

Order of Worship
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
9:30 am – January 28, 2024

Participating Live?

Text your prayer requests to 805-309-6867 before the end of the first hymn.

PRELUDE

Chant donné
Kyle Hanks, Organ
Music: Maurice Duruflé. Public domain.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Bruce Miller, liturgist

God calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves;
the one who is weak and the one who is strong,
the one who is happy and the one who is sad,
the one who is enjoying mental wellness today,
and the one who is struggling with mental illness today,
the one whom we understand and the one we don't,
the one who is embraced and the one who is shunned,
the one who is like us and the one who is different.

Come, let us worship together!

We come, trusting God's abundant love!

From "Widen the Welcome: UCC for Mental Health – Resource Guide for Mental Health Sunday

OPENING HYMN

Come, and Find the Quiet Center

TFWS 2128

Music: Attr. To B.F. White. Public Domain. Words: Shirley Erena Murray ©1992 Hope Publishing Company. Song #00322.

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1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.
2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,
Making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
Raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.
3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
Let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
In the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. 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.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 8: 26-33 (NRSV)
The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Bruce Miller, liturgist

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (Children and Youth come to the steps for a word from the pastor)**PREPARATION HYMN**

Help Us Accept Each Other

UMH 560

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1. Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us, and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.
2. Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become.
3. Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.
4. Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on; renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

MESSAGE

Pastor Diane Rehfield

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Karin Boye's Evening Prayer

by Egil Hovland

VFUMC Chancel Choir; Clara Johnson, Director; Kyle Hanks, Organ

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Holy and Loving God, you have made us in your image, so in many ways we are like you. You are kind and generous, and as we bring our offerings today, we pray that we will remember we can be kind and generous too. You have given us the gift of life, and we are grateful. May our kindness and generosity extend to those who are unwell in body, mind, or spirit, and may we give them the gift of our kindness. We ask your blessing on all of these gifts that they may bring light to places of darkness, and hope to those who feel hopeless. Amen

SENDING HYMN

The Servant Song

TFWS 2222

CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song # 72673

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on this road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony

6. Brother, sister let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

It Is Well With My Soul
Kyle Hanks, organ

arr. Eleanor Whitsett

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Prayer Requests

Santa Barbara First UMC — Pastor Robb Fuesler

Santa Barbara First UMC— Pastor Liz Aguilar

Norb Tackman—ongoing health issues

All those suffering from illness or loss of loved ones.

FUMC Staff:

Rev. Diane Rehfield—pastordiane@venturafumc.org	805-643-8621
Rev. Cynthia Huskey—pastorcindy@venturafumc.org	805-643-8621
Director of Music Ministry: Clara Johnson <u>music@venturafumc.org</u>	805-643-8621
Interim Youth & Family Ministries: Clara Johnson <u>family@venturafumc.org</u>	805-643-8621
Pianist/Organist: Kyle Hanks <u>organist@venturafumc.org</u>	805-643-8621
Office Manager, Finance Secretary, Church Use Coordinator: Kathleen Matarazzo <u>office@venturafumc.org</u>	805-643-8621
Treasurer: Gloria Lewis <u>treasurer@venturafumc.org</u>	805-309-6862
Preschool Director: Autumn McGuire <u>happyventures@venturafumc.org</u>	805-653-5304