



**LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST**

**Sunday, August 15, 2021
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**



La Jolla United Methodist Church
6063 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037
(858) 454-7108
www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

Prelude: “Clair De Lune” -Claude Debussy

Musician: Bob Wuertz

Welcome

Opening Music: “We Are Called” TFWS 2172

Musicians: Jayson Coleman, Bob Wuertz

1. Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God!

Refrain

We are called to act with justice,
we are called to love tenderly,
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God!

2. Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
so all hatred and blindness will be no more!

Refrain

We are called to act with justice,
we are called to love tenderly,
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God!

3. Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love!

Refrain

We are called to act with justice,
we are called to love tenderly,
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God!

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

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 (CEB)

When the king and Haman came in for the banquet with Queen Esther, the king said to her, “This is the second day we’ve met for wine. What is your wish, Queen Esther? I’ll give it to you. And what do you want? I’ll do anything—even give you half the kingdom.”

Queen Esther answered, “If I please the king, and if the king wishes, give me my life—that’s my wish—and the lives of my people too. That’s my desire. We have been sold—I and my people—to be wiped out, killed, and destroyed. If we simply had been sold as male and female slaves, I would have said nothing. But no enemy can compensate the king for this kind of damage.”

King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is this person, and where is he? Who would dare do such a thing?”

Esther replied, “A man who hates, an enemy—this wicked Haman!” Haman was overcome with terror in the presence of the king and queen.

Harbona, one of the eunuchs serving the king, said, “Sir, look! There’s the stake that Haman made for Mordecai, the man who spoke up and did something good for the king. It’s standing at Haman’s house—seventy-five feet high.”

“Impale him on it!” the king ordered. So they impaled Haman on the very pole that he had set up for Mordecai, and the king’s anger went away.

Message: “Treasured”

Response to the Word

Confession, Assurance, and Peace

Liturgist: God of strength, you strengthen and sustain us as we journey the course of our lives. How we wish we could avoid the tribulations. Like Esther before us, we would rather keep our heads down than risk the wrath of the powerful, even if our courage might save others. We would rather shut out the advice of the wise than be instruments of prophetic challenge. We would rather be left alone in our fear and despair than face the demands of faithful living. Forgive us, Holy One. Remind us that we are treasured and help us to remain courageous in our faith, so that we may be strong to bring light and hope to our neighbor.

Pastor: When the road is hard and all hope seems lost, fear not. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. God has turned our sadness into joy, and our troubles into times of gladness. God treasures us! In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory: “I Will Be Here” -Steven Curtis Chapman

Musicians: Jayson Coleman, Bob Wuertz

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: “The Summons” TFWS 2130 Vs. 1-4

Musicians: Jayson Coleman, Bob Wuertz

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Benediction

Postlude: “My Heart Ever Faithful” -J.S. Bach

Musician: Bob Wuertz

Liturgist: Rachel Gonsalves

Ushers: Millenni-X (Young Adults) and Youth

Audio Visual Team: Dave Flores, Emilio Valente, Cam Rhodes

LJUMC Ministry Team

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