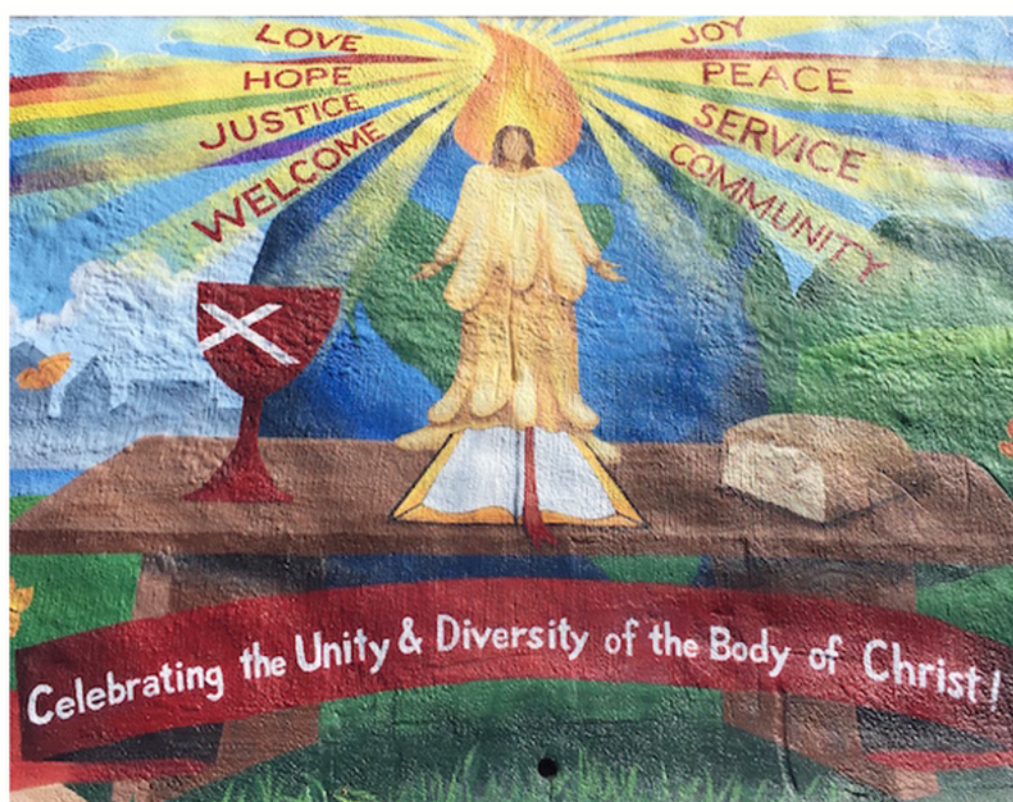


Vista La Mesa Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)



May 24, 2020
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Welcome to Vista La Mesa Christian Church!

We are so glad you joined us for worship this morning! We hope you will experience God's deep and unconditional love for you while you are here today.

Vista La Mesa Christian Church (or VLM, as we call it) is a congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the US and Canada. We celebrate the unity and diversity of the Body of Christ, working to make visible the oneness of the Church across divisions of doctrine and practice. We celebrate the Lord's Supper (communion) every Sunday and invite everyone to participate, whether you're a member here or not.

You can follow along in this program ("the bulletin") to see what is happening in each moment of the service. There is no part of worship that you are not invited to participate in. If you need more information, ask someone sitting nearby, and they'll be happy to help you! Or check out the additional information in the welcome packet. (If you didn't get one, ask a greeter at the front door.)

You are welcome to keep your children in worship with you! If you would like to have them participate in our children's ministries, they are welcome to do that too. Our nursery is staffed with two loving attendants every Sunday, for infants and children up to age 3. Children Worship & Wonder is held most Sundays for kids who need an age-appropriate worship experience. There are also "quiet worship" bags in the entryway, for children who might be restless. But know that we believe that the sound of children in worship is a joyful noise!

