

Welcoming the 'Not Us'

Reconciling Sunday May 2, 2021



Welcome to Worship

May 2, 2021

Welcome to Christ Church United Methodist. This community of faith works to be REAL, to be authentic and to share our connection and love with all. We want to let you know how excited we are that you're here. It is our hope that our casual environment will help you feel comfortable, and please reach out to pastors or staff with any questions! On this Sunday when Christ Church United Methodist celebrates 15 years as a Reconciling Congregation, ALL are welcome here!

Prepare Your Heart

"Diversity is being invited to the party. Inclusion is being asked to dance."

Diversity advocate, Vernā Myers

"We need to give each other the space to grow, to be ourselves, to exercise our diversity. We need to give each other space so that we may both give and receive such beautiful things as ideas, openness, dignity, joy, healing, and inclusion."

Max De Pree

"Intersectionality has given many advocates a way to frame their circumstances and to fight for their visibility and inclusion."

Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw

Order of Worship

Bold type denotes congregation speaking aloud.

Preparatory Music

Recorded by Jeb Barrett

Beach Spring by B.F. White, arr. Janet Linker

Vater Unser 10 (Our Father in Heaven) by Johann Ulrich Steigleder

Welcome

Rev. Sharon Langfeldt

Call to Worship

Katherine Turpin

Coming together to share Creator/God's restoring love,
We gather today with reconciling love
For the love that frees us to ask questions and explore,
We gather today with adventurous love.
For the love that helps us to communicate with one another,
We gather today with love out loud.
For the love that liberates us for poetry and song,
We gather today with creative love.
For the mysteries of faith and grace - above all else we gather in gratitude
We gather today in the grace of loving and being loved
Above all else, we gather with joy today. Amen.

Opening Music

Queerly Beloved

by Amanda Udis-Kessler

May the peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Time of Prayer

Rev. Sharon Langfeldt and C Blanck

Prayer

Time of Reflection

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Please begin the Lord's Prayer using whichever metaphor for God works for your theology.

*In this community, you will hear the traditional "Our Father" but, we also recognize
the ways patriarchy is at play so many lead with "Our Creator."*

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Children's Time!

Spirit-Filled Reading

C Blanck and Pamela Thiele

Scripture

Acts 8:26-40 CEB

Katherine Turpin

²⁶ An angel from the Lord spoke to Philip, "At noon, take the road that leads from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.) ²⁷ So he did. Meanwhile, an Ethiopian man was on his way home from Jerusalem, where he had come to worship. He was a eunuch and an official responsible for the entire treasury of Candace. (Candace is the title given to the Ethiopian queen.) ²⁸ He was reading the prophet Isaiah while sitting in his carriage. ²⁹ The Spirit told Philip, "Approach this carriage and stay with it."

³⁰ Running up to the carriage, Philip heard the man reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you really understand what you are reading?"

³¹ The man replied, "Without someone to guide me, how could I?" Then he invited Philip to climb up and sit with him. ³² This was the passage of scripture he was reading:

Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent
so he didn't open his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation justice was taken away from him.
Who can tell the story of his descendants
because his life was taken from the earth?

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, about whom does the prophet say this? Is he talking about himself or someone else?" ³⁵ Starting with that passage, Philip proclaimed the good news about Jesus to him. ³⁶ As they went down the road, they came to some water.

The eunuch said, "Look! Water! What would keep me from being baptized?" ³⁸ He ordered that the carriage halt. Both Philip and the eunuch went down to the water, where Philip baptized him.

³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Lord's Spirit suddenly took Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ Philip found himself in Azotus. He traveled through that area, preaching the good news in all the cities until he reached Caesarea.

Message	“Welcoming the ‘Not Us’”	Rev. Sharon Langfeldt
Reflection Song	<i>The Light Comes as a Rainbow</i>	by Amanda Udis-Kessler
Holy Communion		
Offering	To give electronically, text “CCUM” to “77977” which will provide a link to our giving website. Or click “Online Giving” on the www.ChristChurchColorado.org home page.	
Prayer of Thanks		
Announcements		
Blessing/Sending		
Sending Song	<i>Draw the Circle Wide</i>	Worship & Song 3154
Time of Fellowship		

