



“John said to him, ‘Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.’”

- Mark 9:38

September 26, 2021

ROLLING HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310-377-6771

www.rhumc.org

OUR CHURCH AT WORSHIP

September 26, 2021

8:30 and 10 a.m.

As we gather please silence cell phones.

*Standing - if comfortable

PRELUDE

Althea Waites

*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 124

Leader: If God had not been on our side, we would have been swallowed alive.

People: When the flood rose up to drown us, we would have been swept away.

Leader: Blessed be our God, who did not allow us to become prey for our enemies.

People: Blessed be our God, our helper, maker of heaven and earth.

*HYMN #126

"Sing Praise to God"

Charles Dickerson

Abigail Whitman

**Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.**

**The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing,
An ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RENEWAL

Unison: Gracious God, we know that your grace reaches farther than our eyes can see.

Our minds cannot imagine the fullness of your embrace. You love people we find it hard to accept. You invite those who love you to follow Christ's example. Where we see differences that divide us, you see our common need. Forgive us, O God. Help us to understand that you are at work in all of your children, not only in those like us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Lisa Pope

*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

*The children are invited to gather in front of the steps for a brief sermon and prayer.
Afterward, they may leave for Sunday School or stay for the rest of the service.*

ANTHEM

"Who But the Lord?" – C. Courtney

Charles Dickerson

Abigail Whitman

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

Charles Dickerson, Abigail Whitman

**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

Mark 9:38-50

Obstacles to faith

Lisa Pope

SERMON

"Because!"

Jonathan Chute

*HYMN #192

"There's a Spirit in the Air"

Charles Dickerson
Abigail Whitman

**There's a spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere:
Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.**

**When a stranger's not alone, when the homeless find a home,
Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.**

**May the Spirit fill our praise, guide our thoughts and change our ways:
God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today!**

*BENEDICTION AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Jonathan Chute

**God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you. God be with you till we meet again.**

POSTLUDE

Althea Waites

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