



LA JOLLA  
UNITED METHODIST

# INSPIRED



Deliverance  
Stories

RACHEL HELD EVANS

Sunday, August 14, 2022  
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  
[www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org](http://www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org)

## WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Prelude

*Joyful Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Ludwig Van Beethoven  
Arr. Lloyd Larson  
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### Welcome

### † Opening Hymn

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

UMH 127

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more;  
feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield;  
be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee;  
I will ever give to thee.

### 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

## 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

### Scriptures

Genesis 21:8-21 (CEB)

The boy grew and stopped nursing. On the day he stopped nursing, Abraham prepared a huge banquet. Sarah saw Hagar's son laughing, the one Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham. So she said to Abraham, "Send this servant away with her son! This servant's son won't share the inheritance with my son Isaac."

This upset Abraham terribly because the boy was his son. God said to Abraham, "Don't be upset about the boy and your servant. Do everything Sarah tells you to do because your descendants will be traced through Isaac. But I will make your servant's son a great nation too, because he is also your descendant." Abraham got up early in the morning, took some bread and a flask of water, and gave it to Hagar. He put the boy in her shoulder sling and sent her away.

She left and wandered through the desert near Beer-sheba. Finally the water in the flask ran out, and she put the boy down under one of the desert shrubs. She walked away from him about as far as a bow shot and sat down, telling herself, I can't bear to see the boy die. She sat at a distance, cried out in grief, and wept.

God heard the boy's cries, and God's messenger called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "Hagar! What's wrong? Don't be afraid. God has heard the boy's cries over there. Get up, pick up the boy, and take him by the hand because I will make of him a great nation." Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well. She went over, filled the water flask, and gave the boy a drink. God remained with the boy; he grew up, lived in the desert, and became an expert archer. He lived in the Paran desert, and his mother found him an Egyptian wife.

Psalm 63:1-8 (CEB)

God! My God! It's you—  
I search for you!  
My whole being thirsts for you!  
My body desires you  
in a dry and tired land,  
no water anywhere.  
Yes, I've seen you in the sanctuary;  
I've seen your power and glory.

My lips praise you  
because your faithful love  
is better than life itself!  
So I will bless you as long as I'm alive;  
I will lift up my hands in your name.  
I'm fully satisfied—  
as with a rich dinner.  
My mouth speaks praise with joy on my lips—  
whenever I ponder you on my bed,  
whenever I meditate on you  
in the middle of the night—  
because you've been a help to me and I shout for joy in the protection of your wings.  
My whole being clings to you;  
your strong hand upholds me.

### Scriptural Response

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

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

### Special Music

*It Ain't Easy Being Green* Joe Raposo  
Text Adaptation, Vocal Solo by Jayson Coleman ©1970 Green Fox Music, Inc.

### Message

*Inspired: Deliverance Stories* Rev. Bob Rhodes

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Response in the World

### Invitation to the Offering

### Offertory

*Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum* Claude Debussy  
©1984 Yorktown Music Pres, Inc

### † Doxology

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 94

### Prayer of Confession

**All: Compassionate God, we come before you with humble hearts. There are times in our lives: when we stray from your ways; when we bring conflict to our loved ones; when we become lost in the desert as we flee from your presence; when we allow fear to govern our decisions and our actions; when we choose the ways of the world instead of the ways of Christ. Forgive us, God of life. Bless us with faithfulness and courage, that we may walk in the ways of Christ. We ask these things in your holy name. Amen.**

One: Brothers and Sisters, hear the good news! God forgives, redeems, and restores. Believe in the good news and dwell in the promise of grace. 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 Hymn**

*He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought*

UMH 128

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought!  
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

He leadeth me, he leadeth me,  
by his own hand he leadeth me;  
his faithful follower I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me.

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,  
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,  
by waters still, o'er troubled sea,  
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

He leadeth me, he leadeth me,  
by his own hand he leadeth me;  
his faithful follower I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me.

3. Lord, I would place my hand in thine,  
nor ever murmur nor repine;  
content, whatever lot I see,  
since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

Refrain

He leadeth me, he leadeth me,  
by his own hand he leadeth me;  
his faithful follower I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me.

4. And when my task on earth is done,  
when by thy grace the victory's won,  
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,  
since God through Jordan leadeth me.

Refrain

He leadeth me, he leadeth me,  
by his own hand he leadeth me;  
his faithful follower I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me.

† **Benediction**

**Postlude**

*To God be the Glory*

William H. Doane

Arr. Mark Hayes

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**Pianist:** Rebecca Cosford

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**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**

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