Sing praise to our Ruler, sing praise!

For God rules over all the earth—
sing praise and understand!

God rules over the nations;
God sits on the throne of holiness.

World leaders are gathered,
and so are the people of Sarah and Abraham's God,
for YHWH reigns over all the earth,
and is exalted above all.

~Inclusive Bible Version

Here ends the Hebrew scripture reading.

*** Gospel Reading**

Luke 10:25-37

Loretta Martin

An expert on the Law stood up to put Jesus to the test and said, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit everlasting life?”

Jesus answered, “What is written in the law? How do you read it?”

The expert on the Law replied:

You must love the Most High God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”

Jesus said, “You have answered correctly. Do this and you’ll live”

But the expert on the law, seeking self-justification, pressed Jesus further: “And just who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied, “There was a traveler going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, who fell prey to robbers. The traveler was beaten, stripped naked, and left half-dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road; the priest saw the traveler lying beside the road, but passed on the other side. Likewise, there was a Levite who came the same way; this one, too, saw the afflicted traveler and passed by on the other side.

“But a Samaritan, who was taking the same road, also came upon the traveler and, filled with compassion, approached the traveler and dressed the wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then the Samaritan put the wounded person on a donkey, went straight to an inn and there took care of the injured one. The next day the Samaritan took out two silver pieces and gave them to the innkeeper with the request, ‘Look after this person, and if there is any further expense, I’ll repay you on the way back.’

“Which of these three, in your opinion, was the neighbor to the traveler who fell in with the robbers?”

The answer came, “The one who showed compassion.”

Jesus replied, “Then go and do the same.”

~Inclusive Bible Version

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

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Commentary

Brian Schimpf

* Hymn of Response

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

393

John Fawcett, 1782; alt.

Gal. 3:28; 6:2; Col. 3:13-15

1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
2 Be - fore our God we come and pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's bur - dens bear,
4 When we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain,

The shar - ing of a com-mon life is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com-forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows a sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.*
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

An English Baptist minister, John Fawcett published a number of poetic works. His entire ministry was spent at a church near Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire, where he wrote most of his hymns to follow his sermons.

Tune: DENNIS S.M.
Melody by Johann G. Nägeli (c. 1768-1836)
Adapt. Lowell Mason, 1845

Offering our Prayer Concerns, and Joys and Thanksgivings

Lynda Toland, Worship Leader

Concerns:

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-
 afraid, 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 and click on the Donate tab. **Thank you.**



Offertory-Meditation Music

“Novelette”

Malcolm Swan, piano

Presentation of Offerings and Prayer of Dedication

Lorretta Martin

Redeeming God, cleansed by your mercy, sustained by your grace, and led by your righteousness, we come before you bearing our gifts. Purify them to serve your purpose, and nurture us to act according to your will, so that all we have and do may bring justice on earth. **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, from whom all bles-sings flow, praise God, all crea-tures here be-
 low. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Praise God, the source of all our
 gifts! Praise Je-sus Christ, whose power up-lifts! Praise the Spir-it, Ho-ly
 Spir-it! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

The Prayer of Jesus

Brian Schimpf

Giver of all life, whose presence is holy,
may you come first in our hearts.

May all Creation become your community of grace,
and your desire be fulfilled throughout the earth,
as it is in your own heart.

Sustain us with the breath of life moment by moment.

Forgive us, and give us the gift of forgiveness.

Lead us past our temptations,

and save us from the power of the evil that would ensnare us.

For all that is, and all power, and all glory, come from you,
now and forever. Amen.

paraphrase by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

* Sending Hymn

395

In Christ There Is No East or West

1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14-22

John Oxenham, 1908; alt.
St. 3, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1987

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery-where their high com - mu - nion find;
3 In Christ is nei - ther Jew nor Greek, and nei - ther slave nor free;
4 In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;

But one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
God's ser - vice is the gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
For men and wom - en live in God, and all are kin to me.
One joy - ous, true com - mu - ni - ty through-out the whole wide earth.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, many hymns were written to promote the oneness of humanity. English Congregationalist John Oxenham's text is a lasting example. His great concern for those in military service led to the publication of a World War I hymnbook that exceeded eight million in circulation.

