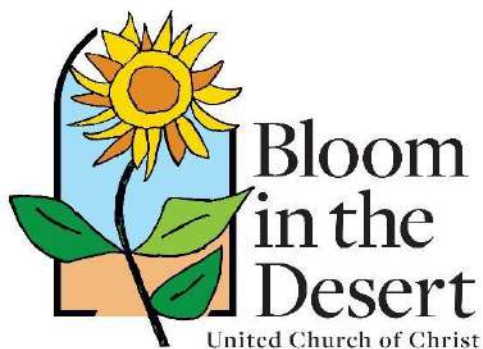




LGBTQIA+ Pride Sunday

November 9, 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

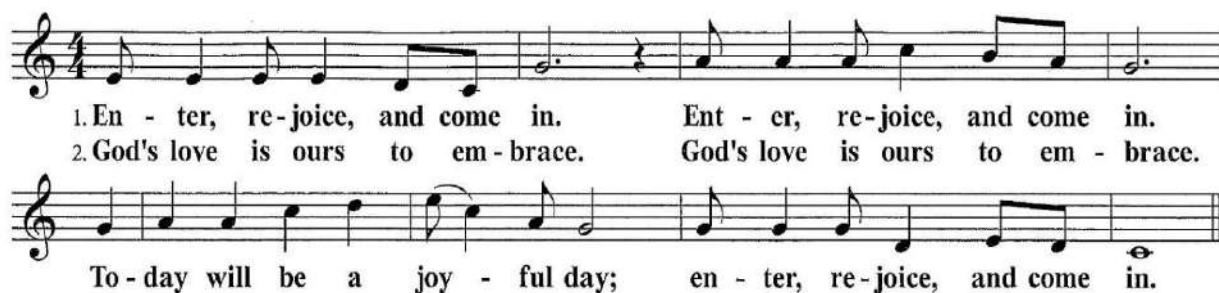
Rev. Doug Holder, piano

“The Rainbow Connection” by Williams and Ascher

10:00am Welcome and News of the Congregation

Mindy Harrington

Gathering Song



Call to Worship

Mindy Harrington

Come, all who are fearfully and wonderfully made diverse in bodies, identities, gifts, and love.

We come to celebrate the God who created us in every shade of beauty and every expression of love.

God, who called creation good, calls each of us good not in spite of who we are, but because of who we are.

We gather to rejoice in a love that knows no boundaries, a grace that welcomes all, and a Spirit that moves through every life and story.

Let us worship the One who is Love itself, who delights when justice sings, who rejoices when all are free to be who they are.

We come with Pride and gratitude, to worship God in truth, in love, and in joy!

Please join me in prayer:

Loving and Liberating God,

You are the artist of diversity, the composer of all our songs. You shaped us in your image; each of us a reflection of your infinite creativity and love.

We thank you for the beauty of difference: for every color of the rainbow, for every identity and expression, for every story of courage and authenticity.

On this Sunday as our community celebrates PRIDE, we remember that your Spirit has always moved on the margins, spoken through the silenced, and lifted up those the world has cast down.

Bless this gathering, O God. Fill our hearts with joy, our worship with justice, and our lives with compassion. May we shine with your inclusive love, a love that knows no fear, no limit, and no end.

In the name of the One who is Love incarnate, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Our Silent Prayers

The 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.

I invite you to take a few deep, centering breaths in the hope that they will allow you to make the connection, to relax, and embrace a spiritual dimension.

Allow 45 seconds

From our silence, God calls us back together.

From reflection to rejoicing, from prayer to praise!

God's love makes no exceptions, and neither do we.

Thanks be to God—love wins again and again!

Now, let us sing "Love Astounding."

