

**COMMUNITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF CHULA VISTA
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**



**WORSHIP SERVICE
9:30 A.M.
October 1, 2023
World Communion Sunday**

***No matter who you are or where you are on life's
journey, you are welcome here!***

Welcome!

Mabuhay!

Bienvenidos!

We welcome you in the name of the still speaking God!
We invite all ***guests*** to please **PRINT** their name and contact info
on the ***“Information Card”*** in the pew rack and place the card
in the offering plate. Anyone with a prayer request,
please put it on the ***“Information Card”***
and place it in the offering plate.
If you need assistance, please ask our Greeters.

Church Staff and Contact List
(619) 422-9263

www.chulavistachurch.com

Email: churchsecretary@chulavistachurch.com

P.O. Box 5574 Chula Vista, CA 91912

Rev. Victoria Freiheit - Senior Minister

Lionel Jasmin - Minister of Music

Kim Appleget - Pre-school Director

Erika Dennis - Prayer Chain Coordinator

Sylvia Campbell - Event Coordinator

Corinne McCall - Financial Secretary

Pelito Capistrano - Custodian

Louise Lopez - Office Secretary

Audio Visual Team- Kevin Hewitt, Ko Tangen, Jerry May

Nathan Purificacion - Moderator

Chris Dunn - Coffee Hour

Rueben Barrera - Head Usher

Community Congregational Church of Chula Vista
United Church of Christ
October 1, 2023
World Communion Sunday

Prelude: Lionel Jasmin & Alejandro Tapia

Gathering Music:

1. This little light of mine
2. We are marching in the light of God
3. It's a great day to praise the Lord

Welcome and Announcements:

Rev. Victoria Freiheit

Liturgist:

Norma Brainard

***Hymn:** Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ NCH p. 347 all verses

Call to Worship:

Norma Brainard

One: Let the ears of all people be attentive;
the heavens are telling the glory of God.

All: Everything around us proclaims God's handiwork,
Let us bow down and worship our Creator.

One: Day and night, God is at work among us.
We are drawn together into one body, the church.

All: Your presence with us is made known to us with your Spirit.
You deserve the praises of your children, O God.

*** Hymn:** Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence NCH p. 345 v. 1, 3, 4

Prayer of Invocation: Unison

Norma Brainard

One: Christ is with us!

All: Christ is in our midst!

One: Let us Pray:

Unison: On this holy day, we come together to make sense of our lives. We look to your Word, O God, as a source of understanding. Revive our souls that our hearts may rejoice in your presence. Cleanse and enlighten us with your truth. Liberate us from self-imposed limitations. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O God, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

Choir: Christ was born to be our King words by John A. Ray
music by Susan Callaway

*** Please stand if you are able**

Children's Story:

Rev. Victoria

Scripture:

Exodus 16 selected

Norma Brainard

Sermon:

World Communion Sunday

Rev. Victoria

Prayers of the People, Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

COMMUNION

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, our loving creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made.

We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior.

We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our voices with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere:

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Merciful God, as sisters and brothers in faith, we recall anew these words and acts of Jesus Christ. Now, as they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you do it, in remembrance of me."

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Come Holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread, and this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died. The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks Almighty God that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Call to Offering: Unison

Norma Brainard

In love and care for our community of faith, we are invited to join in the work of the Spirit through the sharing of our gifts and offerings. May they be used to transform lives near and far. Let us share our offerings now. Amen.

Offertory:

Lionel Jasmin & Alejandro Tapia

***Doxology:** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.*

***Prayer of Dedication: (In Unison)**

Norma Brainard

Bless these tithes and offerings, O God, returned to you. Multiply and use them to bring the word and the touch of Jesus to this place and throughout the world, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** **Be Still, My Soul** Red p.77 v. 1 & 3

***Benediction**

Rev. Victoria

Form a circle **Let There Be Peace on Earth**

Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Maker, All one Family.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment, and live each moment
With peace eternally,
Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.

Postlude:

Lionel Jasmin & Alejandro Tapia

Announcements

WE WELCOME YOU to the Community Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. To our visitors we extend a special greeting. We are delighted that you have joined us today. Please sign the information card and let us know if you need prayers.

Please note we will no longer be using the P.O. Box as of 9/30/23.

MONDAY October 2nd

Boy scouts meeting downstairs.

