



## ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 10, 2020

The Fifth Sunday in Easter

**We are a church where Jesus the healer meets Jesus the revolutionary,  
and where together, we grow a just and peaceful world.**

### Gathering Music

Betsy Stelzer, Accompanist

### Welcome

Rev. Kelly Wadsworth

Christ is Risen.

**Christ is Risen, indeed.**

Peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

### Call to Worship

Liturgists: Julia Peeler & Rod Peeler

### Opening Song

One Love, Bob Marley and The Wailers      Led by Betsy Stelzer

Album: Exodus, 1977

Songwriters: Bob Marley and Curtis Mayfield

Label: Tuff Gong

### Scripture Reading

Acts 9:19b-31

Liturgists

Saul spent a few days getting acquainted with the Damascus disciples, but then went right to work, wasting no time, preaching in the meeting places that this Jesus was the Son of God. They were caught off guard by this and, not at all sure they could trust him, they kept saying, “Isn’t this the man who wreaked havoc in Jerusalem among the believers? And didn’t he come here to do the same thing — arrest us and drag us off to jail in Jerusalem for sentencing by the high priests?”

But their suspicions didn’t slow Saul down for even a minute. His momentum was up now and he plowed straight into the opposition, disarming the Damascus Jews and trying to show them that this Jesus was the Messiah.

After this had gone on quite a long time, some Jews conspired to kill him, but Saul got wind of it. They were watching the city gates around the clock so they could kill him. Then one night the disciples engineered his escape by lowering him over the wall in a basket.

Back in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him. They didn’t trust him one bit. Then Barnabas took him under his wing. He introduced him to the apostles and stood up for him, told them how Saul had seen and spoken to the Master on the Damascus Road and how in Damascus itself he had laid his life on the line with his bold preaching in Jesus’ name.

After that he was accepted as one of them, going in and out of Jerusalem with no questions asked, uninhibited as he preached in the Master’s name. But then he ran afoul of a group called Hellenists—he had been engaged in a running argument with them—who plotted his murder. When his friends learned of the plot, they got him out of town, took him to Caesarea, and then shipped him off to Tarsus.

Things calmed down after that and the church had smooth sailing for a while. All over the country—Judea, Samaria, Galilee—the church grew. They were permeated with a deep sense of reverence for God. The Holy Spirit was with them, strengthening them. They prospered wonderfully. Amen.

### Sermon

Rev. Kelly Wadsworth

**Prayers of the People**

**Closing Prayer**

**Offering Testimony**                      Stewardship

**Offering Prayer**

**Offering Music**                      *Get Together*, The Youngbloods  
Album: *The Youngbloods*, 1967  
Songwriter: Chet Powers  
Label: RCA Victor  
  
Featuring Dave Dolengewic and Betsy Stelzer

**Announcements**

**Closing song**                      *People Of God*, Phil Driscoll  
Album: *Power Of Praise*, 1985  
Songwriter: Phil Driscoll  
Label: Phil Driscoll Music Group

**Benediction**

**Hospitality Hour**