



“As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said ‘Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?’”

Acts 8:36

May 2, 2021

ROLLING HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310-377-6771

www.rhumc.org

OUR CHURCH AT WORSHIP

May 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

Althea Waites

CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 22

Leader: O Lord, we give you thanks in the great congregation.

People: You satisfy the hungry. Those who seek you give you praise.

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord.

People: And the families of the nations shall worship you.

Leader: Each generation shall tell of your love.

People: And proclaim your deliverance to a people yet unknown.

*HYMN #578

"God of Love and God of Power"

Charles Dickerson

**God of love and God of power, grant us in this burning hour
Grace to ask these gifts of thee, daring hearts and spirits free.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.**

**We are not the first to be banished by our fears from thee;
Give us courage, let us hear heaven's trumpets ringing clear.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RENEWAL

Unison: Gracious God, you call us into wilderness places to plant your love there.

You send us to people who need your care. You promise to uphold us and lead us. But we do not always listen. We are afraid to offer what we have. We are not sure what to say, and worry that our efforts will be rejected. Free us from our fears, O God. Give us grace to bear the fruit of your love, as we live together in you. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Ellen Brim

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

Jonathan Chute

ANTHEM

"Jesus Christ"

3rd service ensemble

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

April Herron

THE 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.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

Althea Waites

DOXOLOGY

#95

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures, here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

- Acts 8:26-40

Philip meets - and baptizes - a stranger

Ellen Brim

SERMON

"Stranger Things"

Jonathan Chute

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

April Herron

BLESSING AND SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

HYMN #617

"I Come with Joy"

Charles Dickerson

**I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved and free,
In awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.**

**I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
The new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
In Christ's communion bread.**

**As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.**

BENEDICTION AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace.

Let us each, thy love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.

O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

POSTLUDE

Althea Waites

3rd service ensemble:

Paula Kuno – guitar/mandolin/vocals, *Teresa James* – piano/flute/vocals
Michael Starr – guitar/violin/mandolin/vocals, *Zach Provost* – piano/vocals
Cory Tramontelli – bass/vocals, *Jack Sollecito* – percussion/guitar/piano

Rev. Jonathan Chute, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Martha Rowlett, Senior Pastor Emeritus
Myra Ghabrial, Preschool Director
Annette Matsuda, Parish Nurse
Gabby Palacios, Kid Zone/Mid Zone Director
Debra DeLuca, Children's Ministry Director
Rev. Kristin Reksc, Youth Ministry Director

Rev. Dr. April Herron, Associate Pastor
Charles Dickerson, III, Music Director
Althea Waites, Organist
Paula Kuno, 3rd Service Music
John Fitzgerald, Treasurer
Nicole Lowery Zakman, Church Business Mgr.
Roksolana Vecerek, Exec. Asst. to Pastor
Peggy Roulette, Church Office Admin.
Miguel Portillo, Custodian