

First CHURCH

First United Methodist Church of Boulder

1421 Spruce Street Boulder, CO 80302

303.442.3770

www.fumcboulder.org

10:30 am Worship

Sunday, September 27, 2020

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

May you know that absence is alive with hidden presence,
that nothing is ever lost or forgotten.

May the absences in your life grow full of eternal echo.

May you sense around you the secret Elsewhere,
where the presences that have left you dwell.

May you be generous in your embrace of loss.

May the sore well of grief turn into a seamless flow of presence.

May your compassion reach out to the ones we never hear from.

May you have the courage to speak for the excluded ones.

May you become the gracious and passionate subject of your own life.

May you not disrespect your mystery through brittle words or false
belonging.

May you be embraced by God in whom dawn and twilight are one.

May your longing inhabit its dreams within the Great Belonging.

~John O'Donohue

PRELUDE

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”
Jordan Ortman, piano

Henry Baker

THE CALL

Rev. Michael Mather

THE PEACE

THE SCRIPTURE READING

Diane Beeman, Lisa Carr, Lisa Dixon,
Ruth Irvin, Connie Takamine

Thomas 97

Jesus said, "The Father's empire is like a woman who was carrying a jar full of flour. While she was traveling on the road, still far out, the handle of the jar broke and the flour emptied behind her on the road. She did not realize it; she did not know of a problem. When she reached her house, she put the jar down and she found it empty.

LESSONS FROM THE CONTEMPORARY CHURCH

Jacob Laubacher
Rick Powers

SERMON

Dr. Celene Lillie

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Strange Fire"
Performed by

Amy Ray (b. 1964)

Tessa Espinosa, John Moffitt, and Celene Lillie

PRAYERS

Mike Mather

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Mother and Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy names. Thy kingdom come, thy 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

BLESSING OF THE WATER

We are a people of water!

WE WORSHIP A GOD WHOSE LOVE FLOWS THROUGH WATER.

Love, like a rain shower,
awakens the sleeping seed within the soul
and lures it to blossom.

WE WORSHIP A GOD WHOSE LOVE FLOWS THROUGH WATER.

Love, like a wading pool, inspires the delight of children, jumping, splashing, spraying each other, shivering with wet joy.

WE WORSHIP A GOD WHOSE LOVE FLOWS THROUGH WATER.

Love, like a hot shower after a long day's work, cleanses us, reawakens us.

WE WORSHIP A GOD WHOSE LOVE FLOWS THROUGH WATER.

Love, like little drops, drips from fingertips to forehead.

Through baptism we are reminded that all humanity is one, all beloved children of God.

AMEN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephanie Moffitt

BENEDICTION

Celene Lillie

POSTLUDE

"Fantasia in B Flat" Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)
Gerald Holbrook, harpsichord

***This week, as we all live into the things around us,
let's remember to offer peace to one another.***

THANK YOU to all who contributed their time and talents to today's service:

Diane Beeman
Lisa Carr
Lisa Dixon
Tessa Espinosa
Jacob Laubacher
Ruth Irvin
John Moffitt
Rick Powers
Connie Takamine

After worship, join us on Zoom for Coffee Hour!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5291240473>

Join Us for Our Service on October 4, 2020

10:30 am MDT on Our Website and Facebook

Speaker: Michael Mather

September Special Offering Benefits Reconciling Ministry, BCAP, and Out Boulder County

Reconciling Ministry is a very important part of FUMC and who we are as a church. The month of September is a time to help foster not only the Reconciling Ministry, but also the reconciling mission of this church. Along with our Reconciling Ministry, we partner with BCAP (Boulder County AIDS Project) and Out Boulder County. Your special offering this month will help provide food for the BCAP pantry, as well as help them continue their mission to bring awareness, help, and healing to those living with AIDS. Giving will also help contribute to the many important services provided by Out Boulder County, as well as foster their mission of educating and advocating for Boulder's LGBTQ community. Your support will also help our Reconciling Ministry continue to grow and develop through educational opportunities and finding new ways to connect and build our community. To contribute, please make your check payable to First United Methodist Church, and write "September special offering" in the memo line. You can mail your check to the church at 1421 Spruce Street, Boulder, CO 80302. If you prefer to give online through our website, click on the green "Give" tab in the upper right corner of the homepage, click the "Donate Now" button, and type in the amount you'd like to give on the line for "September Mission Offering." Thank you for your generous support of our ministry and mission!

Giving to FUMC During the Pandemic

Just a reminder that FUMC can still receive your offering gifts to support God's work in the world. Mail is still being checked several times each week in the church office, so you can mail checks, made payable to First United Methodist Church, to 1421 Spruce Street, Boulder, CO 80302. You can also give online via our website: <https://fumcboulder.org/about/donating/>. Thank you.