

**Third Sunday of Easter
April 19, 2026**

9:50: Pre-Service Music “Sweet By and Bye” Paul Cady
by Joseph P. Webster, arr. by Maek Hayes

10:00 am: Welcome and News of the Congregation Linda Lang

Gathering Song: “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” TFWS2088

2088 Lord, I Lift Your Name on High



Lord, I lift your name on high;



Lord, I love to sing your prais - es.



I'm so glad you're in my life;



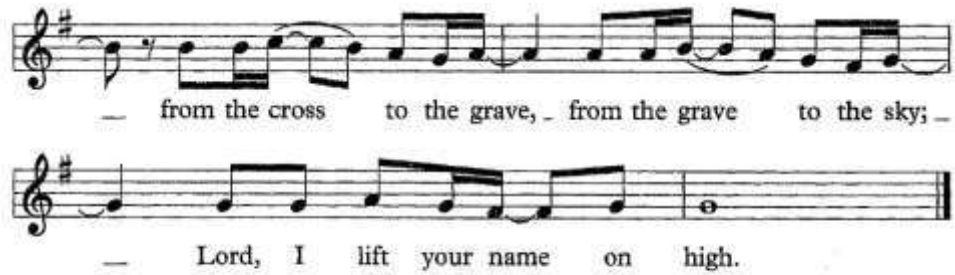
I'm so glad you came to save us.



You came from heav - en to earth - to show the way, -



- from the earth - to the cross - my debt to pay; -



WORDS: Rick Founds (1 Cor. 15:3-4)
MUSIC: Rick Founds

LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH
Irregular

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***Please remain standing as you are able in body or spirit for our Call To Worship and Prayer of Invocation. ***

Call To Worship

Linda Lang

Please remain standing for our call to worship, followed by our prayer of invocation.

In the midst of the noise and the questions, the Spirit calls us to listen.

We come, seeking a word that speaks to our hearts.

When truth unsettles us and stirs something deep within, God invites us to turn toward new life.

We come, ready to be changed.

The promise is for all; for us, for our children, for all who are far off.

We come, trusting that God is still calling.

So let us open our hearts, receive the good news, and step into the life God is offering.

With grateful hearts, we worship God.

Please join me in our prayer of invocation.

God of wind and fire, you who stir hearts and awaken faith, meet us here.

Quiet what is restless within us and awaken what has grown still. Open our hearts to your living Word, that it might call us, change us, and draw us into deeper love. Shape us into a community of compassion and courage, ready to follow where your Spirit leads. Come, Holy Spirit, come. Amen.

Now, let us remain standing as we lift our voices to sing, "Just As I Am"

Just as I Am

207

Charlotte Elliott, 1836; alt.

John 6:37; Eph. 2:14

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that your
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
 3 Just as I am, you will re - ceive, will wel - come,
 4 Just as I am, your love un - known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, And that you called in -
 con - flict, many a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with -
 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; Be - cause your prom - ise -
 ev - ery bar - rier down; Now to be yours, and

vit - ing me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
 yours a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

This text appeared in Charlotte Elliott's Invalid's Hymn Book, published in England in 1836. Disabled at age thirty, she continued a career of writing and editing. This hymn has been translated into many languages.

Tune: WOODWORTH L.M.
William B. Bradbury, 1849

Scripture Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Gerald Chester

Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, ‘Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! Therefore, let all Israel know beyond question that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.’ When the crowd heard this, they were deeply troubled. They said to Peter and the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what should we do?’ Peter replied, ‘Change your hearts and lives. Each of you must be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This promise is

for you, your children, and for all who are far away—as many as the Lord our God invites.’ With many other words he testified to them and encouraged them, saying, ‘Be saved from this perverse generation.’ Those who accepted Peter’s message were baptized. God brought about three thousand people into the community on that day.”

Here ends the first scripture reading.

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:13-35

Brian Schimpf

“On that same day, two disciples were traveling to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking to each other about everything that had happened. While they were discussing these things, Jesus himself arrived and joined them on their journey. They were prevented from recognizing him. He said to them, ‘What are you talking about as you walk along?’ They stopped, their faces downcast. The one named Cleopas replied, ‘Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who is unaware of the things that have taken place there over the last few days?’ He said to them, ‘What things?’ They said to him, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth. Because of his powerful deeds and words, he was recognized by God and all the people as a prophet. But our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him. We had hoped he was the one who would redeem Israel. All these things happened three days ago. But there’s more: Some women from our group have left us stunned. They went to the tomb early this morning and didn’t find his body. They came to us saying that they had even seen a vision of angels who told them he is alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women said. They didn’t see him.’ Then Jesus said to them, ‘You foolish people! Your dull minds keep you from believing all that the prophets talked about. Wasn’t it necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’ Then he interpreted for them the things written about himself in all the scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets. When they came to Emmaus, he acted as if he was going on ahead. But they urged him, saying, ‘Stay with us. It’s nearly evening, and the day is almost over.’ So, he went in to stay with them. After he took his seat at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. They said to each other, ‘Weren’t our hearts on fire when he spoke to us along the road and when he explained the scriptures for us?’ They got up right then and returned to Jerusalem. They found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying to each other, ‘The Lord really has risen! He appeared to Simon!’ Then the two disciples described what had happened along the road and how Jesus was made known to them as he broke the bread.

Here ends the reading of the Gospel. This is the good news of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God, Amen.

Please raise your voices to sing "Thy Word Is a Lamp."

Hymn

"Thy Word Is a Lamp"

UMH601

Thy Word Is a Lamp

601

Refrain (Unison)

Thy word is a lamp un - to my feet and a
light un - to my path. 1. When I feel a -fraid,
2. Now I will not for - get your
think I've lost my way, still you're there right be - side me, and
love for me and yet my heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.
noth - ing will I fear as long as you are near,
Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and
Please be near me to the end.
I will love you to the end.

