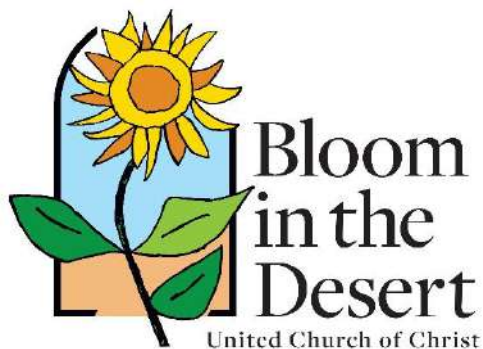




Asian American Pacific Islander Month

Mothers Day

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025

For Facebook check-ins, etc., the Demuth Community Center
Wi-Fi is: DCC_guest_WIFI, password is: LikeNoPlaceElse!!

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

9:50am Pre-Service Music

Rev. Doug Holder, piano

“To God Be the Glory” by Doane

10:00am Gathering Song



Welcome and News of the Congregation

Ray Allen, Worship Leader

Music for Centering

Nylea Aguilar, soloist, Rev. Doug Holder, piano

“Amor Eterno” by Juan Gabriel

Nylea Aguilar is a 20-year-old Mexican singer with a deep passion for Music. Singing isn't just something she does, it's a part of who she is. Nylea is currently a music major at College of the Desert, and being able to study music has been a big step toward realizing her childhood dream, becoming a musician. She has always loved sharing her voice, expressing emotions through beautiful lyrics and connecting with the people who hear her. The presence of music is part of everything she does.

Call to Worship

Lynda Toland

We are here to be the heavenly welcome for all God's people gathered in community and love.

Yes, we are welcome. And we are called by God to create, sustain and celebrate a community that nurtures in the ways of Christ.

Here as children and parents, friends and neighbors; we engage God and each other in a historic faith, sustained with learning, love, and grace.

In this sacred space, inspired by active devotion, we share living faith and spiritual trust. Aloha, Shalom, Salaam, Vrede, Ping-an, Paz, Peace, Amen.

* Opening Hymn

384 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
4. Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down; fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing;
trou - bled breast! Let us all in thee in - her - it;
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er,
let us be. Let us see thy great sal - va - tion



all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown! Je - sus, thou art
let us find that sec - ond rest. Take a - way our
nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be
per - fect - ly re - stored in thee; changed from glo - ry

all com - pas-sion, pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis - it
 bent to sin-ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of
 al - ways bless-ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray and
 in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place, till we

us with thy sal - va-tion; en - ter ev - ery trem-bling heart.
 faith, as its be - gin-ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 praise thee with-out ceas-ing, glo - ry in thy per-fect love.
 cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1747
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870

BEECHER
 87.87 D

Alt. tune: HYFRYDOL

In Faith We Open Our Hearts to Ministry

Prayer for Mother's Day

Loving God, you entrust women and men with capacities to participate with you in creating children. Today we pray for mothers who gave us their gift of life; for mothers who unconditionally love and nurture their children; for expectant mothers, wondering and waiting; for those who want to be mothers or have another child – hoping and trying; for mothers whose children grew into adulthood; for mothers whose joy is abundant; for mothers trying to balance work and home; for mothers whose children are challenged and/or challenging; for single mothers; for grieving mothers; for struggling mothers; for mothers who care for the children of others; for brothers, sisters, relatives, and others who act as mothers. Grant your blessing on all these mothers and others unmentioned. Help their love be deep and tender; their care be compassionate and unfailing. We bless them with our love and appreciation in the name of Jesus, a son, and our savior, brother, shepherd, and friend. Amen.

(<http://bereavedandblessed.com>, 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. A few deep breaths may help make the connection. Relax, and embrace a spiritual dimension.)

Eternal Source of creation, receive now our silent prayers.

~ Silence ~

To all our silent prayers let the people say amen.

Amen.

Words of Encouragement

In John's Gospel, Jesus says: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.

