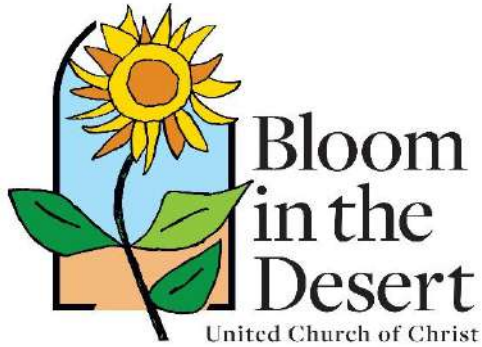




Fathers Day Trinity Sunday June 15, 2025

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

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

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

Rich Fluechtling, Moderator

Introduction

Rich Fluechtling, Moderator

Music for Centering

Rev. Doug Holder, piano

“I Will Sing the Wondrous Story of the Christ Who Died for Me”

Call to Worship

Jim Nixon

Gathered in the name of Jesus Christ, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and blessed by God,
we come to worship one, holy God.

O God, our own God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth. Your majesty is the music
of the starry skies, yet even children of dust can sing your praises.

we come to worship one, holy God.

In the name of the Healer, the Provider and the Enabler let your gratitude and joy be made
known.

**O God, our own God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth! We come
to worship one, holy God.**

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

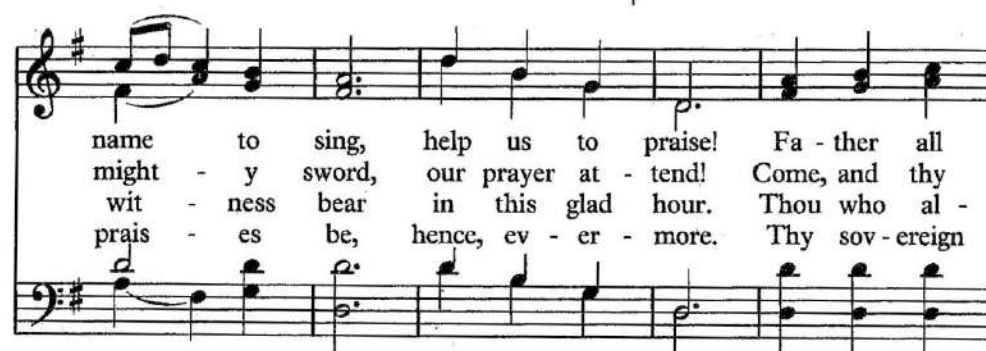
* Opening Hymn

Come, Thou Almighty King

61



1. Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy
 2. Come, thou in - car - nate Word, gird on thy
 3. Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred
 4. To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal



name to sing, help us to praise! Fa - ther all
 might - y sword, our prayer at - tend! Come, and thy
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour. Thou who al -
 prais - es be, hence, ev - er - more. Thy sov - ereign



glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
 peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;
 might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,
 maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,



come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days!
 Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend!
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power!
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore!

WORDS: Anon.
 MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1769

ITALIAN HYMN
 664.6664

Alt. tune: AMERICA

In Faith We Open Our Hearts to Ministry

Prayer for Good and Growth

Let us pray this heartfelt prayer, aware of its purpose for transformation:

Lord God, words are not enough to express Your awesomeness, Your majesty, Your holiness. Our highest expressions of theology are but baby talk next to You: Your creation, Your very self.

Make us aware, through Your Holy Spirit, that You are here among us. May this awareness lead us to approach this hour more carefully. The words we speak, the tunes we sing, the thoughts we think, the joy and sadness we feel, may these be pleasing to You.

For in spite of the inadequacy of our words, this worship is addressed to You. Make it complete, whole, full to overflowing, O God, our rock and our redeemer. In Christ we pray. 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. A few deep breaths may help make the connection. Relax, and embrace a spiritual dimension.)

Loving creator of all, sovereign of peace, receive now our heartfelt silent prayers.

~ Silence ~

To all our silent prayers let the people say amen.

Amen.

