

# Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

## Celebration of Holy Communion

Sunday, September 12, 2021, 10 am

\*[Our **in-person Sunday worship** in the Sanctuary **requires masks for all**.  
Please continue to practice 6 feet physical distancing whenever possible.]

### Words of Meditation

“Evil is a ‘militant ignorance’. Evil actively and militantly refuse consciousness.  
Evil attempts to escape and hide from their own conscience through self-deception.”

- M. Scott Peck, *People of the Lie: The Hope for Healing Human Evil*, 1998

“People prefer comforting lie over uncomfortable truth.  
People believe in confident lie over tentative truth.  
People listen to the loudest voice in the room over a quiet voice of reason.  
People prefer to follow a charismatic liar over an integrous leader.  
People are susceptible to self-deception.  
God, on the other hand, is incapable of self-deception and being deceived.”

– Juno Song

“Do you still not perceive or understand?  
Are your hearts hardened?  
Do you have eyes, and fail to see?  
Do you have ears, and fail to hear?”

- Mark 8:17-18

“The truth will make you free.”

- John 8:32

“In the end, there are two kinds of people:  
Those who say to God ‘Thy will be done’  
and those to whom God says, ‘Thy will be done.’ ”

– C.S. Lewis, *The Great Divorce*, 1945

(\*Please stand if you are able)

**Prelude**

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*  
M. Hayes

Marina Thomas

**Bringing in the Light**

**Welcome & the Life of the Church**

**\*Passing of Peace** (Wave to your neighbors near you with “**Peace of Christ be with you.**”)

**\*Call to Worship** (Responsive) *May God Bless Us with Discomfort*

[by Judy Newton, United Methodist Missionary, Peace Educator & Activist]

Leader: May God bless us with discomfort at easy answers,  
half-truths and superficial relationships

**People: so that we may live deep within your heart.**

Leader: May God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression  
and exploitation of people

**People: so that we may work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Leader: May God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain,  
rejection, starvation, and war

**People: so that we may reach out your hand to comfort them  
and to turn their pain into joy.**

Leader: And may God bless us with enough foolishness to believe  
that you can make a difference in this world

**People: so that we can do what others claim cannot be done. Amen.**

**\*Gathering Song**

*How Great Thou Art*

#77

**Prayers of the People**

- a. Sharing of Joys & Concerns (Please raise your hand & mic will be given to you)
- b. Breathing Movement & Mountain Pose
- c. Pastoral Prayer

**Response to Our Prayers**

*On Eagle's Wings*

#143

**\*Gospel Readings**

**Luke 4:1-13**

*The Temptation of Jesus*

<sup>4</sup> Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.'"

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,' <sup>11</sup> and  
'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**Mark 1:14-15**

*The Beginning of Jesus Ministry*

“Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

**John 15:19**

“If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world - therefore the world hates you.”

**John 14:6**

“I am the way, the truth, and the life.”

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Special Music**

*Something for Jesus*  
J. Ayers

Carmelita Abenoja

**Message**

**Our Mission:**

Rev. John Song

Part 2) **“Kingdom of God vs Kingdom of Caesar:  
Battle for the Soul of Humanity”**

*Tipping the world toward love  
by following the Way of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world*

**\*Litany in Unison**

**Psalm 62**

[written in a time of a major oppression of the Jewish people]

In God alone is my soul at rest.  
God is the source of my hope.  
In God I find shelter, my rock, and my safety.  
Men are but a puff of wind,  
Men who think themselves important are a delusion.  
Put them on a scale,  
They are gone in a puff of wind.

**\*Congregational Singing**

*Change My Heart, O God*

FWS 2152 (2x)

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**Prayer of Preparation**

**Litany in Unison**

Leader: God says to all who will hear:

**People: Come, walk with me, let us give birth to a new Earth!**

Leader: Come! drink from the streams of living water.

**People: Come! feast on the bread of life.**

