



**LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST**

Sunday, March 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Lent



La Jolla United Methodist Church

6063 La Jolla Boulevard

La Jolla, CA 92037

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www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

Prelude: “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” - Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

Musician: Jennifer Lai

Welcome

Opening Music: “Take Up Thy Cross” UMH 415 Vs. 1, 2, 4

Musicians: Joyce Theilacker, Lisa Corpron, Jayson Coleman, Randy Seward, Jennifer Lai

1. “Take up thy cross,” the Savior said,
“if thou wouldst my disciple be;
deny thyself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me.”

2. Take up thy cross, let not its weight
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,
and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

4. Take up thy cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

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: Luke 22:14-27 - Russ Toppi

When the time came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles joined him. He said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. I tell you, I won’t eat it until it is fulfilled in God’s kingdom.” After taking a cup and giving thanks, he said, “Take this and share it among yourselves. I tell you that from now on I won’t drink from the fruit of the vine until God’s kingdom has come.” After taking the bread and giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, he took the cup after the meal and said, “This cup is the new covenant by my blood, which is poured out for you.

“But look! My betrayer is with me; his hand is on this table. The Human One goes just as it has been determined. But how terrible it is for that person who betrays him.” They began to argue among themselves about which of them it could possibly be who would do this.

An argument broke out among the disciples over which one of them should be regarded as the greatest.

But Jesus said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles rule over their subjects, and those in authority over them are called ‘friends of the people.’ But that’s not the way it will be with you. Instead, the greatest among you must become like a person of lower status and the leader like a servant. So which one is greater, the one who is seated at the table or the one who serves at the table? Isn’t it the one who is seated at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

Message: “Risking the Loss of Friends”

Response to the Word

Confession, Assurance, and Peace

Pastor: Gracious Teacher of love and compassion, you call us to humble ourselves, even as you emptied yourself to be born in human likeness.

Liturgist: We are rebellious and full of pride, wishing to be thought of as your greatest disciples.

Pastor: You call us to watch and pray, to sit with those who are in anguish and despair.

Liturgist: Yet, in the long night of watching, we betray you, refusing to help those who are weary with suffering.

Pastor: You call us to live lives of love and service, to follow you even to the cross.

Liturgist: Forgive us Compassionate Teacher, when we betray you with a kiss.

Pastor: The Holy One is gracious, helping us in times of sorrow and despair, forgiving even our worst trespasses. If the Lord God helps us, who will declare us guilty? In the name of Christ, we are forgiven.

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

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory: “Servant Song” TFWS 2222

Musicians: Joyce Theilacker, Lisa Corpron, 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: “O Young and Fearless Prophet” UMH 444 Vs. 1-2, 4-5

Musicians: Joyce Theilacker, Lisa Corpron, Jayson Coleman, Randy Seward, Jennifer Lai

1. O young and fearless Prophet of ancient Galilee,
thy life is still a summons to serve humanity;
to make our thoughts and actions less prone to please the crowd,
to stand with humble courage, for truth with hearts uncowed.
2. We marvel at the purpose that held thee
to thy course while ever on the hilltop before thee
loomed the cross; thy steadfast face set forward where love and duty shone,
while we betray so quickly and leave thee there alone.
4. Stir up in us a protest against our greed for wealth,
while others starve and hunger and plead for work and health;
where homes with little children cry out for lack of bread,
who live their years sore burdened beneath a gloomy dread.
5. O young and fearless Prophet, we need thy presence here,
amid our pride and glory to see thy face appear;
once more to hear thy challenge above our noisy day,
again to lead us forward along God’s holy way.

Benediction - Pastor Bob

Postlude: “Thine Is the Glory” - Marvin Gaspard

Musician: Jennifer Lai

Set up team: Rebecca Smith and Steve Gray

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