



**LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST**

Sunday, March 14, 2021

Fourth Sunday in Lent



La Jolla United Methodist Church

6063 La Jolla Boulevard

La Jolla, CA 92037

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www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

Prelude: “Let Us Break Bread Together” - Mark Hayes

Musician: Jennifer Lai

Welcome

Opening Music: “Nothing Between” UMH 373

Musicians: Joyce Theilacker, Bob Wuertz, Jayson Coleman, Randy Seward, Jennifer Lai

1. Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
naught of this world’s delusive dream;
I have renounced all sinful pleasure;
Jesus is mine, there’s nothing between.

Refrain

Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
so that his blessed face may be seen;
nothing preventing the least of his favor;
keep the way clear! let nothing between.

2. Nothing between, like worldly pleasure;
habits of life, though harmless they seem,
must not my heart from him ever sever,
he is my all, there’s nothing between.

Refrain

Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
so that his blessed face may be seen;
nothing preventing the least of his favor;
keep the way clear! let nothing between.

3. Nothing between, like pride or station;
self or friends shall not intervene;
though it may cost me much tribulation,
I am resolved, there’s nothing between.

Refrain

Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
so that his blessed face may be seen;
nothing preventing the least of his favor;
keep the way clear! let nothing between.

4. Nothing between, e'en many hard trials,
though the whole world against me convene;
watching with prayer and much self-denial,
I'll triumph at last, there's nothing between.

Refrain

Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
so that his blessed face may be seen;
nothing preventing the least of his favor;
keep the way clear! let nothing between.

Prayers of the People

A Pastor will begin a time of prayer and name those for whom our congregation is praying. A time of silence will indicate when you may share one name or very short phrase to add.

Pastoral Prayer

Blessing for Children

Scripture: John 12:1-8 Peter McCreight

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, home of Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Lazarus and his sisters hosted a dinner for him. Martha served and Lazarus was among those who joined him at the table. Then Mary took an extraordinary amount, almost three-quarters of a pound, of very expensive perfume made of pure nard. She anointed Jesus' feet with it, then wiped his feet dry with her hair. The house was filled with the aroma of the perfume. Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), complained, "This perfume was worth a year's wages! Why wasn't it sold and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief. He carried the money bag and would take what was in it.)

Then Jesus said, "Leave her alone. This perfume was to be used in preparation for my burial, and this is how she has used it. You will always have the poor among you, but you won't always have me."

Message: "Risking Rejection"

Response to the Word

Confession, Assurance, and Peace

Liturgist: Merciful One, signs of your love and compassion surround us every waking minute of each day. As we come before you with our quiet hopes and our secret fears, we long to be like those who dream. We yearn for hearts that are filled with laughter and for tongues that are lifted in shouts of joy. But too often, our quiet hopes remain unspoken, and our secret fears remain hidden away. You alone are our hope and our salvation, O God. Anoint us with your mercy and compassion, that we might have the courage to claim the life that springs forth all around us. Transform us into people who meet doubt with hope, and despair with determination. In your loving mercy, we pray. Amen.

Pastor: Hold fast to God's saving acts of old. For the one who parted the waters for Israel is the one who raised Jesus from the dead. This is the one who will raise us also from all that holds and binds us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Liturgist: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory: "When Our Confidence Is Shaken" UMH 505

Musicians: Joyce Theilacker, Bob Wuertz, Jayson Coleman, Randy Seward, Jennifer Lai

Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

Communion elements have been placed on chairs before the beginning of Worship for in-person participants, and online participants may select from your home to include bread (or similar) and juice (or similar). Please wait until directed before receiving your elements.

Closing Music: "How Firm a Foundation" UMH 529

Musicians: Joyce Theilacker, Bob Wuertz, Jayson Coleman, Randy Seward, Jennifer Lai

1. How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3. “When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.
4. “When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.
5. “The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”

Benediction

Postlude: “Mercy” - G.P. Telemann

Musician: Jennifer Lai

Set up team: Steve Gray and Mark Maddox

Ushers: Steve Gray, Dan Martin, Peter McCreight, Russell Toppi

LJUMC Ministry Team

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Rev. Lea Booth, Pastor of Discipleship;
Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director; Theresa Erb, Administrative Assistant;
Joyce Drozda, NS & Church Accountant; Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director;
Bridget Musante, NS Executive Director