Tune: ST. PETER C.M.
Alexander R. Reinagle, 1836
Alternate setting: McKEE

Benediction

Brian Schimpf

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

“I Am What I Am” by Jerry Herman

Malcolm Swan, piano

Bloom Happenings This Week						
Monday Nov. 4	Tuesday Nov. 5	Wednesday Nov. 6	Thursday Nov. 7	Friday Nov. 8	Saturday Nov. 9	Sunday Nov. 10
10:30am-1:00pm Lunch for our unhoused neighbors, served at United Methodist	10:30am-1:00pm Lunch for our unhoused neighbors, served at United Methodist Election Watch Party at Mike Termini’s	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch for our unhoused neighbors served at St. Paul’s Episcopal 4:00pm BibleBites in the office and on Zoom	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch served at Our Lady of Solitude	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch served at Our Lady of Guadalupe 4:00pm Women of Bloom on Zoom		10:am Sunday Service at Demuth and on Facebook Live Veterans Sunday Communion Sunday

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

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

Congregational Life Announcements

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

--Thank you, **Wayne Sinclair, Carl Toland** and **Lorretta Martin**, for serving as readers for today's service. Lynda Toland will be serving as Worship Leader.

--A special thank you to **Brian Schimpf** for providing our commentary this morning.

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

--Thank you also to our ushers, **Wayne Sinclair** and **Larry Houts** for welcoming us this morning.

--Thank you to **Logan** for setting up our worship space and hospitality hour.

--Flowers on the Worship Center, symbolic of the living Christ, are offered to the glory of God by **Lynda Toland** in celebration of Carl's birthday.

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

Last Week's Participation

--Souls Present at Demuth: 64 --Children: 0 --First Timers: 3

--- Facebook Live Views: 14 --Facebook Total Views: 137 --YouTube Views: 13

Sunday Offerings

Tithes, Offerings, and Participation:

Offering, online, by mail and text: \$2,177 Electronic Giving: \$427

Permanence Fund: \$125 Cumulative: \$340,701

Disaster appeal: \$0 Cumulative: \$398

--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.



--**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.

Crazy World from Victor/Victoria by Henry Mancini

Novelette by Poulenc (he was an openly gay composer)

I Am What I Am by Jerry Herman

Productions, Inc., this arrangement ©2000 by Jim Henson Productions, Inc.

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Ministries of Leadership and Support

--**Open Council Meetings** -- The next hybrid meeting will be November 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 February 16 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 or **Bill Wallace** at adminassistant@bloominthedesert.org.

--For more information on the United Church of Christ, visit 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

Book Discussion Group: The group is now reading and discussing *Abundant Lives, A Progressive Christian Ethic for Flourishing*, 2024 by Amanda Udis-Kessler.

Resumes November 12 at 6:00 pm, please read through Chapter 6 and the Chapter 4 review.

Feel free to invite others to the Book Club.



Rev. Jeff Munnis invites Bloomers and friends to a new BibleBites study beginning **Wednesday October 23rd**. This group will meet at 4:00 pm in person at the Bloom Office, 400 S El Cielo, Suite G, Palm Springs. Rev. Jeff asks you to bring one or more Bible passages that give you the most problems. It will also be available on Zoom.

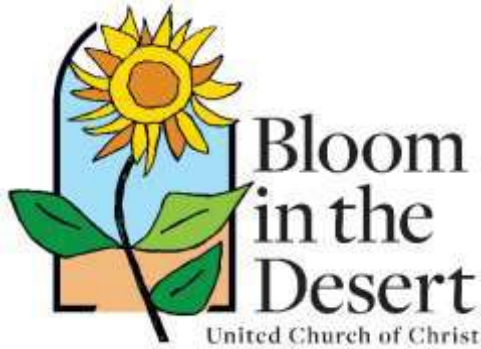
Social Action and Missions Ministry

--**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.

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.

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



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. 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
Lynda Toland, Moderator — 503-789-8743 — moderator@bloominthedesert.org
Bill Wallace, Administrative Assistant — adminassitant@bloominthedesert.org
Church Office is located at 400 South El Cielo, Suite G, Palm Springs, CA 92262
760-327-3802 — www.bloominthedesert.org — info@bloominthedesert.org