* Opening Hymn

Love Astounding

Jeannette M. Lindholm

HOLY MANNA
William Moore, Columbian Harmony 1825



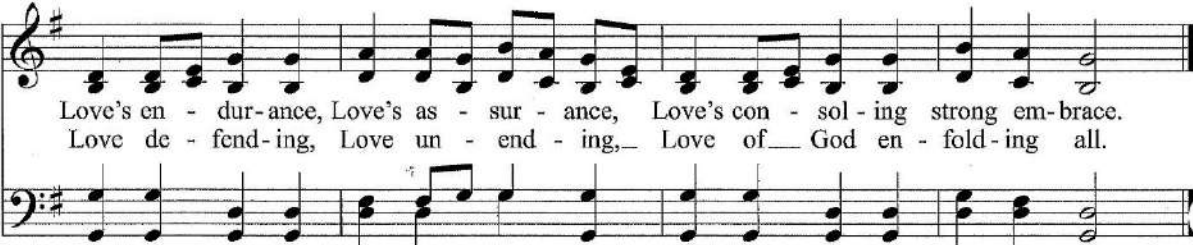
1. Love a - stound-ing, Love con - found-ing lim - its fear - ful minds im - pose.
2. Love re - ceiv - ing Love be - liev - ing, we re - joice with thanks and song,



Love re - new-ing, Love pur - su - ing ev - ery heart un - til it knows
faith re - gain-ing, hope pro - claim-ing; Love has taught us, we be - long



Love's trans-form-ing, heal - ing good-ness, Love's a - bid - ing gen - tle grace,
safe with - in Love's ten - der keep-ing, safe from fear's per - sis - tent cal.



Love's en - dur-ance, Love's as - sur - ance, Love's con - sol - ing strong em-brace.
Love de - fend-ing, Love un - end - ing, Love of God en - fold-ing all.

©1999 Jeannette M. Lindholm

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 135:1-5,17-21

Ray Allen

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord's name!

All you who serve the Lord, praise God!

All you who stand in the Lord's house—

who stand in the courtyards of our God's temple—

praise the Lord, because the Lord is good!

Sing praises to God's name because it is beautiful!

Because the Lord chose Jacob as his own,

God chose Israel as his treasured possession.

Yes, I know for certain that the Lord is great—

I know our Lord is greater than all other gods.

They have ears, but they can't listen.

No, there's no breath in their lungs!

Let the people who made these idols

and all who trust in them

become just like them!

House of Israel, bless the Lord!

House of Aaron, bless the Lord!

House of Levi, bless the Lord!

You who honor the Lord, bless the Lord!

Bless the Lord from Zion—

bless the one who lives in Jerusalem!

Praise the Lord!

~ Common English Bible

Here ends the Old Testament reading.

Chorus

Something Beautiful

394

Some - thing beau - ti - ful, some - thing good;

The first line of the chorus is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Some - thing beau - ti - ful, some - thing good;"

all my con - fu - sion he un - der - stood;

The second line of the chorus continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "all my con - fu - sion he un - der - stood;"

all I had to of - fer him was bro - ken - ness and

The third line of the chorus continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "all I had to of - fer him was bro - ken - ness and"

strife, but he made some-thing beau-ti-ful of my life.

The fourth line of the chorus concludes the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "strife, but he made some-thing beau-ti-ful of my life."

WORDS: Gloria Gaither, 1971
MUSIC: William J. Gaither, 1971

SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL
Irr.

© 1971 William J. Gaither

Gospel Reading

Luke 21:27-38

Lynda Toland

Some Sadducees, who deny that there's a resurrection, came to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that *if a man's brother dies leaving a widow but no children, the brother must marry the widow and raise up children for his brother*. Now there were seven brothers. The first man married a woman and then died childless. The second and then the third brother married her. Eventually all seven married her, and they all died without leaving any children. Finally, the woman died too. In the resurrection, whose wife will she be? All seven were married to her."

Jesus said to them, "People who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage. But those who are considered worthy to participate in that age, that is, in the age of the resurrection from the dead, won't marry nor will they be given in marriage. They can no longer die, because they are like angels and are God's children since they share in the resurrection. Even Moses demonstrated that the dead are raised—in the passage about the burning bush, when he speaks of the Lord as *the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob*. He isn't the God of the dead but of the living. To him they are all alive."

~Common English Bible

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

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Chorus

Something Beautiful

394

Some - thing beau - ti - ful, some - thing good;

all my con - fu - sion he un - der - stood;

all I had to of - fer him was bro - ken - ness and

strife, but he made some-thing beau-ti-ful of my life.

