



**LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST**

Sunday, March 28, 2021

Palm/Passion Sunday



La Jolla United Methodist Church

6063 La Jolla Boulevard

La Jolla, CA 92037

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www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

Prelude: “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” - Marvin Gaspard

Musician: Jennifer Lai

Welcome

Opening Music: “Hosanna! Sing a Loud Hosanna!” by Mark Hayes

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

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 18:1-11 Lon Showley

After he said these things, Jesus went out with his disciples and crossed over to the other side of the Kidron Valley. He and his disciples entered a garden there. Judas, his betrayer, also knew the place because Jesus often gathered there with his disciples. Judas brought a company of soldiers and some guards from the chief priests and Pharisees. They came there carrying lanterns, torches, and weapons. Jesus knew everything that was to happen to him, so he went out and asked, “Who are you looking for?”

They answered, “Jesus the Nazarene.”

He said to them, “I Am.” (Judas, his betrayer, was standing with them.) When he said, “I Am,” they shrank back and fell to the ground. He asked them again, “Who are you looking for?”

They said, “Jesus the Nazarene.”

Jesus answered, “I told you, ‘I Am.’ If you are looking for me, then let these people go.” This was so that the word he had spoken might be fulfilled: “I didn’t lose anyone of those whom you gave me.”

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) Jesus told Peter, “Put your sword away! Am I not to drink the cup the Father has given me?”

Message: “Risking Temptation”

Response to the Word

Confession, Assurance, and Peace -

Liturgist: Merciful God, this day we remember a night of long-forgotten hosannas, a night of sleeping disciples and of betrayal with a kiss; a night of denials and scoffers, a night of whips and of washing our hands to our culpability in evil. We remember a night of thorns and nails, a night of crying out with the psalmist: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” In this time of worship, we glimpse human folly and feel, in the marrow of our bones, the depth of our own human frailty; we witness the razor’s edge separating hope and despair, a night of acute awareness of how often we stand mute and frozen in the unfolding suffering of our world.

Pastor: Out of Christ’s anguish, we shall see the light. Poured out to death, Christ makes intercession for us and opens the curtain between us and the living God. 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: “To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord” UMH 285

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

1. To mock your reign, O dearest Lord, they made a crown of thorns;
set you with taunts along that road from which no one returns.
They could not know, as we do now, how glorious is that crown;
that thorns would flower upon your brow, your sorrows heal our own.
2. In mock acclaim, O gracious Lord, they snatched a purple cloak;
your passion turned, for all they cared, into a soldier’s joke.
They could not know, as we do now, that though we merit blame,
you will your robe of mercy throw around our naked shame.
3. A sceptered reed, O patient Lord, they thrust into your hand,
and acted out their grim charade to its appointed end.
They could not know, as we do now, though empires rise and fall,
your kingdom shall not cease to grow till love embraces all.

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 Sacred Head, Now Wounded” UMH 286

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

1. O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown:
how pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!
How does that visage languish which once was bright as morn!
2. What thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve thy place;
look on me with thy favor, vouchsafe to me thy grace.
3. What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love for thee.

Benediction

Postlude: “Abide With Me” - Hal H. Hops

Musician: Jennifer Lai

Set up team: Dan Martin, Peter McCreight, Paula Todd

Ushers: Rod Betts, Dan Martin, Peter McCreight, Lon Showley

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