



LA JOLLA  
UNITED METHODIST

# INSPIRED



Origin  
Stories

RACHEL HELD EVANS

Sunday, August 7, 2022  
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost  
[www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org](http://www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org)

# WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

**Prelude**

*Symphonie No. 4 - III. Andante cantabile*

Charles-Marie Widor  
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**Welcome**

† **Opening Hymn**

*How Great Thou Art*

UMH 77

1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!

3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin;

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!

4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!

## Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!

## Blessing for Children

### Prayers of the People

*A Pastor will begin a time of prayer and name those for whom our congregation is praying.  
Online Worshipers may type prayer requests in the Live Chat, taking care for privacy.*

## Pastoral Prayer

# WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

## Scriptures

Genesis 1:1-31 (CEB)

When God began to create the heavens and the earth— the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God’s wind swept over the waters— God said, “Let there be light.” And so light appeared. God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. God named the light Day and the darkness Night.

There was evening and there was morning: the first day.

God said, “Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters to separate the waters from each other.” God made the dome and separated the waters under the dome from the waters above the dome. And it happened in that way. God named the dome Sky.

There was evening and there was morning: the second day.

God said, “Let the waters under the sky come together into one place so that the dry land can appear.” And that’s what happened. God named the dry land Earth, and he named the gathered waters Seas. God saw how good it was. God said, “Let the earth grow plant life: plants yielding seeds and fruit trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind throughout the earth.” And that’s what happened. The earth produced plant life: plants yielding seeds, each according to its kind, and trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was.

There was evening and there was morning: the third day.

God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will mark events, sacred seasons, days, and years. They will be lights in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth.” And that’s what happened. God made the stars and two great lights: the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night. God put them in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was.

There was evening and there was morning: the fourth day.

God said, “Let the waters swarm with living things, and let birds fly above the earth up in the dome of the sky.” God created the great sea animals and all the tiny living things that swarm in the waters, each according to its kind, and all the winged birds, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was. Then God blessed them: “Be fertile and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.”

There was evening and there was morning: the fifth day.

God said, “Let the earth produce every kind of living thing: livestock, crawling things, and wildlife.” And that’s what happened. God made every kind of wildlife, every kind of livestock, and every kind of creature that crawls on the ground. God saw how good it was. Then God said, “Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth.”

God created humanity in God’s own image,  
in the divine image God created them,  
male and female God created them.

God blessed them and said to them, “Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, and everything crawling on the ground.” Then God said, “I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. To all wildlife, to all the birds in the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground—to everything that breathes—I give all the green grasses for food.” And that’s what happened. God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good.

There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.

## Scriptural Response

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

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

## Special Music

*Hallelujah*  
In aChord Men’s Ensemble  
Chancel Choir Men

Leonard Cohen  
Arr. Roger Emerson  
©1995 Sony/ATV Music Publ.

## Message

*Inspired: Origin Stories*

Rev. Tara Limbaugh

**WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST**

**Response in the World**

## Invitation to the Offering

### Offertory

*He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother*  
In aChord Men's Ensemble  
Chancel Choir Men

Russell/Scott  
Arr. Jay Althouse  
©1996 Jenny Music

### † Doxology

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 94

### Prayer of Confession

**All:** God of grace and glory, who are we that you are mindful of us? You sustain us through the gift of your Spirit, yet we turn from you again and again, and give in to feelings of inadequacy and despair. We turn from communion with you and with one another, even though it is only in community that we have the strength to endure the mystery of your glory and weight of our failings. Claim us anew as your beloved children, and we have faith that will be healed.

One: The love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the blessings of the Holy Spirit are ours without price or condition. Rejoice in this good news and live. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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

### Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

*Online worshipers are invited to select elements including bread and juice (or similar) from their homes to participate in Holy Communion. Please wait until directed before receiving your elements.*

### 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.

### Prayer After Communion

## WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

### † Closing Hymn

*Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth*

TFWS 2050

1. Mothering God, you gave me birth  
in the bright morning of this world.  
Creator, source of every breath,  
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

2. Mothering Christ, you took my form,  
offering me your food of light,  
grain of life, and grape of love,  
your very body for my peace.
  
3. Mothering Spirit, nurt'ring one,  
in arms of patience hold me close,  
so that in faith I root and grow  
until I flow'r, until I know.

† **Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Postlude in E*

J. Bernards  
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**Liturgist:** Rev. Marie B. Tracy

**Organist:** Jenny Lai

**Ushers:** Peter McCreight, Colin & Evan Crowder, Zach Rhodes

**Communion Servers:** Chelsea Carter, Gail Chatfield, Susan Russell

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

**Liturgical elements from *The Abingdon Worship Annual* and *The United Methodist Hymnal***

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**LJUMC Ministry Team**

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Rev. Tara Limbaugh, Pastor of Connexion;  
Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director; Theresa Erb, Administrative Assistant;  
Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director; Bridget Musante, NS Executive Director