WORDS: Gloria Gaither, 1971
MUSIC: William J. Gaither, 1971

SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL
Irr.

© 1971 William J. Gaither



The Workshop Window

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. Nügel (c. 1768–1836)
 Adapt. Lowell Mason, 1845

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

Mindy Harrington

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 Music

“Rigadoon” by G.T. Handel

Rev. Doug Holder, piano

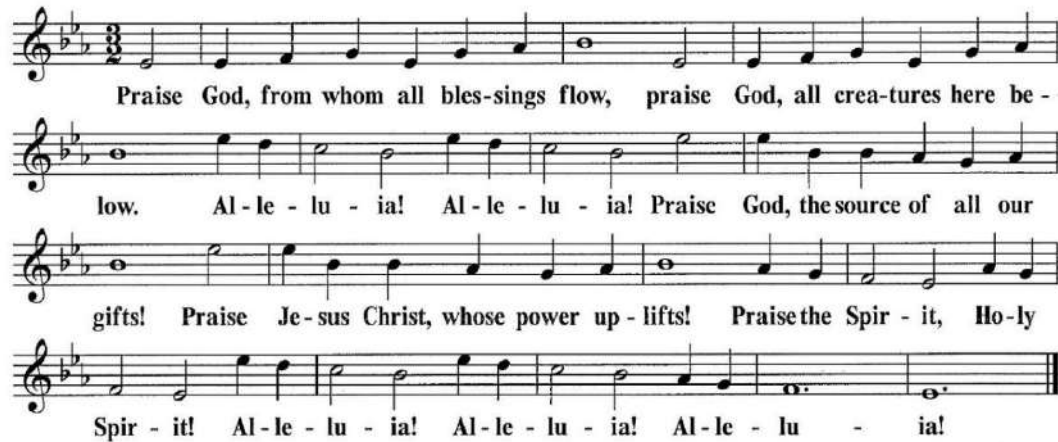
Presentation of Offerings

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



* Doxology

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



Offering our Prayer Concerns, and Joys and Thanksgivings

Ray Allen

Now let us offer up to God and each other our prayer concerns:

God of compassion, we also bring before You our prayers of concern. For those who still live in fear of rejection, violence, or loss. We pray for safety, courage, and love that casts out fear.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

For young people discovering who they are and wondering if there's a place for them in Your Church, may they find welcome, affirmation, and belonging.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

For families divided by misunderstanding, for churches still learning to love as Jesus loves, and for communities where hatred lingers, bring healing, change, and peace.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

For all who suffer from discrimination, for those silenced by laws or condemned by religion, for those who grieve loved ones lost to hate or despair. We pray for justice and for comfort.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Now let us offer up our joys and thanksgivings.

For the wonder of our creation, for bodies of every shape and color, for minds that imagine and hearts that love. We give You thanks.

Thanks be to God!

For the gift of Pride, for the courage of those who have come out, for our community and the communities that have embraced them, for the joy of living fully as who we are. We give You thanks.

Thanks be to God!

For those who have walked this road before us, for prophets, activists, and everyday saints who claimed their sacred worth and demanded justice. We give You thanks.

Thanks be to God!

Through your Son who taught us to pray:

The Prayer of Jesus

Ray Allen

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.

~Matthew 6:9-13, RSV, adapted

Passing of the Peace

Now as people who are loved deeply and accepted fully, let us offer one another the Peace of Christ.

Now, I invite you to stand as you are able as we sing our final hymn: "Standing On The Promises."

