



**LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST**

**Sunday, October 31, 2021
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**



La Jolla United Methodist Church
6063 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037
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www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Prelude *Adagio in A Minor* J.S Bach

Welcome

† **Choral Introit** *The Lord is Nigh* Alexander M. McCray
Chancel Choir

† **Opening Music** *The Gift of Love* UMH 408

1. Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.
2. Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.
3. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.

Blessing for Children

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

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Choral Response *Grant Us, O Father* Charles W. Walton
Chancel Choir

WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Scripture

Luke 16:19-31 (CEB)

“There was a certain rich man who clothed himself in purple and fine linen, and who feasted luxuriously every day. At his gate lay a certain poor man named Lazarus who was covered with sores. Lazarus longed to eat the crumbs that fell from the rich man’s table. Instead, dogs would come and lick his sores.

“The poor man died and was carried by angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. While being tormented in the place of the dead, he looked up and saw Abraham at a distance with Lazarus at his side. He shouted, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I’m suffering in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received good things, whereas Lazarus received terrible things. Now Lazarus is being comforted and you are in great pain. Moreover, a great crevasse has been fixed between us and you. Those who wish to cross over from here to you cannot. Neither can anyone cross from there to us.’

“The rich man said, ‘Then I beg you, Father, send Lazarus to my father’s house. I have five brothers. He needs to warn them so that they don’t come to this place of agony.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets. They must listen to them.’ The rich man said, ‘No, Father Abraham! But if someone from the dead goes to them, they will change their hearts and lives.’ Abraham said, ‘If they don’t listen to Moses and the Prophets, then neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead.’”

Scriptural Response

Liturgist: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

A Clean Heart
Chancel Choir

Benjamin Harlan

Message

The Rich Man & Lazarus

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Stewardship Moment

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

32 variations in C minor; Theme, Var I—IX
Zishan Bing, pianist

Beethoven

Confession, Assurance, and Peace (*based on Jeremiah 31*)

All: God, you are the stronghold of our lives. When life takes us to places we never imagined, you provide hope and bring us back to you. Forgive the times when we abandon your ways. Forgive our failure to see your presence in our lives. Forgive us when we hurt ourselves and one another. Forgive our fear of those who are different. Forgive our failure to care for one another. Gracious God, forgive us and heal us. Help us return to your open and loving arms, trusting you as the Lord of our lives.

Liturgist: The psalmist proclaims, “My refuge and my fortress; my God in whom I trust.” May we trust the forgiveness of God that sets us free and enables us to joyfully be the people of God. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

† **Closing Music**

Come Thou Fount

UMH 400

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.

2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3. O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

Benediction

Postlude

Allegro

Domenico Scarlotti

Liturgist: Marjorie Slankard

Organist: Bob Wuertz

Pianist: Zishan Ding

Ushers: Dan Martin, Peter McCreight, Lon Showley, Russell Toppi

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