Words of Encouragement

Our eternal assurance is God's love. Trusting that will help.
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

Proverbs 8:1-4,12, 22-31

JR Rasch

Doesn't Wisdom cry out and Understanding shout? Atop the heights along the path, at the crossroads she takes her stand. By the gate before the city, at the entrances she shouts, "I cry out to you, people; my voice goes out to all of humanity."

I, Wisdom, dwell with prudence; I have found knowledge and discretion. The Lord created me at the beginning of his way, before his deeds long in the past. I was formed in ancient times, at the beginning, before the earth was. When there were no watery depths, I was brought forth, when there were no springs flowing with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills, I was brought forth; before God made the earth and the fields or the first of the dry land. I was there when he established the heavens, when he marked out the horizon on the deep sea, when he thickened the clouds above, when he secured the fountains of the deep, when he set a limit for the sea, so, the water couldn't go beyond his command, when he marked out the earth's foundations. I was beside him as a master of crafts. I was having fun, smiling before him all the time, frolicking with his inhabited earth and delighting in the human race.

Here ends the Hebrew Scripture reading.

*** Gospel Reading**

John 16:1-16

Elaine Wang-Meyerhoffer

I have said these things to you so that you won't fall away. They will expel you from the synagogue. The time is coming when those who kill you will think that they are doing a service to God. They will do these things because they don't know the Father or me.

But I have said these things to you so that when their time comes, you will remember that I told you about them. "I didn't say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I go away to the one who sent me. None of you ask me, 'Where are you going?' Yet because I have said these things to you, you are filled with sorrow. I assure you that it is better for you that I go away. If I don't go away, the Companion won't come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will show the world it was wrong about sin, righteousness, and judgment. He will show the world it was wrong about sin because they don't believe in me. He will show the world it was wrong about righteousness because I'm going to the Father and you won't see me anymore. He will show the world it was wrong about judgment because this world's ruler stands condemned.

"I have much more to say to you, but you can't handle it now. However, when the Spirit of Truth comes, he will guide you in all truth. He won't speak on his own, but will say whatever he hears and will proclaim to you what is to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and proclaim it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine. That's why I said that the Spirit takes what is mine and will proclaim it to you. Soon you won't be able to see me; soon after that, you will see me."

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

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Commentary

"Fire Is Coming"

Rev. James Bowman Harris

Hymn of Response

89 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

1. Joy-ful, joy-ful, we a-dore thee, God of glo-ry, Lord of love;
 2. All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re-flect thy rays,
 3. Thou art giv-ing and for-giv-ing, ev-er bless-ing, ev-er blest,
 4. Mor-tals, join the might-y cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan;

hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, open-ing to the sun a-bove.
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
 well-spring of the joy of liv-ing, o-cean depth of hap-py rest!
 love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, bind-ing all with-in its span.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way.
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flow-ery mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Thou our Fa-ther, Christ our broth-er, all who live in love are thine;
 Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife;

Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day!
 chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth-er, lift us to the joy di-vine.
 joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward, in the tri-umph song of life.

WORDS: Henry Van Dyke, 1907; st. 4 alt. 1989
 MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; arr. by Edward Hodges, 1864

HYMN TO JOY
 87.87 D

Offering our Prayer Concerns, and Joys and Thanksgivings

Rev. James Bowman Harris

Concerns:

We thank you, O God, that you have given us an enduring hope, one which cannot disappoint us or mislead us. We thank you, that through our faith in you and in your Son Jesus Christ, you enter into every believing heart and make new lives that have been torn asunder by the darkness of this world.

God, receive our prayer.

Joys and Thanksgivings:

We ask this of you, O God, knowing that you are our hope and our salvation, a very present help in times of trouble, and the One whose purpose is to grant new and abundant life to us and our world. Praise be to your Name. Amen.