* Sending Hymn

374 Standing on the Promises

1. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ my King,
 2. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es that can - not fail,
 3. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ the Lord,
 4. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es I can - not fail,

through e - ter - nal a - ges let his prais - es ring;
 when the howl - ing storms of doubt and fear as - sail,
 bound to him e - ter - nal - ly by love's strong cord,
 lis - tening ev - ery mo - ment to the Spir - it's call,

glo - ry in the high - est, I will shout and sing,
 by the liv - ing Word of God I shall pre - vail,
 o - ver - com - ing dai - ly with the Spir - it's sword,
 rest - ing in my Sav - ior as my all in all,

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

WORDS: R. Kelso Carter, 1886 (Eph. 6:14-17)
 MUSIC: R. Kelso Carter, 1886

PROMISES
 11 11.11 9 with Refrain

Refrain

Stand - ing, stand - ing,
Stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God my Sav - ior;

stand - ing, stand - ing,
stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,

I'm stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

Benediction

Carl Toland

Postlude

“Allegro” by G.T. Handel

Rev. Doug Holder, piano

Congregational Life Announcements

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

--Thank you, **Mindy Harrington, Ray Allen** and **Lynda Toland** for serving as readers for today's service.

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

--Thank you to our greeter and welcome table host, **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, **Mike Kreiser** and **Lynda Toland**, for welcoming us this morning.

--Thank you to **Logan Bakomitros** and **Michael Broderick** 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 Loretta Martin in memory of Rev. Patricia Walton.

--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: 50 --Children: 0 --First Timers: 1

--- Facebook Live Views: 11

Sunday Offerings

Pledges \$627 Plate Loose: \$695 On-Line: \$742

Permanence Fund: \$0 Cumulative: \$392,632

The Common English Bible and the **Revised Common Lectionary** are the usual references for Sunday morning scripture readings.

Sonata No. 20 in G Major, 2nd mvt., by Ludwig van Beethoven, public domain

The Rainbow Connection, by Paul Williams and Kenneth Asher, arr. by Phillip Keveren, ©1979 and 2000 by Jim Henson Productions, Inc.

Rigadoon, by G.T. Handel

Allegro, by G.T. Handel

Liturgy and prayers are original, sourced and often adapted.

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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. 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 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**, dinoins@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: Tuesdays at 6pm on Zoom.

Discussing: "A Complaint Free World: (Revised and Updated) How to Stop Complaining and Start Enjoying the Life You Always Wanted" 2024 by [Will Bowen](#)

For more information, please contact our Education Coordinator, Gary Lange at 760-773-1014 or garylange13@gmail.com

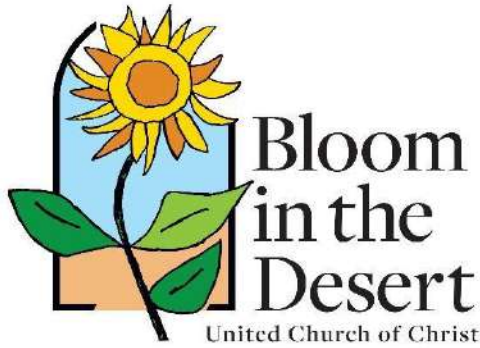
Social Action and Missions Ministry

--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 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.

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.
- Laundry Love** – Third Wednesday of each month at Wash Time Laundromat at Sunrise and Vista Chino 5:30 to 9:30pm

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



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

Pastor James Harris — 404-587-9816 — james@bloominthedesert.org

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

Bloom Happenings This Week						
Monday Nov.10	Tuesday Nov 11	Wednesday Nov 12	Thursday Nov 13	Friday Nov 14	Saturday Nov 15	Sunday Nov 16
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 6:00pm Bloom Book Group meets on Zoom	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch for our unhoused neighbors served at Our Lady of Guadalupe 2:00pm Open Council Meeting 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		10:am Sunday Service at Demuth and on Facebook Live

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

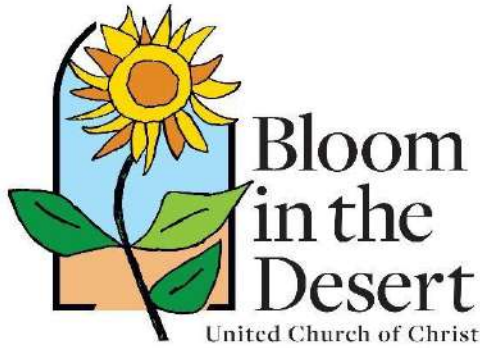
Bathrooms are located through the double glass doors and to the left.

Bloom Book Club
Tuesdays at 6:00 pm PST on Zoom.

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Zoom Meeting

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



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