

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, October 18, 2020

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

Joy--it's not just a gift. In a sense it's also a duty, a task to fulfill.
Courage. ~ Anna Kamienska

PRELUDE

"Light of the World"
Glenna Briant, piano

Michael Card

THE CALL

Rev. Michael Mather

A JOYFUL TESTIMONY

Justin Livingston

THE PEACE

THE SCRIPTURE READING

Sarah Kreis

Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said.

So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?"

But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius.

Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?"

They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's."

When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

LESSON FROM THE CONTEMPORARY CHURCH

SERMON *Together for Joy: The Joy of Community* Rev. Michael Mather

SPECIAL MUSIC "Unspeakable Joy"
Rajdulari and her band

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Funny Lord, a jester really, you are surely a strange God.

You take us by surprise, doing good work in our lives as parents, as teachers, as friends, as spouses, as neighbors.

We so often look to see you in the spectacular...when you are working in us and through us all the time. In the gentle gesture. In kindness. In love. In turning things upside down. You are a strange God indeed.

You have an extraordinary sense of humor to trust your realm to a people like us.

I mean look at us.

We come in all sorts of sizes, and shapes and colors and opinions. We are quiet and loud. We are bold and timid. We are broken down. We are self-inflated. We often feel like we are awfully untrustworthy. Yet....

That you have trusted your realm to us, makes us happy - giddy with the confidence that comes from being brought together to share in the adventure.

We never know what is going to happen next. We just know that your abundance is working even in the midst of struggle.

Make us as lively and entertaining as your Spirit so that others may be attracted to the wonder of your creation.

Now, let us pray with the confidence and boldness of children of God....

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.

BLESSING ON THE TOGETHER FOR JOY PLEDGES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephanie Moffitt

BENEDICTION

Rev. Michael Mather

POSTLUDE

“Prelude in Classic Style”
Dr. Gerald Holbrook, organ

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

***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:

Glenna Briant
Kirsten Carpenter-Ortman
Gerald Holbrook
Sarah Kreis
Heidi Lewis
Jake Lewis
Justin Livingston
Jordan Ortman
Helga Schroeder
Rajdulari and her band

After worship, join us on Zoom for Coffee Hour!

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

Join Us for Our Service on October 25, 2020

10:30 am MDT on Our Website and Facebook

Speaker: Rev. Michael Mather

The October Special Offering is for the Mar Elias Educational Institution in Northern Israel, near Galilee. This is a very special school because it educates in the ways of peace, reconciliation, respect, and justice. Their belief is that peace and justice begins with the young, and education is key to a non-violent just world. Currently there are over 3,000 children enrolled from all over Galilee, and many rely on scholarships. Your gift will provide much needed assistance for students at MEEI who currently are very challenged due to COVID-19. English teacher Emil Halloun told FUMC member Brenda Mehos recently that our support really makes a difference and gives them hope during these trying times. For more information on MEEI, visit Pilgrims of Ibillin's website, www.pilgrimsfibillin.org, and watch the engaging 3-minute video about the school, or email Brenda Mehos: bmehos@comcast.net.

To contribute: please make your check payable to First United Methodist Church, and write "October special offering" in the memo line. You can mail your check to the church at 1421 Spruce Street, Boulder, CO 80302. If you'd prefer to give online through our website, click on the green "Give" tab in the upper right corner of the homepage, choose the "Electronic Donations" tab, click the "Donate Now" button, and type in the amount you'd like to give on the line for "October 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.