TUESDAY October 3rd

4:00 PM AYOP – meeting In Bradley Hall

6:30 PM ESL Laubach meeting in small dining room with Erika Dennis

7:00 PM AA – meeting in Lounge

SATURDAY October 7th

10:00 AM Art Group meeting in small dining room

SUNDAY October 8th

9:30 AM Worship Service

10:30 AM Fellowship and coffee

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“Domingo Mundial de Comunión”

Es apropiado que en este día hablemos del pan, ya que es parte de la Ceremonia de Comunión que hoy se honra en todo el mundo. Los de China, al otro lado de la Línea Internacional de Cambio de Fecha, ya están mañana, así que lo celebraron hace varias horas. Los de Hawaii aún no lo han celebrado, ya que estarán entre los últimos pueblos del mundo en celebrarlo.

Es maravilloso pensar en todos los cristianos del mundo compartiendo este día tan importante a medida que el mundo gira y, en cuanto al tiempo, llega nuestro turno. También es maravilloso pensar en cómo Dios alimentó a los israelitas en el desierto durante 40 años con maná, pan del cielo. El maná era algo fino, parecido a copos, que cubría el suelo como escarcha. La Biblia dice que parecía una semilla de cilantro y sabía a galletas saladas con miel. Lo siento, no tengo semillas de cilantro para mostrarles, pero traje algunas galletas saladas y miel para poder probarlas más tarde en Bradley Hall.

Maná es legendario, ¿no? No podemos imaginarnos salir todos los días y recogerlo del suelo para comer. Pan del Cielo, como ningún otro pan que hayamos comido: francés, italiano, pan blanco enriquecido o pan integral. Naan de la India y tortillas de México, el pan de una forma u otra se come en todo el mundo.

Cuando Jesús eligió el pan como parte de la Ceremonia de Comunión, se ciñó a lo básico, ¿no es así? Fue para mostrarles a sus amigos, los discípulos, que Él no siempre estaría con ellos, pero que los símbolos de su cuerpo y sangre sacrificados siempre estarían con él. Los símbolos.

Así es como nosotros y todos los demás cristianos de todo el mundo seguimos recordando hasta el día de hoy lo que Él dijo y lo que significó. Significaba que iba a morir. Iba a dar su cuerpo y su sangre como sacrificio: el nuevo pacto para el perdón de los pecados. En Mateo, Marcos y Lucas dice que tomó la copa y era del fruto de la vid. No dice vino, pero sabemos que esa era la costumbre de Su época. Recuerde su primer milagro en las bodas de Caná: convertir el agua en vino.

¿Por qué bebemos jugo de uva en lugar de vino en la Comunión como lo hacen los católicos, episcopales y otros? Esto es algo relativamente nuevo, surgió a principios del siglo XX, cuando muchas denominaciones cristianas estadounidenses estaban a favor del Movimiento por la Templanza: nada de alcohol. Parte del problema del alcohol es que su venta y uso está rodeado de leyes estatales y federales, incluidos los impuestos.

Entonces, hoy en todo el mundo, todos celebraremos la ceremonia de Jesús: se utilizarán todos los diferentes tipos de pan. Algunas iglesias tendrán vino y otras, como nosotros, jugo de uva.

Una historia divertida sobre el vino en una boda: cuando Willie y yo nos casamos en la iglesia metodista de El Cajon, invitamos a todos nuestros familiares, amigos y compañeros de trabajo, incluido un grupo de la Oficina de Bienestar Social del Condado de San Diego. Sin que lo supiéramos, uno de ellos escondió una botella de vino detrás de la iglesia y tomó algunos tragos durante la recepción sin alcohol. Lo justificaron porque en nuestra ceremonia hicimos que el ministro contara la historia de Jesús convirtiendo el agua en vino en las bodas de Caná, su primer milagro. Contamos esa historia para mostrar cómo Jesús honraba las bodas. ¡Pero mis compañeros de trabajo lo tomaron como un visto bueno para sus viajes con la botella de vino escondida!

Quizás piense que nuestro sermón dominical de la Comunión Mundial se ha vuelto demasiado alegre. Gracias a Dios que Dios tiene sentido del humor. Después de todo, ¡Él nos hizo! Al recibir la Comunión esta mañana, recuerde 3 cosas: 1) Antes de tomar la Comunión, pídale a Dios que le perdone sus pecados y sepa que Dios siempre perdona cuando se lo pedimos. 2) Recuerde que esta ceremonia muestra por qué Cristo vino a esta Tierra en primer lugar: para mostrarnos cómo vivir y sacrificar su vida por nuestros pecados. 3) Gracias a Dios por el maná dado a los israelitas hace tantos años, y por cada buen regalo que has recibido: cosas materiales como mucha comida, un hermoso lugar para vivir y el mismo aire que respiramos. Amén.