WORDS: Amy Grant, 1984 (Ps. 119:105)
MUSIC: Michael W. Smith 1984; arr. by Keith Phillips
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THY WORD
Irr. with Refrain

Commentary

“Warm Hearts”

Pastor James Bowman Harris

Hymn

“I Love You, Lord”
(Sung Twice)

NCH256

2068

I Love You, Lord

The musical score is written on four staves in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "I love you, Lord, — and I lift my voice — to wor - ship you, O my soul re - joice. Take joy, my King, — in what you hear, — may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear. —"

WORDS: Laurie Klein (Ps. 35:9)
MUSIC: Laurie Klein

I LOVE YOU, LORD
Irregular

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

Linda Lang

In John’s Gospel, the risen Christ meets fear with peace and sends the disciples out in love. When we give, we join in that same sending, sharing peace, hope, and love with the world. So let us offer our gifts with gratitude, trusting God will use them for good. Let us give as we are able, I invite the Ushers to come to pass the offering baskets.

Offertory:

“I’ll Fly Away”

Paul Cady

by Albert E. Brinkley, arr. by Mark Hayes

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Offering our Prayer Concerns, Joys/Thanksgivings, Prayer of Reconciliation,
Words of Encouragement, and Passing of the Peace.**

**Loving God, 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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN**

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, "Lord, I Want to Be
a Christian"

Lord, I Want To Be a Christian

454

African-American spiritual

Deut. 6:5-6; 10:12-16

1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;
 2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart,
 3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;
 4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Refrain

In my heart, in my heart, in my heart,
 In my heart, in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Many of the enslaved of antebellum America did not want to become Christians because they did not want to adopt the religion of their captors. But this spiritual attests that the Christian faith was an internal strength and aim for many.

Tune: I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
8.6.8.3. with refrain
African-American spiritual
Arr. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

Spoken Benediction

Pastor James Bowman Harris

Sung Benediction

“Shalom to You”
(sung twice)

UMH666

666 *Unison* D Em A7 D

Sha - lom to you now, sha - lom, my friends.

Bm Em A7 D

May God's full mer - cies bless you, my friends.

G Em A F#m

In all your liv - ing and through your lov - ing,

Bm Em A7 D

Christ be your sha - lom, Christ be your sha - lom.

The musical score is for a unison setting of 'Shalom to You'. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The key signature is D major (one sharp) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system starts with a '666' and 'Unison' marking, followed by chords D, Em, A7, and D. The lyrics are 'Sha - lom to you now, sha - lom, my friends.' The second system has chords Bm, Em, A7, and D, with lyrics 'May God's full mer - cies bless you, my friends.' The third system has chords G, Em, A, and F#m, with lyrics 'In all your liv - ing and through your lov - ing,'. The fourth system has chords Bm, Em, A7, and D, with lyrics 'Christ be your sha - lom, Christ be your sha - lom.' The score ends with a double bar line.

WORDS: Elise S. Eslinger, 1980
MUSIC: Trad. Spanish melody; harm. by Carlton R. Young, 1989
Words © 1983 The United Methodist Publishing House; harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR
Irr.

Postlude:

“The Solid Rock”
by William B. Bradbury, arr. by Bill Wolaver

Paul Cady

Congregational Life Announcements

--A warm welcome and thank you to **Paul Cady**, piano, and the **pop-up choir** for sharing their musical talents with us today.

--Thank you, **Liinda Lang, Gerald Chester and Brian Schimpf**, for serving as readers for today's service.

--Thank you to **Jackson Enzler** and **David Smith** 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, **Randy Zeese** and **Lynda Toland**, for welcoming us this morning.

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

Flowers this morning are offered by **Ron Lang**.

--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: 2

-- Facebook Live: 5

Sunday Offerings

Offering: \$1,742 On-Line: \$142

Permanence Fund: \$300 Cumulative: \$395,713

Easter Appeal \$372.25

Ministries of Leadership and Support

--**Open Council Meetings** -- The next hybrid meeting will be June 17 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 **Brian Schimpf** to receive the Zoom Invitation.

--**Congregation Meetings** are in February, May, and October, and special meetings as called. The next congregation meeting is May 10 after the service and on Zoom. Contact Brian Schimpf for the zoom invitation.

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 meets Tuesdays at 6:00 via Zoom link below. The current book is: *"I Never Thought of it That Way, How to Have Fearlessly Curious Conversations in Dangerously Divided Times."* by Monica Guzman. Available on Kindle, Audio Book, or hard back. The Zoom link is:

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

For more information contact: Gary Lange 760-773-1014 or GaryLange13@gmail.com

Social Action and Missions Ministry

--**Lunch served weekdays 10:30am to 1pm**: Come serve lunch at the United Methodist Church of Palm Springs on Mondays and Tuesdays, located at 1555 E. Alejo Rd, Palm Springs. On Wednesdays at Oscars 125 E Tahquitz Canyon Way. 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. To volunteer, Go to: wellinthedesert.com and select location, date and time.

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 – First Wednesday from 8:30 to 11 am and Third Wednesday from 5:30 to 9:30 pm of each month. Contact Carol Moore to volunteer. This is on hiatus until they find another location.

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

Bloom Happenings This Week						
Monday April 20	Tuesday April 21	Wednesday April 22	Thursday April 23	Friday April 24	Saturday April 25	Sunday April 26
10:30am-1:00pm Lunch served at United Methodist	10:30am-1:00pm Lunch served at United Methodist 6:00pm Book Group on Zoom	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch served at Oscars	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.

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

Liturgy and prayers are original, sourced and often adapted.

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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

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

Brian Schimpf, Moderator — 978-340-6736 — 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