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 voice - es, our God is near, lift up your voice - 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" 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

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

Presentation of Offerings, and Prayer of Dedication

Elaine Wang-Meyerhoffer

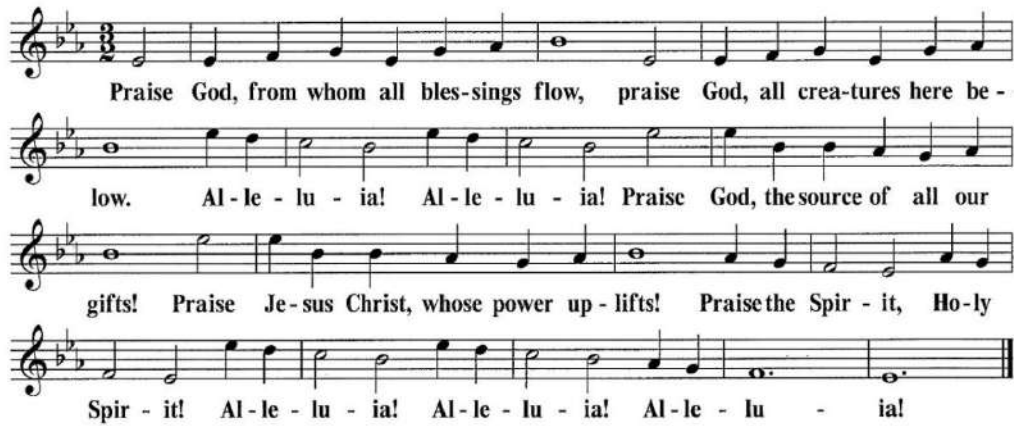
Set apart by your covenant, redeemed through Christ's sacrifice, and renewed by the refreshing winds of your living Spirit, we come bearing our gifts, O merciful God. They are but a portion of earth's treasure you abundantly give us; with them we commit our time and energy to be Christ's faithful servants. Use all that we bring, and all that we are, to bless your holy name.

~from "When We Gather: A Book of Prayers for Worship" by James G. Kirk

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. James Bowman Harris

Our Creator, who art in heaven,

hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

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

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.



On Thursday, June 19th, Elaine Wang-Meyerhoffer will be presenting tenor Joel Brown and pianist Joel Baker in a one-hour recital of spirituals at her home. This Juneteenth concert is a benefit for Bloom, donation requested. Signup sheet in hospitality space. Seating is limited to 40, check with Elaine regarding available seats. Concert begins at 7pm, with refreshments afterward. More information is in BloomNotes.

* Sending Hymn

77

How Great Thou Art



1. O Lord my God! when I in awe-some won-der
 2. When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der,
 3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing,
 4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion

con-sid-er all the worlds thy hands have made,
 and hear the birds sing sweet-ly in the trees;
 sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;
 and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.

I see the stars, I hear the roll-ing thun-der,
 when I look down from loft-y moun-tain gran-deur
 that on the cross, my bur-den glad-ly bear-ing,
 Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion,

thy power through-out the un-i-verse dis-played.
 and hear the brook, and feel the gen-tle breeze;
 he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
 and there pro-claim, my God, how great thou art!

*Authors's original words are "works" and "mighty."

WORDS: Stuart K. Hine, 1953

MUSIC: Stuart K. Hine, 1953

© 1953, renewed 1981 Manna Music, Inc.

HOW GREAT THOU ART
 Irr. with Refrain

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God to thee;
 how great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my
 soul, my Sav-ior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!

Benediction

Rev. James Bowman Harris

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

Simply do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our 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 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

"Trumpet Tune in D Major"

Congregational Life Announcements

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

--Thank you, **Jim Nixon, JR Rasch**, and **Elaine Wang-Meyerhoffer**, for serving as readers for today's service. Thank you to **Rich Fluechtling** for introducing our guest today and a special thank you to **Rev. James Bowman Harris** for presenting our commentary and other portions of our service today.

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

--Thank you to our greeter and welcome table hosts, **Jason Romine**, and **Sheila Dell**. Thank you to **Carol Moore** and her crew who set up our hospitality table.

--Thank you also to our ushers, **Randy Zeese** and **Charlie Phelps-Ramos** 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 **Phyllis Ramsey** in memory of her husband Joe.