I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

~John 14:27 KJV

Thanks be to God. Let us now receive the Word.

Sung Response

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!



The Word Informs Our Living with Grace and Power

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Psalm 23

Bill Wallace

YHWH, you are my shepherd—
I want nothing more.

You let me lie down in green meadows;
you lead me beside restful waters:

you refresh my soul.
You guide me to lush pastures
for the sake of your Name.

Even if I'm surrounded by shadows of Death,
I fear no danger, for you are with me.

Your rod and your staff—
they give me courage.

You spread a table for me
in the presence of my enemies,
and you anoint my head with oil—
my cup overflows!

Only goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in your house, YHWH,
for days without end.

~The Inclusive Bible Translation

Here ends the Hebrew Scripture reading.

Anthem

Nylea Aguilar, soloist, Rev. Doug Holder, piano
“Sabor a Mí”

*** Gospel Reading**

John 10:22-30

Larry Metcalf

The time came for Hanukkah, the Feast of the Dedication, in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the Temple area, in Solomon’s Porch, when the Temple authorities surrounded him and said, “How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you really are the Messiah, tell us plainly.”

Jesus replied,
“I did tell you,
but you don’t believe.
The work I do in my Abba’s name
gives witness in my favor,
but you don’t believe because
you’re not my sheep.
My sheep hear my voice.
I know them, and they follow me.
I give them eternal life,
and they will never be lost.
No one will ever
snatch them from my hand.

Abba God, who gave them to me, is greater than anyone,
and no one can steal them from Abba God.



For Abba and I are one.”

~Inclusive Language Version

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

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn of Response

334

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I

know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are

sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.

Refrain

Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, sweet heav-en-ly Dove, stay right here



WORDS: Doris Akers, 1962
MUSIC: Doris Akers, 1962

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT
Irr. with Refrain

© 1962 Manna Music, Inc.

Offering our Prayer Concerns, and Joys and Thanksgivings

Ray Allen, 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

$\text{♩} = 69$

The musical notation is written on two staves in 3/4 time. The melody is in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: "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 voice - es, our God is near, lift up your voice - es our God is near." The first staff ends with a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff ends with a double bar line.

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" 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

Rev. Doug Holder, piano

"Welcome, Happy Morning" arr. by Havergal

Presentation of Offerings, and Prayer of Dedication

Lynda Toland

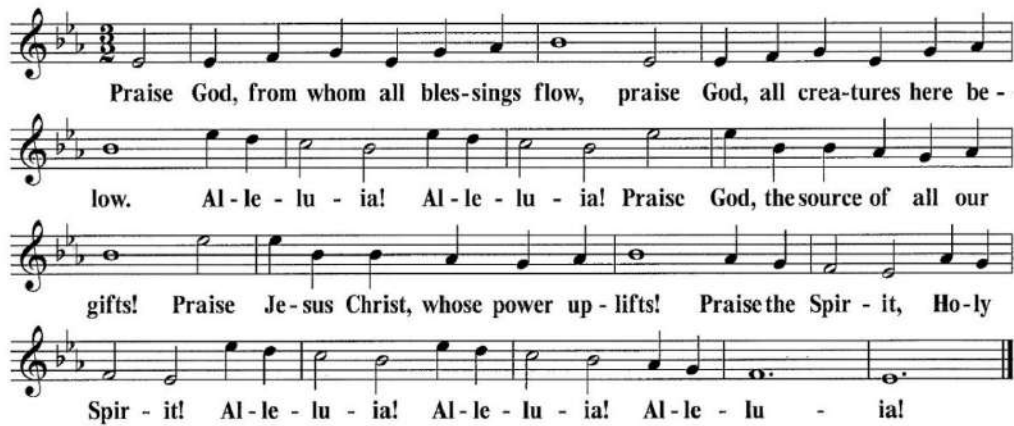
Life-giving God, we join others around the planet working for a peaceful, just and sustainable world. We offer these gifts in gratitude for the earth and the web of life you have entrusted to us. Use these gifts to help sustain your world and all who inhabit it.

