



LA JOLLA  
UNITED METHODIST

**The Body of Christ:  
We Are the Body**

Sunday, January 23, 2022,  
3rd Sunday after Epiphany  
[www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org](http://www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org)

# WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

**Prelude**

*Air*

Arr. Hal Hopson: ©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

**Welcome**

† **Opening Music**

*God Is Here*

UMH 660

1. God is here! As we your people  
meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure  
what it is in Christ we share.

Here, as in the world around us,  
all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit  
into open minds and hearts.

2. Here are symbols to remind us  
of our lifelong need of grace;  
here are table, font, and pulpit;  
here the cross has central place.

Here in honesty of preaching,  
here in silence, as in speech,  
here, in newness and renewal,  
God the Spirit comes to each.

3. Here our children find a welcome  
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken,  
Christ sustains us, as of old.

Here the servants of the Servant  
seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living  
to believe and to adore.

4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom,  
in an age of change and doubt  
keep us faithful to the gospel;  
help us work your purpose out.

Here, in this day's dedication,  
all we have to give, receive;  
we, who cannot live without you,  
we adore you! We believe!

## 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.

## WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

### Scripture

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a (CEB)

Christ is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many. We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body, whether Jew or Greek, or slave or free, and we all were given one Spirit to drink.

Certainly the body isn't one part but many. If the foot says, "I'm not part of the body because I'm not a hand," does that mean it's not part of the body? If the ear says, "I'm not part of the body because I'm not an eye," does that mean it's not part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, what would happen to the hearing? And if the whole body were an ear, what would happen to the sense of smell? But as it is, God has placed each one of the parts in the body just like he wanted. If all were one and the same body part, what would happen to the body? But as it is, there are many parts but one body. So the eye can't say to the hand, "I don't need you," or in turn, the head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." Instead, the parts of the body that people think are the weakest are the most necessary. The parts of the body that we think are less honorable are the ones we honor the most. The private parts of our body that aren't presentable are the ones that are given the most dignity. The parts of our body that are presentable don't need this. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the part with less honor so that there won't be division in the body and so the parts might have mutual concern for each other. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part gets the glory, all the parts celebrate with it.

You are the body of Christ and parts of each other. In the church, God has appointed first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, the ability to help others, leadership skills, different kinds of tongues. All aren't apostles, are they? All aren't prophets, are they? All aren't teachers, are they? All don't perform miracles, do they? All don't have gifts of healing, do they? All don't speak in different tongues, do they? All don't interpret, do they? Use your ambition to try to get the greater gifts.



## Scriptural Response

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

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## Special Music

*One Is the Body*  
Lisa Corpron, Bob Wuertz, Jayson Coleman, Randy Seward

W & S 3156

## Message

*We Are the Body*

Rev. Bob Rhodes

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Response in the World

### Invitation to the Offering

### Offertory

*Andante*

Carl Reineck  
Arr. Hal Hopson: ©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

### Confession, Assurance, and Peace

**All: Rock and redeemer, you call us to remember that we are all members of one body in your Spirit. Forgive us when we do not embody your love, when we speak harshly to one another, and when we judge others in our hearts. Together, we drink of the one Spirit, and share in the same love that makes us one. Reclaim us when we refuse to hear your word when spoken by those who do not look or sound as we expect. Remind us that when one of your creatures suffers, all of creation suffers. Renew us when we forget that we are one body, one family of our heavenly creator.**

Liturgist: Hear the good news: God heals our illusion of separateness and makes us one and whole. 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

*We Are God's People*

TFWS 2220  
Words and adapt. ©1976 Fred Bock Music

1. We are God's people,  
the chosen of the Lord,  
born of the Spirit,  
established by the Word.

Our cornerstone is Christ alone,

and strong in Christ we stand;  
O let us live transparently and walk  
heart to heart and hand in hand.

2. We are God's loved ones,  
the Bride of Christ, our Lord,  
for we have known it,  
the love of God outpoured.

Now let us learn how to return  
the gift of love once given;  
O let us share each joy and care  
and live with a zeal that pleases heaven.

3. We are the body  
of which the Lord is Head,  
called to obey Christ,  
now risen from the dead.

God wills us be a family  
diverse, yet truly one;  
O let us give our gifts to God  
and so shall God's work on earth be done.

4. We are a temple,  
the Spirit's dwelling place,  
formed in great weakness,  
a cup to hold God's grace.

We die alone,  
for on its own each ember loses fire;  
yet joined in one the flame burns  
on to give warmth and light and to inspire.

## **Benediction**

### **Postlude**

*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

Hymn Tune: "Hymn to Joy"

Arr. Hal Hopson: ©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

**Organist/Pianist:** Bob Wuertz

**Quartet:** Lisa Corpron, Bob Wuertz, Jayson Coleman, Randy Seward

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

**Liturgical elements from *The Abingdon Worship Annual***

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**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