After worship, **we'd love to have you join us at coffee hour** in Bailey Hall. You can get there from the parking lot or through the doors just to the left of the piano. The restrooms and a drinking fountain are off the hallway at the back of Bailey Hall.

We are glad you are here!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

As we are worshiping in our separated homes, we encourage you to spend a few moments quieting your hearts before beginning your service. If you are worshiping with a buddy by phone, perhaps help yourselves transition from chatting to worship by sharing a brief moment of silence.

Prelude

Deborah Wilson

Welcome

Rev. Rebecca Littlejohn

Announcements

***Passing of the Peace of Christ**

(L) "The peace of Christ be with you." (P) **"And also with you."**

Connecting Song & Candle Lighting

#552 (vs. 1-2)

"Standing on the Promises"

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Friends, here in our homes, let us devote ourselves to prayer, as the early disciples before us did. Let us prepare ourselves to receive the Spirit of the Risen Christ.

People: May our worship this day bring glory to God. May our voices praise the name of Jesus!

L: Though we are tempted to remain trapped in longing for what was, let us not neglect to follow Jesus into what is becoming.

P: May God protect us as we dare to witness to the hope we know in Christ, in a world filled with cynicism, fear and mistrust. May we be bold in declaring God's love to all.

L: As we worship this day, may we humbly seek to ask fruitful questions and find healing in God's response.

P: Let us worship with courageous, thankful hearts!

Opening Prayer

Jerry Bailey

Special Music

Deborah Wilson

"Bridge Over Troubled Water"

Children's Moment

Deborah Wilson

Time of Prayer

Prayers of the People

The Congregation

Please send your prayer requests to Pastor Rebecca by text, email, phone, or FB throughout the week, and note whether they are Urgent/Private or General/Public.

Response ~ (L) God, in your mercy, (P) **hear our prayer.** OR

(L) God, with joyful hearts, (P) **we give you thanks!**

Prayer Song

#106

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Rebecca

First Reading

Larry Knight

John 17:1-11

Second Reading

Acts 1:6-14

The Good News

Pastor Rebecca

“Be My Witnesses”

Invitation to Discipleship

Pastor Rebecca

If you desire to unite with this congregation by confession of faith or transfer of membership, please come forward during the Hymn of Response.

Hymn of Response

#233

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

Invitation to the Offering

Tim Cliffe

If you are visiting with us, we consider your presence a gift.

Bringing Our Gifts ~ Offertory

Deborah Wilson

Sung Response

#50

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

Julie Germain

**Invitation to Communion and
the Words of Institution**

Pastor Rebecca

**Prayer for the Bread and the Cup
with The Lord's Prayer**

Bob Neely

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Communion Hymn

#393 (vs 1-2)

“One Bread, One Body”

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

*This is Christ's Table. All are welcome to partake.
You are invited to share in this holy meal, by taking a piece of the pre-cut bread,
and a cup from the trays. When you have finished with your cup, please place it
in the cup holder in the hymnal rack under the chair in front of you. Please
allow the deacons to serve each person directly, so fewer hands touch each tray.
Rice squares are available on the juice tray instead of bread for those with
gluten sensitivities.*

Hymn of Going Forth

#469 (vs. E, 2-4)

“I Am the Light of the World”

Sung Benediction

#433

“Blessed Be the Tie That Binds”

Postlude

Deborah Wilson

Church Office: (619) 463-9909

Church Website: www.vlmcc.org

Office Email: admin@vlmcc.com

Pastor's Email: pastor@vlmcc.com

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Littlejohn

Secretary: Ellen O'Toole

Music Director: Deborah Wilson

Nursery: Stephanie Cadiero & Francia Berry Custodian: Scott Tiemann

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR



☀ The chancel flowers this morning are given by Amy & Andy Cliffe, in celebration of their 29th anniversary.

Birthdays & Anniversaries: Helene Sisneros (Sun 5/24), Amy & Andy Cliffe (Mon 5/25), Lyn Van Winkle (Thu 5/28), Aireen Bentley (Sat 5/29)

***Happy Birthday to you, Anniversaries, too.
May God richly bless you another year through.***