(from webofcreation.org, adapted)

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

*** Doxology**

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



The Prayer of Jesus

Rev. Chad Tanaka-Pack

Our Father, 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.

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

For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

~Matthew 6:9-13, RSV, adapted

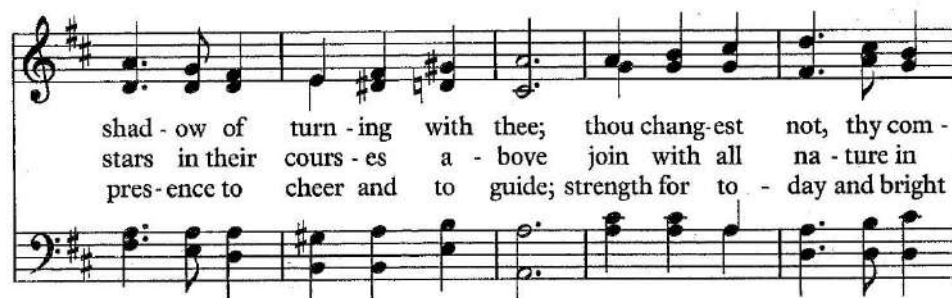
* Sending Hymn

140

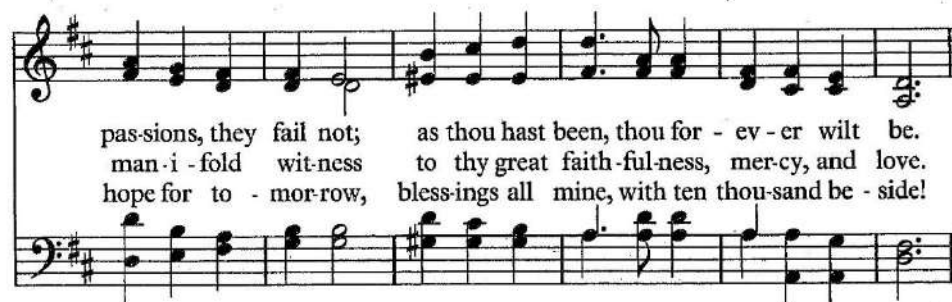
Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
 2. Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
 3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en - dur-eth, thine own dear

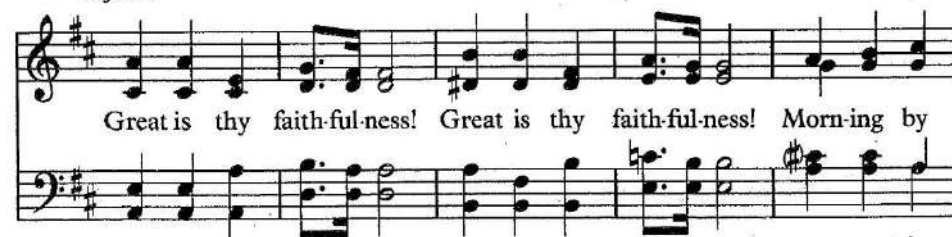


shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas-sions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man-i - fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
 hope for to - mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923 (Lam. 3:22-23)
 MUSIC: William M. Runyan, 1923
 © 1923, renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Co.

FAITHFULNESS
 11 10.11 10 with Refrain

Benediction

Rev. Chad Tanaka-Pack

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

Simply do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God.

Yea, though we walk through valleys in the shadow of death, we will fear no evil: for God is with us. God's strength and wisdom, they comfort us.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives: and we will dwell in the house of our loving God forever.

~Psalm 23 excepted and adapted

My dear friends in faith, will you go from wherever you are 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

Rev. Doug Holder, piano

"Song of Easter Triumph" by Denton

--**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.