--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: 40 --Children: 0 --First Timers: 2

--- Facebook Live Views: 21

May 2025 Income Statement

Income		\$16,442
Expenses		
Payroll	\$2,883	
Outside Pulpit Supply	\$1,000	
Rent DeMuth	\$1,061	
Rent El Cielo	\$2,087	
Office Expenses	\$1,566	
Worship and Hospitality	<u>\$1,190</u>	
Total Expenses		(\$9,787)
Gain/Loss		\$6,656
Permanence Fund 4/30/25		\$366,640
May Donations		<u>\$ 1,241</u>
Permanence Fund 5/30/25		\$367,881
Easter Appeal		\$ 3,512
Goal (Budget)		\$ 6,000

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM BLOOM'S SEARCH COMMITTEE:

We are pleased to welcome Rev. James Bowman Harris to lead our worship today. A Pastor visit is one step in the interview process, and visits by more than one candidate are possible. Once the committee, with the Holy Spirit's guidance, has identified a candidate whom we believe is both qualified and can meet the needs of the church, then that candidate will be put forward for consideration for a vote of the Congregation at a Special Congregation Meeting. Feedback from the Congregation is essential in this process. **Please offer any and all comments** to the Search Chair, John DiNapoli or any of the other committee members listed here: Randy Zeese, Lynda Toland, Gwen Rustin, Larry Metcalf, Paul Gibb, Ray Allen, or Moderator Rich Fluechtling. You can also text John at 202-215-0628 or email dinoinsps@gmail.com. The timing of your input is also critical, so we ask that you connect **with us immediately after the service or during hospitality time.**

Rev. James Bowman Harris (Rev. James) earned his BA, Cum Laude in Biblical Studies with a dual major in Preaching Ministry from Point University in Georgia. In his senior year, he earned the Up-and-Coming Theologian Award given to the student with the highest GPA in the Biblical Studies degree program. He went on to earn a Master of Divinity from Emory University's Candler School of Theology.

Rev. James was ordained into the United Church of Christ (UCC) at his home church, Kirkwood United Church of Christ, Atlanta, GA. He has served on the Board of Directors in the Southeastern Conference of the UCC. He then became the settled Pastor of United Church of Cookeville UCC in Cookeville, TN and then at Pilgrim Faith UCC in Oak Lawn, IL.

After leaving Pilgrim Faith UCC, Rev. James returned to Florida to be closer to his family due to his mother's declining health. Upon returning, he strengthened his Pastoral Care and counseling skills while serving patients and families as a hospice Chaplain with Hope Healthcare in Fort Myers, FL and as a chaplain with Gulf Coast Medical Center. Rev. James is currently serving as a Hospice Chaplain and Bereavement Specialist with VITAS Healthcare in Wesley Chapel, FL. After serving for the past 5 years in chaplaincy, Rev. James began feeling God calling him back to serve as a pastor and is excited to return full time to serving a local church.

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 October 12 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**, dinoinsps@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 June 16	Tuesday June 17	Wednesday June 18	Thursday June 19	Friday June 20	Saturday June 21	Sunday June 22
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 7:00pm Juneteenth Spirituals in Concert at Elaine Wang-Meyerhoffer's	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch served at Our Lady of Guadalupe		10:am Sunday Service at Demuth and on Facebook Live

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 is on hiatus for the summer.

-Bible Bites is on hiatus

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.

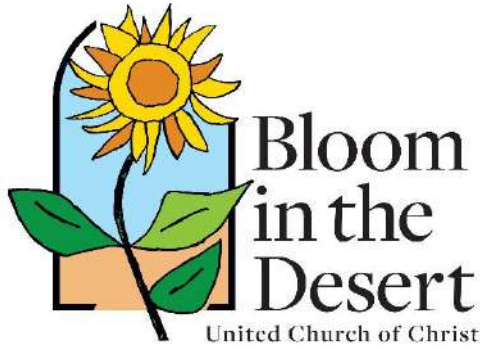
Children of the Heavenly Father. Swedish folk melody, arr. by Helvey

I Will Sing the Wondrous Story of the Christ Who Died for Me, Hymn tune – Hyfrydol, arr. by Young

Eternal Father, Strong to Save, by John Dykes, arr. by Torquist

Trumpet Tune in D Major, by Henry Purcell

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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