To God be the Glory, by de Doane

Amor Eterno by Juan Gabriel, Universal Music Publishing Group, © 1984 BMG Arabella Mexico SA

Sabor a Mí, by Alvaro Carillo,, ©1959, 1960 by Promoteria HispanoAmericana de Música SA

Welcome, Happy Morning, arr. by Havergal

Song of Easter Triumph, by Denton

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Spring Congregation Meeting

Next Sunday, May 18

Following the 10 am Service

in the Hospitality Room and on Zoom

Everyone present has voice, members have vote.

Congregational Life Announcements

--A warm welcome and thank you to **Nylea Aguilar**, soloist and **Rev. Doug Holder**, piano, for sharing their musical talents with us today.

--Thank you, **Lynda Toland**, **Bill Wallace** and **Larry Metcalf** for serving as readers for today's service. Thank you to **Ray Allen** for serving as worship leader today and a special thank you to **Rev. Chad Tanaka-Pack** for providing our commentary today.

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

--Thank you also to our ushers, **Ray Stimson** and **Bob Patnode**, for welcoming us this morning.

--Thank you to **Logan Bakomitros** 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 **Julio Salinas** in celebration of the life of **Don Hall**.

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

Last Week's Participation

Sunday 10am--Souls Present at Demuth: 51 --Children: 0 --First Timers: 1

--- Facebook Live Views: 12

Sunday Offerings

Tithes, Offerings, and Participation:

Total offerings \$1,711 Eastertide Offering: \$1,060 Cumulative: \$1,982 Goal: \$7,000



Ministries of Leadership and Support

--**Open Council Meetings** -- The next hybrid meeting will be June 11 at 2:00 pm PDT in the church office and on Zoom. All are welcome with a voice. Only council members have a vote. Contact **Rich Fluechtling** to receive the Zoom Invitation.

--**Congregation Meetings** are in February, May, and October, and special meetings as called. The next congregation meeting is May 18 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**, dinoinps@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

--The Bloom Book Club: meets Tuesdays, at 5pm on Zoom. We will be discussing our new book, "Falling Upwards" Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85641302971?pwd=OKJBWngGovZg88uTgFDA88bAQQC7kU.1>

For more information, contact Gary Lange at 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.

Our focused ministries include:

- School children's benevolence – "Shoes for Students", 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.**

Bloom Happenings This Week						
Monday May 12	Tuesday May 13	Wednesday May 14	Thursday May 15	Friday May 16	Saturday May 17	Sunday May 18
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 5:00pm Bloom Book Club on Zoom	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch for our unhoused neighbors served at Our Lady of Guadalupe	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch served at Our Lady of Solitude	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch served at Our Lady of Guadalupe		10:am Sunday Service at Demuth and on Facebook Live Congregation Meeting after the service

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

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

Bloom Book Club Selection — "Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life Study Guide" by Richard Rohr. The book study on Tuesdays at 5:00 pm on Zoom.

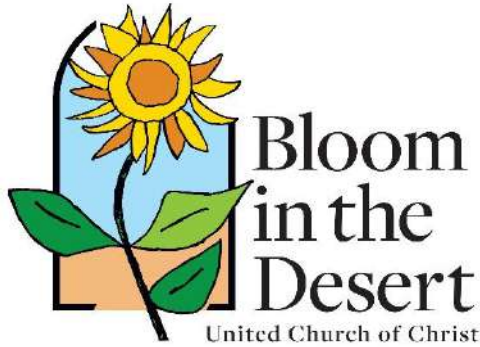
Read Chapter 7.

For more information contact Gary Lange at garylange13@gmail.com

Below is the Zoom link.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85641302971?pwd=OKJBWngGovZg88uTgFDA88bAQQC7kU.1>

-Bible Bites is on hiatus



Welcome

Bloom in the Desert (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 Council 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

On-Call Pastoral Care — Rev. Ron Lang — 951-663-7261 — rflangx25@gmail.com

Rich Fluechtling, Moderator — 608-347-5178 — moderator@bloominthedesert.org

Bill Wallace, Administrative Assistant — adminassistant@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